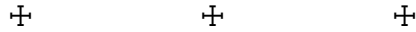




ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



FEBRUARY 12, 2023

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

We are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Paul reminds us that we are “God’s servants, working together.” These words echo Jesus’ encouragement for us to be reconciled and at peace with one another so that together we might offer our gifts to God and to our neighbor as God’s abundant field and growing church.

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

“Variations on ‘Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling’”

18th Century Dutch Melody; Organ setting by Sandra Gay

Please stand as able.

Processional Hymn

“Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling” ELW 582

IN BABILONE

1. Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding o’er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising those of earth to thrones on high;
living, life-imparting Spirit, you we praise and magnify.
2. Holy Spirit, ever living as the church’s very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ:
you we praise with endless worship for your gifts and fruits unpriced.
3. Holy Spirit, ever working through the church’s ministry;
quick’ning, strength’ning, and absolving, setting captive sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul
in communion never ending, you we worship and extor.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939. alt.; Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Borenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Rontgen, 1855-1932

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, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

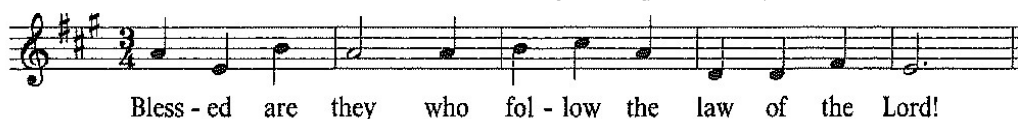
First Reading**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

Cindy Little, lector

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

*The Word of the Lord***Thanks be to God****Psalm 119:1-8**

Kate Suchanek, Madeline Phillips, cantors

Psalm 119 Refrain © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Co.; Music: Luke Mayermik © 2017 Birnamwood Publications, A division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc.

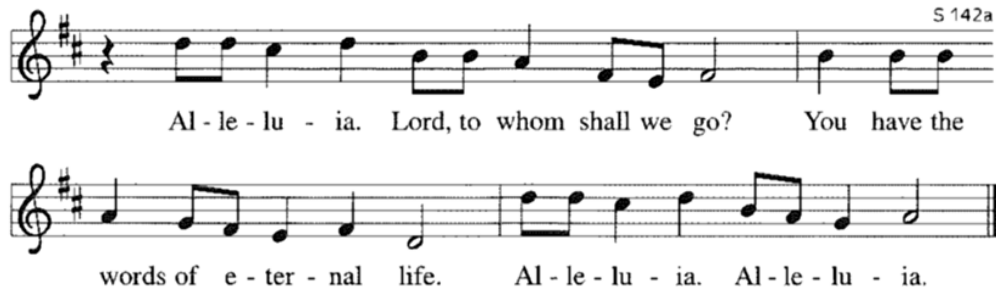
¹Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD. ²Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart, ³who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways. ⁴You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. ⁵O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! ⁶Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments. ⁷I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances. ⁸I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

Second Reading**1 Corinthians 3:1-9**

Cindy Little, lector

¹And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? ⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

*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*



The Holy Gospel Matthew 5:21-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. ²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. ³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. ³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

“God’s servants, working together”

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

“Healer of Our Every Ill” ELW 612

HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL

Refrain: Healer of our ev’ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

1. You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain*

Refrain: Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

2. In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is
still unfolding, give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain*
3. Give us strength to love each other, ev'ry sister,
ev'ry brother; Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain*
4. You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your
way of healing; Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain*

Text & Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.

