



# MARK'S

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Our Mission**

*Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known*

✙                      ✙                      ✙

**JANUARY 8, 2023**

**BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

**10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who brings forth justice as a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.*

## 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**

“Christ Is the World’s Light”

Robert Hobby

*Please stand as able.*

**Processional Hymn** “This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now” ELW 448 LAND OF REST

1. This is the Spirit’s entry now: the water and the word,  
the cross of Jesus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.
2. This miracle of life reborn comes from the Lord of breath;  
the sinless one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.
3. Let water be the sacred sign that we must die each day  
to rise again by his design as foll’wers of his way.
4. Renewing Spirit, hear our praise for your baptismal pow’r  
that washes us through all our day. Come, cleanse again this hour.

Text: © Thomas E. Herbranson, b. 1933; Music: North American traditional; arr. hymnal version ©2006 Augsburg Fortress

*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. O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## WORD

### **First Reading**

**Isaiah 42:1-9**

Kelsey Smith, lector

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. <sup>2</sup>He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; <sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. <sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. <sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and

spirit to those who walk in it: <sup>6</sup>I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, <sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. <sup>8</sup>I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. <sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 29**

Micah Hein, Amy Woodall, cantors

Psalm 29:3 (Robert Wetzler) Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A-4C* 2007 Augsburg Fortress



The voice of the LORD is up - on the wa - ters.

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. <sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name; worship the LORD in holy splendor. <sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters. <sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. <sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon. <sup>6</sup>He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox. <sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire. <sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. <sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!" <sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned over the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forever. <sup>11</sup>May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

**Second Reading**

**Acts 10:34-43**

Kelsey Smith, lector

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

*The Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

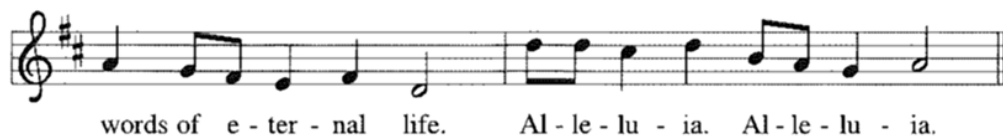
*Please stand as able.*

**Gospel Acclamation**

"Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? from *Holy Communion Setting Three*



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



**The Holy Gospel                      Matthew 3:13-17**

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

*“We are witnesses”*

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

*Please stand as able.*

**Hymn of the Day**    “Crashing Waters at Creation ” ELW 455

STUTTGART

1. Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit’s breath,  
first to witness day’s beginning from the brightness of night’s death.
2. Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through,  
washing off the chains of bondage - channel to a life made new.
3. Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the one foretold,  
opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.
4. Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul.  
Well-spring, source of life eternal, drench our dryness, make us whole.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993 © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: art. Christian F. Witt. 1660-1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

**The Apostles’ Creed**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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.**

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

## **Prayers of Intercession**

(Pastor McKenzie, prayers)

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

Calling God, you empower your church to preach the good news. Open our hearts and minds to the new things you are declaring so that we might witness to your Son Jesus Christ. Strengthen your churches throughout the world, equipping us for your reconciling and redeeming work. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Renewing God, you provide water for all that lives, and in baptism, you make water carry the promise of new life. Help us to care for and protect oceans, rivers, and lakes so that parched lands are renewed and communities thrive with the water of life. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Righteous God, you never weary of establishing justice. Increase in all governments a spirit of cooperation and dialogue between nations. Guide local, national, and international elected leaders to govern with equity, vision, and integrity. We pray for those in military service, for peacemakers, and for our enemies. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, your mercy is steadfast. Grant sanctuary to people who flee from oppression, war, poverty, and famine. Sustain health care workers and all who care for the sick and dying. May your healing and strength be upon: Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Carol Marion, 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, and Greg Bruce. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Blessing God, in Christ you show no partiality, gathering your beloved into the community of the baptized. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit continue to descend upon this congregation and its ministries, helping us to be a light to the nations, always welcoming without partiality all your children. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Promising God, your faithfulness endures throughout all generations. We give thanks for those who have died in Christ, trusting that we will be united with them and all the saints to new life in Christ's resurrection. 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)*

