

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known

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NOVEMBER 24, 2024 CHRIST THE KING 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

GATHERING

Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.

Prelude

"Partita on 'Crown Him with Many Crowns" Op. 66

Chorale-Duo-Meditation Tune DIADEMATA by George Elvey Setting for organ by Charles Callahan

Please stand as able.

Processional Hymn

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" ELW 855

DIADEMATA

- 1. Crown him with may crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own. Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.
- 2. Crown him the virgin's Son, the God incarnate born, whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn; fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem, the root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.
- Crown him the Lord of love—behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
 No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
- 4. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save. His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high, who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death my die.
- 5. Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time, creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime. All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me; thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Welcome

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, Φ one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

Amen.

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

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power.

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are + forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

Amen.

Greeting

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

And also with you.

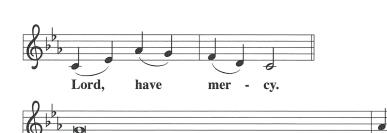
Please stand as able.

Kyrie

"Lord, Have Mercy" from Holy Communion Setting One

Jack Richardson, cantor





For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

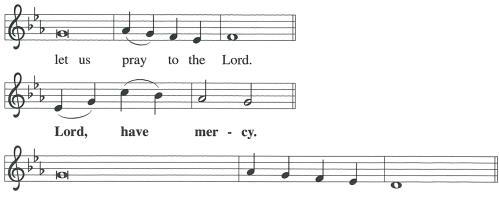


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





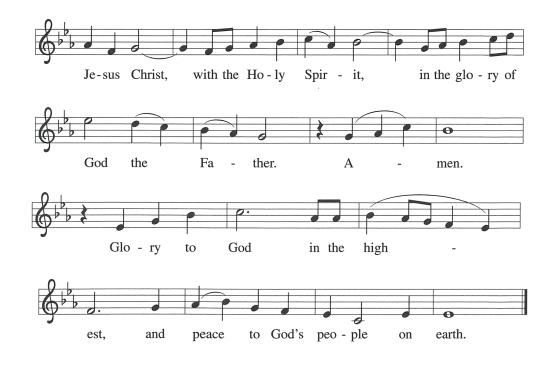
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.







Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Lowell Engelhard, lector

⁹As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹³As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed. *The Word of the Lord*

Thanks be to God

Psalm 93

Madeline Phillips, Jack Richardson, cantors

Psalm 93:2 (Robert Farlee) from Psalter for Worship Year B; © 2008 Augsburg Fortress

The Psalm printed below (the NRSV) may be different than the translation sung by the cantors.

As you listen to the psalm, please meditate on how different translations draw us more deeply into God's word, enriching its meaning.





¹The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength. He has established the world; it shall never be moved; ²your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting. ³The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring. ⁴More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the LORD! ⁵Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

Second Reading Revelation 1:4b-8

Lowell Engelhard, lector

^{1b}Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord

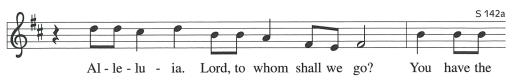
Thanks be to God

Please stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation

"Alleluia, Lord, to Whom Shall We Go"

Holy Communion Setting Three





The Holy Gospel John 18:33-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

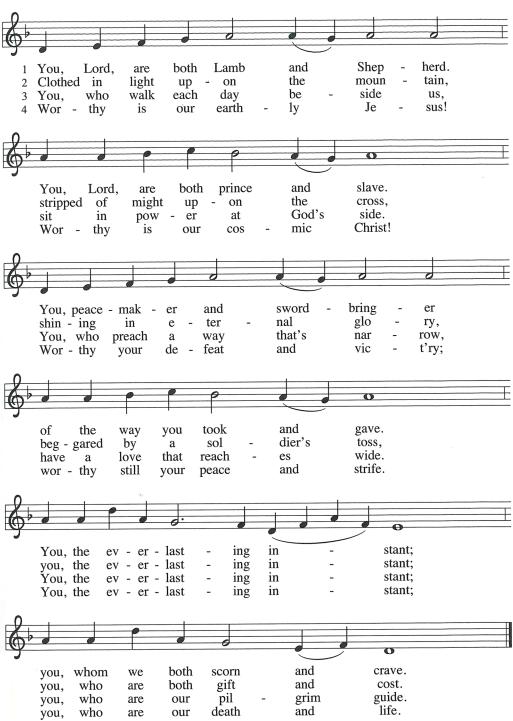
Please be seated.