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.**

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

(Michael Lakeman, prayer assistant)

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

God of building, you build your church, working together with your servant people. Help your church to be a sign of your reconciliation and love for this world so that all people and nations might find unity and hope in you. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Loving God, grant us the wisdom to care for all the earth and till it. Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures. Help us to become instruments of a new creation, founded on the covenant of your love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of Peace, You made us in your own image and you love us all equally. We pray for peace and love in all the nations and among all the people. That all wars and hatred will end. We pray for those who suffer from war, injustice, and intolerance. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Healing God, Jesus went into this world healing all forms of illness and disease. We ask that you give our doctors, nurses, and all health care professionals wisdom and skill. Keep them safe and preserve

them from all contagion. We ask that you give healing and comfort to the sick. Strengthen and encourage: 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, Jon McKenzie, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Ingrid Keiris, Sam Temple, Greg Bruce, Jamie Bates, Helen Howard, Henry & Sharon Vander Voort, Jimmy Schwartz, Larry Marko, Marilyn Creech, Lisa White, Gene & Marie Anne Daniels, and John Simon. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of growth, continue to water and nourish the ministries of this congregation, always growing its members and friends into your body of peace and reconciliation for all the world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of grace, we give you thanks for the saints who have labored to build your church. Assign to us each gifts of grace so that daily laboring together, we too might grow into your kingdom. 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

“How Bright Appears the Morning Star”

Tune WIE SCHON LEUCHTET by Philipp Nicolai

Setting for choir and organ by Johann Kuhnau

How bright appears the Morning Star, with mercy beaming from afar; the host of heav'n rejoices; O Righteous Branch, O Jessie's Rod! You Son of Man and Son of God! We, too, will lift our voices; Jesus, Jesus, holy, holy, yet most lowly, draw thou near us; Great Emmanuel, come and hear us. Rejoice, you heav'ns; and earth, reply; with praise, all people, fill the sky, for this His Incarnation. Incarnate God, put forth your pow'r, ride on, ride on, great Conqueror, till all know your salvation. Amen, amen! Alleluia, alleluia! Praise be given evermore, by earth and heaven.

Offertory

(The offering is brought forward from the Narthex)

“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways” ELW 772

EVAN

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Music: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

1. Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!

2. Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.

Offering Prayer

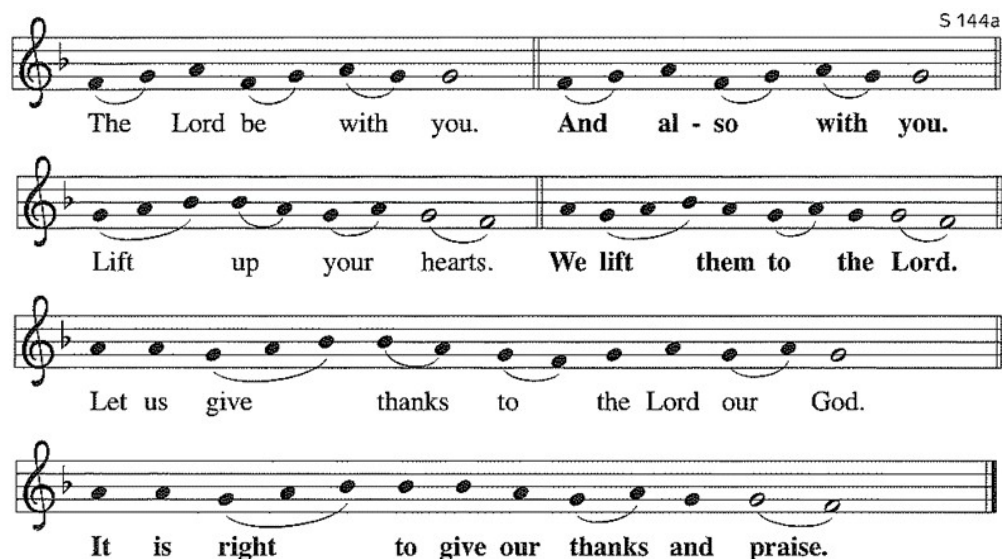
Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen.

