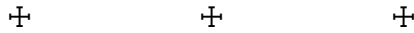




ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

*Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known*



JANUARY 22, 2023

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Jesus is the kingdom of God come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light, and we see this light most profoundly in the cross— God suffers with us and with all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. Like the first disciples, Jesus calls and sends us to share the good news of hope, peace and justice in this world.*

GATHERING

*Offerings may be placed in the plate at the sanctuary entrance.*

*The Offering will be brought forward by the ushers during the Offertory Anthem.*

***Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.***

**Prelude**

“Meditation on ‘Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult”

Tune by William H. Jude; Organ setting by Dale Wood

*Please stand as able.*

**Processional Hymn** “Dearest Jesus, at Your Word” ELW 520      LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER

1. Dearest Jesus, at your word we have come again to hear you;  
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in glowing faith be near you  
as the promises here given draw us wholly up to heaven.
2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
till your Spirit breaks the night, filling us with light unclouded.  
All good thoughts and all good living come but by your gracious giving.
3. Radiance of God’s glory bright, Light of Light from God proceeding,  
Jesus, send your blessed light; help our hearing, speaking, heeding,  
that our prayers and songs may please you, as with grateful hearts we praise you.
4. Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, praise to you and adoration!  
Grant us what we need the most: all your gospel’s consolation  
while we here on earth await you, till in heav’n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-1684, sts. 1-3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt.; Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673

*Please be seated.*

**Welcome**

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

## Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who makes all things new,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*The congregation may kneel or sit for the Confession. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,  
and cannot free ourselves.  
We have not practiced your righteousness.  
Our hearts have turned away from you.**

**For the sake of the world you so love,  
forgive us,  
that we may be reconciled to one another  
for the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass  
and new things I now declare.”

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ † , the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

WORD

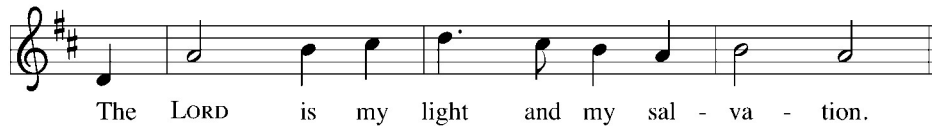
**First Reading****Isaiah 9:1-4**

Karen Feezor, lector

<sup>1</sup>But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

*The Word of the Lord***Thanks be to God****Psalm 27:1, 4-9**

Delenn Rumbolo, Jack Richardson, cantors

Psalm 27:1 (Ronald A. Nelson) Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? <sup>4</sup>One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple. <sup>5</sup>For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock. <sup>6</sup>Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. <sup>7</sup>Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me! <sup>8</sup>"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek. <sup>9</sup>Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

**Second Reading****1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

Karen Feezor, lector

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

*The Word of the Lord***Thanks be to God***Please stand as able.***Gospel Acclamation**"Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?" from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

S 142a

**The Holy Gospel                      Matthew 4:12-23**

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4th chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” <sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. <sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

*“The power of the cross”*

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

*Please stand as able.*

**Hymn of the Day**

“Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult ” ELW 696

GALILEE

- 1-. Jesus calls us; o’er the tumult of our life’s wild, restless sea,  
day by day his clear voice sounding, saying, “Christian, follow me”:
2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus’ sake.
3. Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world’s golden store,  
From each idol that would keep us, saying, “Christian, love me more.”
4. In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,  
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures, “Christian, love me more than these.”

5. Jesus calls us! By your mercy, Savior, may we hear your call,  
Give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.

Text : Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895; Music: William H. Jude, 1851-1922

## **Reception of New Member**

*The pastor invites the new member and sponsors to come forward.*

Today we welcome into membership Gail Salmon, and we pray God's blessing upon her journey with Jesus Christ and his body the church, gathered together in the power of the Holy Spirit at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Gail's sponsors are Lawanna Stoeckel and Larry Dagenhart, Sr.