*Please be seated.*

Anthem

“Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”

Scottish Psalter Tune; Setting for choir and organ by Kenneth Lowerberg

*Christ, when for us you were baptized, God’s Spirit on you came, as peaceful as a dove and yet as urgent as a flame. God called you “My beloved Son,” the suffering servant true, sent you the kingdom to proclaim, God’s holy will to do. Straightway and steadfast until death you then obeyed God’s call freely as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all. Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord, your cross on us be signed, that, likewise in God’s service, we may perfect freedom find.*

### Offertory

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

“Baptized in Water” ELW 456 stanza 1

BUNESSAN

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932; © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Music: Gaelic tune

1. Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,  
faithfully now God’s praise we sing.

### 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.

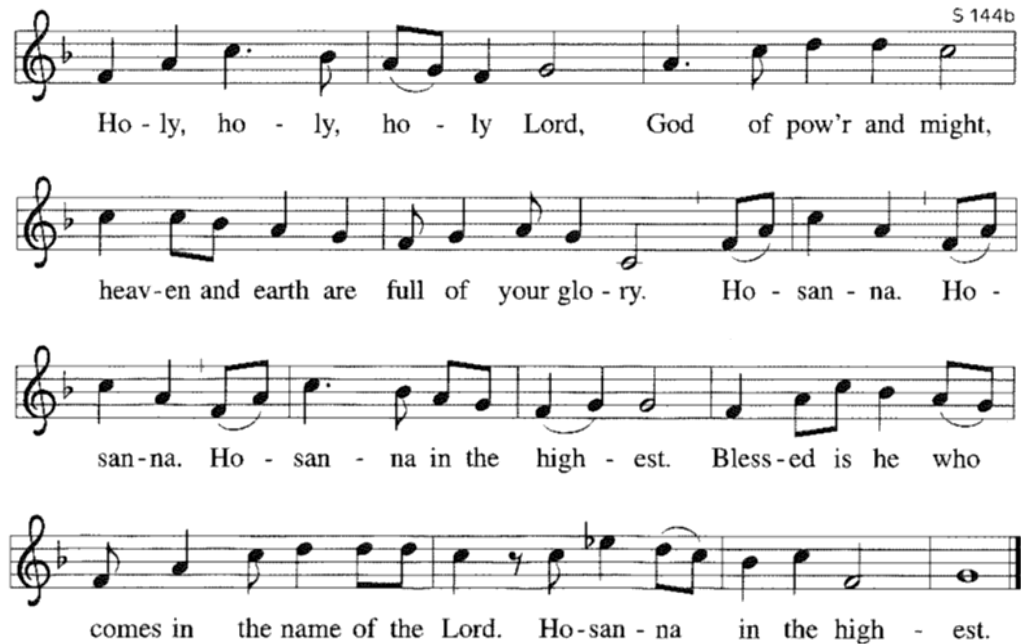
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

"He Comes to Us as One Unknown"

Tune by C. Hubert Parry; Organ setting by Michael Burkhardt

*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.**

### Recessional Hymn

"Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters" ELW 445

BEACH SPRING

1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.  
Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.  
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.  
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
2. We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.  
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.  
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,  
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.
3. Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!  
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.  
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947, ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Co. Arr. 1985 Augsburg Fortress  
Music: *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

## Postlude

“Variations on ‘PUER NOBIS’”

Organ setting by Michael Burkhardt

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**Worship Leaders:** Pastor Timothy McKenzie (prayer assistant); crucifer/acolyte: Michael Lakeman; lector: Kelsey Smith; live streaming camera: Joe Barrett; soundboard: John Brumbaugh; ushers: Kenneth Williams, Larry Dagenhart, Jr., Alan Harms, Dale Hopp, Sally McCauley ; greeters: Neil & Charlotte Dixon, Charles & Susan Lakeman; communion assistants: A. J. Pridgen, Ken Hazen, Charles & Susan Lakeman, Janice Miller; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Joe Barrett, Janice Miller; musicians: St. Mark’s Choir, Amy Woodall, directing; Elizabeth (Bibba) Whitener, Assistant Organist; Micah Hein, Amy Woodall, cantors