Please stand as able.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

S 144a



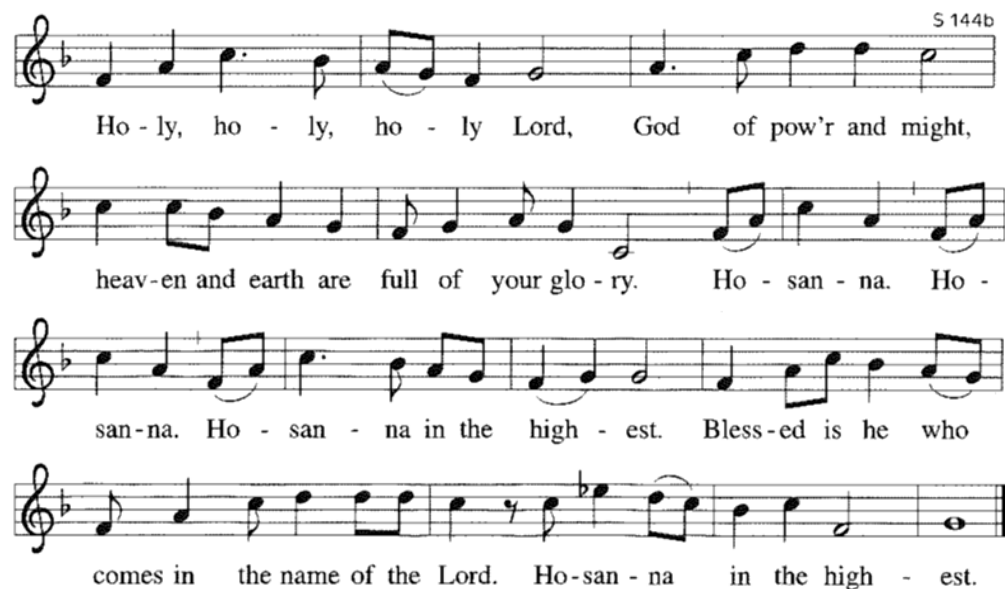
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

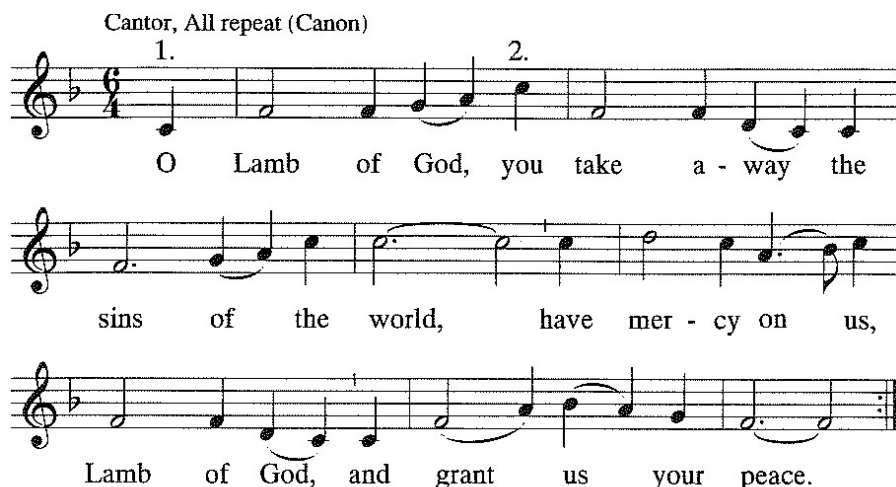
Holy Communion is offered continuously in front of the freestanding altar, or at the rail of the high altar in two ways, by "Communion Kit" or wafer and wine in a small cup. Please follow the ushers' prompts, walking forward to the desired communion station, and returning via the side aisles. If receiving 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 *Land of Rest Acclamations*

LAND OF REST; Arranged by Richard Proulx

Cantor, All repeat (Canon)



1. 2.

O Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world, have mer - cy on us,

Lamb of God, and grant us your peace.

“Improvisation on ‘Healer of Our Every Ill’”

Tune by Marty Haugen; Organ setting by Franklin D. Ashdown

“Trio on ‘Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling’” from *Hymn Preludes in Trio Style*

Organ setting by David S. Harris

“Christ, Our Peace” from *All Creation Sings*

CHRIST, OUR PEACE

Setting for solo quartet, choir and piano by Marty Haugen

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that divide us;

Christ, our peace, come, make us one body in you.