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day "You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" ACS 954 from All Creation Sings

PICARDY

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993, © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: French folk tune, 17th cent.



Please be seated.

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.

Prayers of Intercession

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation. *A brief silence*.

Revive our congregations, synods, and national church body to reflect the love, justice, and kinship of your kingdom. Raise up diverse leaders like Justus Falckner, Jehu Jones, and William Passavant, whom we commemorate today, who teach and serve your people. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Nourish parched lands and bring relief to flooded places. Protect wildlife habitats and endangered species, that the chorus of creation's praise resounds with joy. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Grant wisdom to the leaders who govern, legislate, and deliberate on our behalf. Advance your nonviolent reign of justice-seeking love through their work. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Draw near to those who are detained, on trial, or incarcerated. Transform systems of retribution into systems of reconciliation and restoration. Empower activists who advocate for change. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Remind us of your enduring love in all seasons. Guide the planning efforts of worship leaders and volunteers who usher our congregation into a meaningful Advent. As we bring one season to a close and anticipate the next, we especially remember our church family in need of your healing and strength: Ross Boheler, Betty Denison, Charlene Oppermann, Susan G., Ron and Nancy Stepp, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Patty Allen, Jarrod Braunschweiger, Julie Dornberger, Grey Hamilton, Jettie Leslie, Angie Blackwelder Malone, Norma Alexander, Laura Elliott, Gene Ellington, Ken Foust, Tanner Grant, Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Dannye Olin Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa Coburn, Ingrid Keiris, Shirley Larson, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Sergei Kobiakov, Arlene Fielding, Oakley Coburn, David Kutscher, Danielle Clausen, Rachel Fulp, Joseph Tolbert, and Jay Harbinson. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

In your eternal presence the saints sing of your majesty. Join our voices with theirs in praise to the one who loves us and frees us from sin. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

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

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Please be seated.

OFFERING

(Offerings for the mission of the church are gathered by the ushers.)

Anthem

"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"

Malcolm Archer

Rejoice, the Lord is King, your Lord and King adore; mortals, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore: lift up your hearts, lift up your voice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice. Jesus, the Savior, reigns the God of truth and love; when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above: lift up your hearts, lift up your voice, rejoice, again I say rejoice. His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the keys to death and hell are to our Jesus given: lift up your hearts, lift up your voice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit, and bow to his command and fall beneath his feet: Rejoice, the Lord is King, your Lord and King adore; mortals, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore: lift up your hearts, lift up your voice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Please stand as able.

Offertory

(The offering is brought forward by the ushers)

"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending" ELW 435 stanza one

HELMSLEY
alt.; Music: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799

1. Lo! He comes with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain; thousand thousand saints attending join to sing the glad refrain: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Offering Prayer

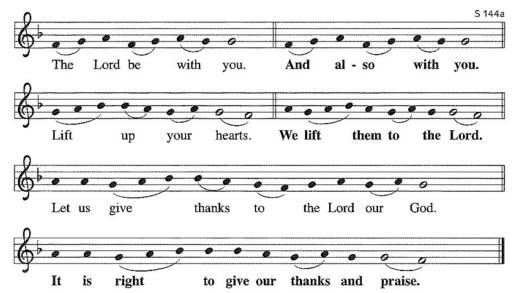
Let us pray. Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

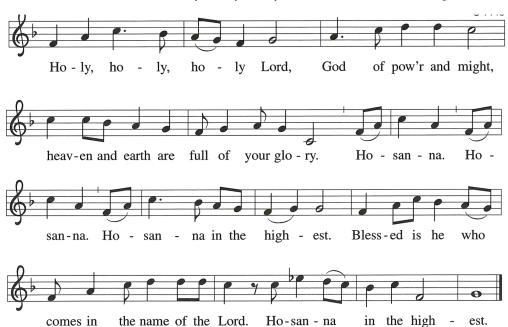
Amen.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Holy Communion Setting Three





When our congregation gathered for the celebration of Holy Communion, we heard again the story of God's mighty acts and of the love shown us in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

With thanksgiving we remembered that "in the night in which he was betrayed, he 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."

We were given assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of his Holy Spirit. Now we bring to you this same bread of life and this same cup of blessing, that you may be strengthened through your participation in the body of Christ.