Gail, we welcome you as a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church to join with us in worshiping God, hearing the Word and sharing in the Lord's Supper, proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serving all people, and striving for justice and peace in all the earth.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

Together, let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

Let us pray. Merciful God, we give you thanks for this sister, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in Holy Baptism. You have called her in Christ and enlightened her with the gifts of your Spirit, and you have nourished her at Christ's holy table. Uphold your servant, Gail, in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new life in Christ. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

Let us rejoice with this new sister in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of the baptized.  
Together, we will give thanks and praise to God and  
proclaim the good news to all the world!**

*The service continues with the Prayers.*

*The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.*

## **Prayers of Intercession**

(Melissa Smith, prayer assistant)

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Dear Lord, we pray for the seen and unseen victims of violence around the world. Help them find refuge in strong church families. Help the leaders of the church to have a stronger, more influential voice for peace throughout the world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

God of Grace, we rejoice at the bounty of your creation. Fill the land and sea with your abundance, and bless the harvest of the global south and fallow fields in the global north so that all people might be sustained by the abundance of your seasons of creation. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Dear Lord, we pray for those who are unwell and fighting medical battles. May they live in Your strength and look to You for hope. Wrap them in Your love and provide for them. Bless the caregivers that serve them as they provide vital care. Give them strength and energy to continue their missions. Bless members of our church family: Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Shirley Larson, Diann Krewson, Mindy Curley, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Connie Pope, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Mickey Byrd, Christopher Shirley, Kaoru Otsubo, Joan Love, Tony Ananich, Betty Lentz, Jon McKenzie, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Sandy Simon, Ingrid Keiris, John Ananich, Sam Temple, Greg Bruce, Jamie Bates, Helen Howard, Henry & Sharon Vander Voort. Merciful God,  
**recieve our prayer.**

God of Salvation, in Christ your reign continues to come near, calling humanity to turn to your grace and purpose. Break the rod of the oppressor in every nation, and dispel the shadow of death in places of war and persecution. Grant to each nation leaders who mend broken community and inspire unity, reminding us we are all sisters and brothers. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Dear all-knowing and insightful God, we pray that you guide us on our journey of which we cannot see the ending. Help us to put our faith in You and follow Your light in the sometimes dark and snowy roads of winter. Bless our church, friends and family as we look to them all for support. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Lord of the Resurrection, we praise you for the faithful saints who have walked ahead of us into your radiant light. Strengthen us with faith to leave our nets and follow Jesus, so that with the great cloud of witnesses, we too, might be led into the fullness of eternal life. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.  
**Amen.**

**Peace**

*(Please stand as able, sharing the peace of the risen Christ.)*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

MEAL

## OFFERING

(Offerings for the mission of the church, and those in need, may be placed in the plates at the sanctuary entrance)

*(Offerings for the mission of the church, and those in need, may be placed in the plates at the sanctuary entrance)*

*Please be seated.*

## Anthem

“Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain”

Carolyn Jennings

*Climb to the top of the highest mountain, joyous tidings proclaim to the world, lift up your voice, shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you. He will feed the flock like a shepherd, he will carry the lambs in his arms, he will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you. He who made the star in the heaven, he who fashioned the earth and sea, from time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, he. Behold, Your Lord! He will come in power and glory, he will rule with mercy and truth, hope of the nations, light of the world, light of all. He will love the little children, he will hold them in his arms. Love him and trust him as a child.*

## Offertory

“Here I Am, Lord” ELW 574

*(The offering is brought forward from the Narthex)*

HERE I AM, LORD

Text & Music: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946, © 1981 OCP Publications, Inc.

1. “I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”  
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

**Amen.**

*Please stand as able.*

## Holy Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

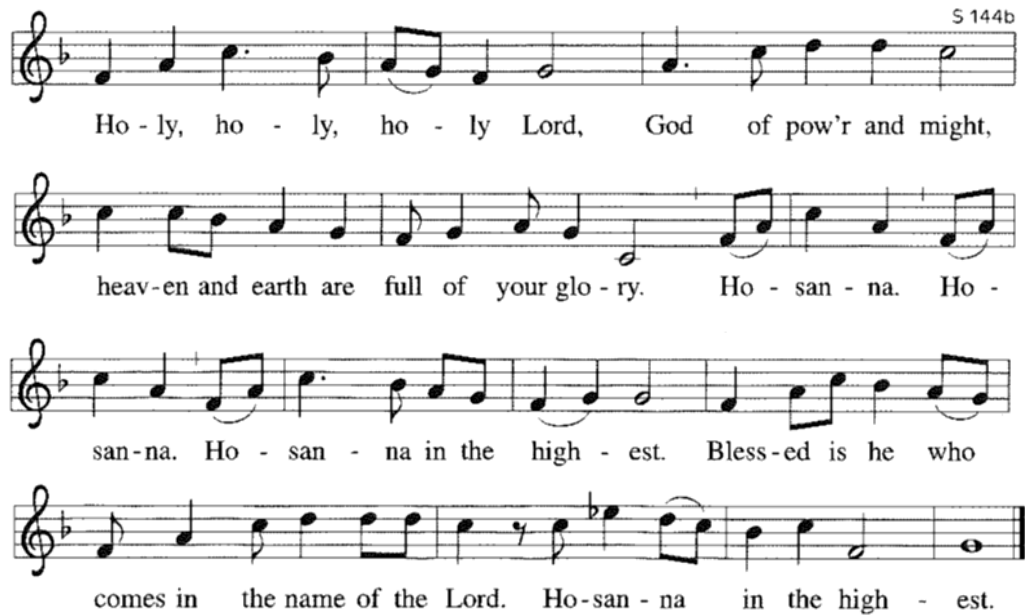
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface

### Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy” from *Holy Communion Setting Three*



S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

### Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

### The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### Invitation

Come and taste the joy of God!

*Please be seated.*

### Distribution of Holy Communion

*Holy Communion is offered continuously in front of the freestanding altar, or at the rail of the high altar in two ways, by*

“Communion Kit” or wafer and wine in a small cup. Please follow the ushers’ prompts, walking forward to the desired communion station, and returning via the side aisles. If receiving a “kit” please seal the used utensils in the zip-lock bag, placing the bag after worship in the marked bowl in the Narthex. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

**Communion Music** “Lamb of God” from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word” BWV 731

Johann Sebastian Bach

“The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation”

Frances Allitsen  
Madeline Phillips, soprano

*Please stand as able.*

**Post-Communion Blessing**  
**Post-Communion Prayer**

Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

SENDING

**SENDING BLESSING**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice  
and breaks the oppressor's rod

✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,  
today and always.

**Amen.**

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it’s true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story; ‘twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2. I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God’s own holy word. *Refrain*

3. I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
I’ll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. *Refrain*

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911; Music: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

**Postlude** “Toccata” on ‘O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright’

Tune by Philipp Nicolai; Organ setting by Michael Burkhardt

✝                      ✝                      ✝

This service adapted/reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, copyright 2019 Augsburg Fortress and *Sundays and Seasons*, copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. CCLI #11377824

**Worship Leaders:** Pastor Timothy McKenzie; prayer assistant: Melissa Smith; crucifer/acolyte: ; lector: Karen Feezor; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: Kenneth Williams, Larry Dagenhart, Jr., Alan Harms, Dale Hopp, Sally McCauley ; greeters: Tom & Kay Sehorn, Michael & Tara Thompson; communion assistants: Barbara Baker, Lisa Barnette, Flora Chance, Cliff Edahl, Ken Hazen; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Kevin Feezor, Charles Lakeman; musicians: St. Mark’s Choir, Delenn Rumbolo, Jack Richardson, cantors; Madeline Phillips, soprano soloist; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

**Next Sunday Leaders:** prayer assistant: Lisa Barnette; crucifer: tbd; acolyte: tbd; lector: Judy Frye; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Neil Dixon; ushers: Team D; greeters: Gretchen Dodge, Jackie Ellington; communion assistants: Kevin & Karen Feezor, Charles & Susan Lakeman, Janice Miller; communion helper: Kay Finlon; tabulators: Alan Harms, Doug Milheim

✝                      ✝                      ✝

---

## Parish News

---

### **From the pastor -**

"God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (1 Corinthians 1:9)

The season of Epiphany is four to nine weeks (depending on the date of Easter), lasting from the Feast of Epiphany (January 6) through the day before Ash Wednesday (this year, February 22). The season of Epiphany as a whole focuses upon the humanity and the divinity of Jesus Christ. At Epiphany, Jesus' birth is announced through the Magi to the nations, and the season continues to witness to the beginning of Jesus' ministry, his baptism, the calling of his disciples, and his proclamation of the good news. The focus of this season is ever outward toward the world and all nations, hinting at the scope of our proclamation and work as modern-day Christians. On the final Sunday of this season, The Transfiguration (February 19), we see the fullness of Christ's divinity revealed in his humanity, again hinting at the gift of his Spirit which dwells in us. Epiphany is a season in which we respond in faith and service to Jesus Christ, as his contemporary day disciples and messengers, always moving ever outward with faith active in love.