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

“O Master, Let Me Walk with You” ELW 818

MARYTON

1. O Master, let me walk with you in lowly paths of service true;
tell me your secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
2. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.
3. Teach me your patience; share with me a closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.
4. In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broad'ning way,
in peace that only you can give; with you O Master, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.; Music: H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune” from *Concerto for Two Trumpets*

Antonio Vivaldi

✙

✙

✙

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; prayer assistant: Michael Lakeman; crucifer: Michael Lakeman; acolyte: Andrew Puky; lector: Cindy Little; live streaming camera: Joe Barrett; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: John Simon, Mike Doyne, Jenny Dagenhart, Jay Jacob, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Bill Thompson, Michael Thompson; greeters: Dale & Mary Lou Hopp, Patrick & Rebecca Huang; communion assistants: Barbara Baker, Lisa Barnette, Susan Lakeman, Gretchen Payne, Rebecca Huang; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Karen Feezor, Janice Miller; musicians: St. Mark's Choir, Madeline Phillips, Kate Suchanek, cantors; Jack Richardson, Madeline Phillips, Delenn Rumbolo, Christian Souza, solo quartet; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Michael Lakeman; crucifer: Michael Lakeman; acolyte: Andrew Puky; lector: Kelly Price; live streaming camera: Charles Lakeman; soundboard: Alan harms; ushers: Team D; greeters: Jay Jacob, Millie Cansler; communion assistants: Flora Chance, Cliff Edahl, Ken Hazen, Jay Jacob, Al. J. Pridgen; communion helper: Kay Finlon; tabulators: Doug Milheim, Diane Thomas



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 and in loving memory of our parents, John & Charlotte McCauley and Evan & Libby MacWhirter and their February birthdays by Sally McCauley, Stan & Gigi (McCauley) Hankins and Stan & Sharon (MacWhirter) Cooper.

"Soup"er Bowl of Caring February 12 Cheer for your favorite team by placing non-perishable/canned food items in your team's box located in the Gathering Place on 2/5 & 12. Our collection will be donated to the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank. May the best team win! Please support the youth in this caring ministry by helping those without enough to eat.

Offering Plates The passing of offering plates resumes today at the 10:30 Service. Thank you for your faithful giving to St. Mark's mission in this world.

The St. Mark's Book Study Group will meet on Thursday, 2/23/23, at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom. Our book this month is *Dead Reckoning* by Dick Lehr. This is the epic true story of the high-stakes operation undertaken in retaliation for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Dick Lehr expertly crafts a recreation of the tension-filled events leading up to the climactic clash in the South Pacific skies using the only US fighter plane on Guadalcanal capable of this feat—the new twin-engine P-38. The target of the mission is Admiral Yamamoto, the enigmatic, charismatic commander in chief of Japan's Combined Fleet. All are most welcome to participate in this fascinating study. Please contact Judy Tolbert or Kay Sehorn for more information.

Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday 2/22 Imposition of Ashes 12:15, 7 pm

Lenten Midweek Worship 7 pm (in-person and online)

Lenten Wednesday Supper 6 pm-6:45 pm Fellowship Hall, beginning March 1.

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** .

Volunteers needed to answer the phone at the front desk, Monday-Wednesday, 10 am to 2 pm. Please call or email if you would like to help. Thank you!

The Ethnic Restaurant Group will dine at **Malaya Kitchen** in The Arboretum Shopping Center on **February 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM**. Malaya Kitchen moved from Uptown to the Arboretum pre-pandemic due to CPCC expansion. The address is **8200-400 Providence Rd, Charlotte, NC 28277**. The cuisine is pan-Asian, and the components are quite recognizable, with individualized customer-control over any excursions of flavoring. The menu is extensive, with all recipes tuned over the years to local preferences. The atmosphere is casual and friendly. Come join the fun, and bring a friend to share the experience! All people are welcome. Please **RSVP to Tom & Judy Tolbert (please call the church office) by the**

Sunday afternoon before the dinner. We look forward to seeing many of you at Malaya Kitchen.