**Next Sunday Leaders:** prayer assistant: youth; crucifer: tbd; acolyte: tbd; lector: Riley Smith; live streaming camera: Joe Barrett; soundboard: Alan Harms; ushers: Team C; greeters: Joanne Marz.; communion assistants: Ruth Barrett, Rebecca Huang, Chris & Brooks Stevenson, Nick Wartner; communion helper: Sandy Rach; tabulators: Kevin Feezor, Doug Milheim

✦                      ✦                      ✦

## Music Notes

"**Baptized and Set Free**" ELW 453 was written for Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in Chelan, Washington. The theme for the summer of 1996 conference center was "Baptized and Set Free", and hymn writer Cathy Skogen-Soldner (b. 1956) was inspired to write both the text and tune **BAPTIZED AND SET FREE** for that gathering. She says of this hymn "even though we may only use a few handfuls of water when we baptize, I included larger bodies of water (ocean, fountain, river) to invite the singing congregation to celebrate the generous heart of God. Our gracious God gifts us with mercy, love, healing, wholeness and more than we can ask for or even imagine." This hymn is a new addition to the Holy Baptism selection of hymns in our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.



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

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

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

## 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**

**Thank you,** Elizabeth (Bibba) Whitener for bringing your musical gifts as our guest organist while Lester Ackerman is away on vacation.

**Save the Date!** The 2023 Annual Meeting is scheduled for 1/29/2023 following the 10:30 service.

**Fundraiser for Nursery Ministry at Brixx, Wednesday 1/11/23** Locations: Brixx Dilworth located at 1801 Scott Avenue AND Brixx Foxcroft 7814 Fairview Road. St Mark's will receive \$4 per adult entrée and

\$1 per kid's meal. These funds will go towards replenishing the Nursery Fund. Forms are available in the Gathering Place-the form is required for St. Mark's to receive the funds. Forms are available in the Gathering Place.

**The Ethnic Restaurant Group** will dine at Mama Ricotta's Italian Restaurant on January 17th at 7:00 PM. Mama Ricotta's is located at 601 S Kings Dr, Charlotte, NC 28204. All people are welcome! Suggestion: bring a friend or neighbor and share the fun. Contact Tom & Judy Tolbert for reservations (please call the church office).

**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.

**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.

**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.

**Habitat for Humanity** We need your help! The Habitat build is on schedule, and we successfully served lunch to the volunteers on November 12, BUT we are very short of our \$2,000 commitment to the build. If at all possible, please send a donation check to the church office with "Habitat" noted on the memo line. We would like to fulfill our portion of the needed funds. Thank you for your consideration of the appeal.

**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.

**Scam Alert** We have again seen a rise in people posing as the pastor or a member of St. Mark's, asking for a reply or to click on an encrypted file. Please do not reply to any email or click on any attachment that seems suspicious. Also please know that the church staff will never ever solicit from you. If you are ever in doubt, please call the church (704-375-9185), or email the church office immediately. Thank you! (stmarkselca1001@gmail.com).

**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 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, Carol Marion, 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 and Greg Bruce.  
Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests ([pastortimsmlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastortimsmlc@gmail.com))

### Readings for 1/15/2023,

#### Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalms 40:1-11

*I love to do your will,*

*O my God. (Ps. 40:8)*

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

John 1:29-42

### Birthdays

1/8 Diane Thornton

1/9 Michael Mobley

1/10 Steve McCall

1/13 Andrew Abbasi

1/14 Michael Huang



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

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## *Our Ministers*

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

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

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

#### Lester Ackerman,

#### Director of Music Ministry, Organist

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#### Sue Wadgyman, Parish Administrator

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