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

Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

Please be seated.

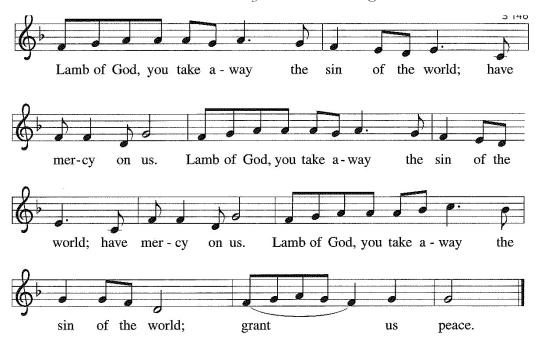
Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered continuously at the Lord's table and at the high altar. Please follow the ushers' prompts, walking forward to the desired communion station and returning via the side aisles. On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month,

distribution is by wafers and small cups, and on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the month distribution is by intinction. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are always available. Communion kits are no longer available.

Communion Music

"Lamb of God" from Holy Communion Setting Three



"Meditation" from Partita on Lift High the Cross'

Charles Callahan

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

"Lift High the Cross" ELW 660

CRUCIFER

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 2. All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*
- 3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*
- 4. So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956; Music: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947; T&M: ©1974 Hope Publishing Co.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Postlude

"Toccata on 'Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Organ setting by Jerry Westenkuehler

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Worship Leaders: Karyn Dalton, S.A.M.; crucifer: Andrew Puky; acolyte: Ella Puky; lector: Lowell Engelhard; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: John Brumbaugh; ushers: John Simon, Mike Doyne, Jenny Dagenhart, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Jay Jacob, Bill Thompson, Michael Thompson; greeters: Neil & Charlene Dixon, Michael & Tara Thompson; communion assistants: Barbara Baker, Jay Jacob, Karen & Kevin Feezor, Kimberly Zimmerman; communion helper: Karen Covington; tabulators: Karen Feezor, Janice Miller, Carol Goodall; musicians: St. Mark's Choir; Jack Richardson, Madeline Phillips, cantors; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Lisa Barnette; crucifer/acolyte: Needed; lector: TBD; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Neil Dixon; ushers: Team B; greeters: Joanne Marz, Tom & Kay Sehorn; communion assistants: Lisa Barnette, Rebecca Huang, Charles & Susan Lakeman, Gretchen Payne; communion helper: TBD; tabulators: Charles Lakeman, Dawn Schwartz

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Parish News

From the pastor -

"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12)

During Pentecost, we celebrate the Holy Spirit who gathers, leads and enlivens the church's mission in this world. Through the power of the Holy Spirit we are one in Christ, one body of many diverse people, gifts and voices. The church is not a building, but rather, a congregation of people gathered and enlivened by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of speaking with many and diverse voices the one gospel of God's love for this world in Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is always seeking to lead us with vision and wisdom. I invite you to prayerfully consider how the Holy Spirit is alive in your life. How is God seeking to use your gifts through your hands and your voice at St. Mark's? We are all baptized into one body so that united in Christ, we might, in all of our diversity, welcome all people for Christ!

In the fellowship of the gospel, Pastor Timothy McKenzie pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Worship and Congregational Life

Today's Altar Flowers are given by Pastor Tim and Mari with thanksgiving for all of God's gifts to each of us and to this congregation, St. Mark's.

We welcome today's guest preacher!

Karyn Dalton is a Synod Approved Minister (SAM) of the NC Synod of the ELCA. She is happily married, to her husband Joe, for going on 28 years now. They have 4 children, 4 grandchildren and 5 cats, who seem to find and adopt them. Karyn participated in our Synod's Lay Preachers classes and graduated with the first cohort of lay preachers back in 2019. In June of this year, she graduated with our Synod's first cohort of S.A.M.'s. A Sam is a Synod Authorized Minister. She is considered a candidate until assigned to a church, as their minister. Right now, she is doing Supply work which is what brought her to our beautiful church this morning.

Pastor Tim is away on vacation 11/5-26. In the case of a pastoral emergency please contact St. Mark's Council President, Jay Jacob, 704-301-6915, or the church office 704-375-9185. Thank you.