Carolina Pro Musica "Sources of the Baroque"

Concert 2/24/23 at 7:30pm. Carolina Pro Musica is pleased to present an all-Italian music program featuring important early 18th century composers. These musicians worked in major Italian cities and charted the paths for the Baroque. The concert will include works by little-known composers like Dario Castello, and Domenico Sarri, as well as Corelli, Marcello, Veracini and Bononcini. Henry Trexler, double bass joins Carolina Pro Musica regulars for diverse program of cantatas and trio sonatas.

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.

"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.



Imposition of Ashes
February 22, 2023

ASH
WEDNESDAY
12:15 pm
7:00 pm (also live on Facebook)

Mid-Week
Lenten
Services

The
Lenten
Journey:
Dying and
Rising with
Christ

March 1 - 29, 2023
6 - 6:45 pm Supper
7 pm Service



Music Notes

"O Master, Let Me Walk with You" ELW 818 Washington Gladden (1836-1918), a pioneer of the social gospel movement, wrote this text as a devotional poem for the magazine *Sunday Afternoon*, for which he was the editor. The poem was called "Walking with God." The theme is that walking with Jesus involves service to others, just as Jesus ministered to the spiritually needy and sick, so should we help the "slow of heart" and guide the "wayward feet." The tune **MARYTON**, named for a town in the county of Angus, Scotland, was composed by H. Percy Smith (1825-1898), and it was Gladden's wish that his hymn and this tune are paired together.

"Healer of Our Every Ill" ELW 612 American composer and author Marty Haugen (b. 1950) wrote both the text and tune for this hymn. It was written in January 1986, at Holden Village in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State, as an expression of grief upon learning of the crash of the space shuttle Challenger. Haugen writes: "there was no expectation that the song would have a life beyond the winter community gathered there," Haugen believes it "survives in part because a single community used it repeatedly and shaped it over time."

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

February 14, Cyril, monk (826–869) and Methodius, bishop (815–885), missionaries to the Slavs

Cyril and Methodius were brothers from a noble family in Thessalonika in northeastern Greece. They were Byzantine theologians and missionaries to the Slavic people. Since Slavonic had no written form at the time, the brothers established a written language based upon the Greek alphabet. The Cyrillic alphabet is named after them. They translated the New Testament, the Psalms and parts of the Old Testament into the Slavic language. They also translated the liturgy using the Cyrillic alphabet. The success of their missionary work was a result of their employing the local language for translation and teaching rather than Latin or Greek, though this brought them into repeated conflict with Rome. The Czechs, Serbs, Croats, Slovaks, and Bulgars regard these brothers as the founders of Slavic literature. The brothers' work in preaching and worshiping in the language of the people are honored by Christians in both East and West.

February 18, Martin Luther (1483-1546), renewer of the church

On this day in 1546, Martin Luther died at the age of sixty-two. For a time, he was an Augustinian monk, but it was his work as a biblical scholar, translator of the Bible, public confessor of the faith, reformer of the liturgy, theologian, educator, musician, and father of German vernacular literature that holds him in our remembrance. In Luther's own judgment, the greatest of all of his works was his catechism, written to instruct people in the basics of faith. An accomplished musician, Luther published the first vernacular hymnal in 1524 which has had lasting impact upon Protestant and Catholic hymnals alike. The *ELW* contains sixteen hymns for which Luther either composed music or words, or that he translated. Significantly, it was faith in the promises of baptism that sustained him in his trials as a reformer.

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, 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, Jon McKenzie, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Ingrid Keiris, Sam Temple, Greg Bruce, Jamie Bates, Helen Howard, Henry & Sharon Vander Voort, Jimmy Schwartz, Larry Marko, Marilyn Creech, Lisa White, Gene & Marie Anne Daniels and John Simon.

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

Readings for 2/19/2023, Transfiguration of Our Lord

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm 2

You are my son; this day have

I begotten you. (Ps. 2:7)

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

Birthdays

2/16 Gene Daniels

2/17 Claire Dixon

2/17 Daniel Adden

2/18 Barry Fulp



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)



Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

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