In the grace and peace of Christ,  
Pastor Tim McKenzie  
pastortimsmc@gmail.com

## *Coming Up at St. Mark's*

### **Worship and Congregational Life**

**Altar Flowers Today** are given to the glory of God in remembrance of Wells Molan's baptism, by Virginia and Brendan Molan.

**Welcome!** Today we welcome Gail Salmon into membership at St. Mark's and pray God's blessing upon her continued journey with Christ. Please take a moment to welcome Gail into the fellowship of Jesus Christ at St. Mark's.

**Annual Meeting**, 1/29/2023 following the 10:30 service. 2022 Annual Report booklets are available in the Gathering Place. If possible, one per household, please, and bring it to the meeting.

**The St. Mark's Book Study Group** will hold their first meeting of the year on January 26, 2023, at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom. Our study this month will be *The Women of Chateau Lafayette* by Stephanie Dray. This is an epic generational saga, based on the true story of an extraordinary castle in the heart of France and the remarkable women bound by its legacy in some of humanity's darkest hours. Protagonists include French noblewoman Adrienne Lafayette in 1774, a New York socialite in 1914, and a French schoolteacher and aspiring artist in 1940, all of whom are faced with the challenges and realities of the wars of their time. Their experiences and actions provide a sweeping novel about duty and hope, love and courage, and the strength we find from standing together on the shoulders of those who came before us. We welcome all who wish to participate in our exploration of new books. Please contact Udy Tolbert or Kay Sehorn for more information.

**ROOM IN THE INN** We are concentrating on only the month of February to host 10 homeless men each Tuesday. Volunteers will be needed to supply dinner, breakfast and bag lunches each week, and especially night sitters and van drivers. **Please sign up** in the Gathering Place. **NEEDED - TRAVEL SIZE MEN'S DEODORANT** .

**The Christian Education Hour is at 9:30 am on Sundays.** Please join us as you are able. Explore the life and faith of C. S. Lewis each Sunday at 9:30 in the Large Conference room. Examine Lewis's experiences with doubt, conversion, grief, and joy and how to apply those lessons today. Professor Michael Ward leads this video course based on Lewis's classic writings beginning 1/8.

**"Hybrid Worship"** is both in-person and online worship at the same time. The Holy Spirit gathers us both in-person and online as we continue to live together as the body of Christ during this pandemic.

**Online worship** continues to be streamed every Sunday at 10:30 am on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarksLutheran/>).

**Ushers for Sunday Worship** The ministry of ushering is a crucial part of worship because it is one of the most visible ministries in the Church. Please Volunteer by contacting the church office or John Simon.

**St. Mark's email list** If you are not receiving emails from St. Mark's, we may not have your correct email address. Please contact the church to let us know. We send at least 2 emails every week.

### Stewardship

**2023 Stewardship Appeal** If you have not done so, please prayerfully consider making a financial pledge of support for St. Mark's in 2023. Your pledge helps St. Mark's ministries of worship, service and fellowship continue over the coming year. Your pledge of support is welcome at any time. Pledge cards are available in the Gathering Place. An online pledge option is also available from our website, or you may use the QR code.

**You may use the QR code at left** (hover your phone camera to connect) for immediate access to St. Mark's website donation page. Pledges and donations for Altar Flowers may also be made using this code.



**2023 Offering Envelopes** are in the Gathering Place. If you do not see your envelope box, and would like one, please fill out the form provided and put it in the basket.

**Altar Flower Sponsorship** If you would like to sponsor live flowers for our Sunday worship service, please sign up on the calendar by the mailbox room or contact the church office.

### Social Ministry

We continue to remember the hungry and homeless through our social ministries.

**Loaves and Fishes** Please remember families who need some assistance putting food on the table every day. Let's continue to overflow our baker's rack with non-perishable, **non-breakable** food items. Or you can leave your donation by the choir room door from 10:00 - 2:00 Monday - Thursday. "I was hungry and you gave me food" Matt.25:35

**Soup Kitchen** St. Mark's Soup Kitchen is serving lunch in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday for our neighbors. If you would like to serve, please contact us. You may also support the Soup Kitchen through financial donations sent to the church, or through St. Mark's online giving portal. Help us share God's love!

### Youth and Family Ministry

#### Youth Classes

Sundays at 9:30: Youth Group in the Youth Room. Godly Play has been temporarily paused.

**Confirmation Class** meets every other Sunday at 9:30.

### Announcements

**Open Eyes Help Everyone!** If you see leaking pipes or something amiss in the building, please contact the church office.

**AA meets** Monday nights "Third Tradition", 7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall; Wednesday nights "Just the Basics", 7:30 p.m. in Room 210; Thursday nights "Not a Glum Lot", 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



## *St. Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting*

**1.29.23 4th Sunday after Epiphany  
immediately following  
the 10:30 am service.**

**The 2022 Annual Report booklets are available  
in the Gathering Place.**

Thank you for your faithfulness in service  
together to Christ at St. Mark's!

## Music Notes

"**Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult**" ELW 696 Cecil Francis Alexander (1818-1895) wrote this hymn in 1852, at the request of her husband William Alexander, a bishop in the Anglican church in Ireland. He was preparing to preach about Jesus calling his disciples, and he asked his wife to write a poem on this subject. This text is the result. Cecil was fond of writing poetry, especially poems that could teach children about the basics of Christian faith. When she taught about the Apostles' Creed, she set out to write a new hymn lyric for each main point. As a result the church now has songs as "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (creation), "Once in Royal David's City" (birth of Christ), and "There Is a Green Hill Far Away" (death of Christ). Cecil was an educator who expected much from her students. She wrote: "A namby-pamby, childish style is most unpleasing to children. It is surprising how soon they can understand and follow a high order of poetry". William Herbert Jude (1851-1922) wrote the tune **GALILEE** for this hymn, and was first published in *The Congregational Church Hymnal* (London, 1887).

## *This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar*

### **January 25, Conversion of Paul, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Today the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends, and the church remembers that Saul of Tarsus, a violent persecutor of the church, was encountered by Christ on the road to Damascus. Saul became known as "Paul," an Apostle to the gentiles. Through Paul, we remember that Christ calls all Christians to become apostles of the gospel for the sake of the world.

### **January 26, Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries**

Timothy, Titus, and Silas were missionary coworkers with Paul. Timothy accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey and was commissioned by Paul to go to Ephesus, where he served as bishop and overseer of the church. Titus was a traveling companion of Paul, accompanied him on the trip to the council of Jerusalem, and became the first bishop of Crete. Silas traveled with Paul throughout Asia Minor and Greece and was imprisoned with him at Philippi, where they were delivered by an earthquake.

### **January 27, Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith**

On this day the church remembers three women who were coworkers with Paul. Lydia was Paul's first convert at Philippi in Macedonia. She was a merchant of purple-dyed goods, and because purple dye was extremely expensive, it is likely that Lydia was a woman of some wealth. Lydia and her household were baptized by Paul, and for a time her home was a base for Paul's missionary work. Dorcas is remembered for her charitable works, particularly making clothing for needy widows. Phoebe was a *diakonos*, a deacon in the church at Cenchreae near Corinth. Paul praises her as one who, through her service looked after many people.

*Adapted from Sundays and Seasons*

## St. Mark's Prayer List

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Paul Davis, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Shirley Larson, Diann Krewson, Mindy Curley, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Connie Pope, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Mickey Byrd, Christopher Shirley, Kaoru Otsubo, Joan Love, Tony Ananich, Jon McKenzie, Betty Lentz, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Sandy Simon, Ingrid Keiris, John Ananich, Sam Temple, Jimmy Schwartz, Greg Bruce, Jamie Bates, Helen Howard, and Henry & Sharon Vander Voort.

Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests ([pastortimsmc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmc@gmail.com))

### Readings for 1/29/2023, Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

*Lord, who may abide upon  
your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)*

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Matthew 5:1-12

### Birthdays

1/24 Mike Doyne



*Do you feel like you are in crisis? In Isaiah it is written, "Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God." Stephen ministers are here to show the Lord's love and comfort for you in times of trial. If you would like to confidentially speak to a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Tim ([pastortimsmc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmc@gmail.com))*



## *Our Ministers*

**All the people of God at St. Mark's**

**Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor**

[pastortimsmc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmc@gmail.com)

**Lester Ackerman,**

**Director of Music Ministry, Organist**

[lackerman2@aol.com](mailto:lackerman2@aol.com)

**Sue Wadgymer, Parish Administrator**

[stmarkselca1001@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkselca1001@gmail.com)

**Jessie Craig, Finance Administrator**

[saintmarksfinance@gmail.com](mailto:saintmarksfinance@gmail.com)

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

**1001 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207 | [saintmarkscharlotte.org](http://saintmarkscharlotte.org) | 704.375.9185**