Thanksgiving for Neighbors in Need: Nourish Up With the busy holiday season still ahead we need your **help** to meet the increased need, especially pantry staples such as these priority needs items: Frozen Turkeys, Canned Meat, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Pasta (canned or dry boxed). Donate food items directly to our Hunger Hub, 901 Carrier Drive. Volunteer Drivers are needed to deliver Thanksgiving to neighbors! Deliver groceries 11/18-27, turkeys and holiday sides, and/or deliver Meals on Wheels 11/25-27, to seniors and homebound at Volunteer - Nourish Up (https://courishup.org/volunteer/).

Poinsettias and Wreaths The cost will be the same as last year at \$12 per plant for honorium/memorial. In addition, someone may sponsor a door wreath with an honorium/memorial as well. The deadline for the Christmas Eve bulletin is Tuesday, 12/19. Order forms are in the Gathering Place.

Ryo Terukina Piano Recital - 11/30 (4 pm, Choir Room) Mr. Terukina is a graduate of Shōwa Academia Musicae, Tokyo, Japan, with additional degrees from the Italian National Chesena Conservatory of Music in piano (2014) and Répétiteur (2017); and the Advanced Chamber Music Course at the Academia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Rome (2020).

HANDEL'S MESSIAH will be presented by the UNC Charlotte Orchestra and University Chorale, Friday, December 6th 7:00 pm in our sanctuary. Sixty singers and forty-five instrumentalists from the music department at UNC Charlotte will present twenty-six selections from this monumental choral masterpiece. Our Director of Music Les Ackerman will serve as organist. Tickets are \$10, but St. Mark's members will be admitted free of charge.

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR ADVENT A service of readings and carols for the season of Advent will be presented on the Second Sunday of Advent, December 8th during our 10:30 am worship. St. Mark's Choir, organists Bibba Whitener and Les Ackerman, as well as trumpeter Gabriel Slesinger, will present anthems, hymns and carols, and instrumental selections for the season of Advent.



Aid for Hurricane Helene Victims Thank you to all for your donations. If you would like to help, please see the NC Synod's website. all for your donations. If you would like to help,

Thinking of joining St. Mark's? Please see Pastor Tim to set up a time to talk. All people are welcome at St. Mark's!

The Christian Education Hour is at 9:30 am on Sundays. You are invited to join the Faith Forum for lively discussion on the book of Acts. The class meets in the Large

Conference room. New members are always welcome.

Online worship is streamed live every Sunday at 10:30 am on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarksLutheran/).

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.

Family Ministry

Nursery: A fun-filled nursery, staffed by volunteers, is located downstairs. An usher is available to show you the way. Our safety protocols offer peace of mind so you can worship without worry.

Confirmation Class meets every Sunday at 9:30.

Stewardship

Sharing our gifts is important to St. Mark's ongoing mission. A pledge is a prayerful commitment to giving in response to God's grace. A pledge may be offered at any time, but pledges help a congregation establish a responsible budget for the coming year. Please consider making a financial pledge to St. Mark's. Brochures are available in the Gathering Place. Thank you for your faithful gifts to St. Mark's ministries. 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.

2024 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

ROOM IN THE INN-WE NEED YOUR HELP! We offer our Room in the Inn guests toiletry bags with items they may need. We have enough to fill 35 bags -- but we need 80 bags! NEEDED --

need 80 bags! NEEDED --Men's travel size deodorant -- 45 Body lotion (no fragrance) -- 34 Toothpaste -- 26

Toothbrushes -- 5Donation basket is on the table in the hall across from the restrooms. THANKS!

NOURISH UP (Loaves & Fishes) The need for assistance in many families goes on. ALL foods are welcome but some items you may not have thought of but are certainly needed and appreciated: ketchup, mustard, mayo, salt, pepper, sugar, flour, tea bags, instant coffee, pancake mix "complete", syrup and cornbread mix. Please make sure all donations are NON-PERISHABLE and NON-BREAKABLE. The gathering place baker's rack is always waiting for your donations to those in our community in need. "When I was hungry you gave me food"

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!

Announcements

AA meets in the Fellowship Hall: Monday nights "Third Tradition", 7 p.m.; Wednesday nights "Just the Basics", 7:30 p.m.; and Thursday nights "Not a Glum Lot", 6:30 p.m.; in Room 210: Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m. & Saturday morning 10:30 a.m. "SLAA".

Music Notes

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" ELW 855. This hymn was extracted from two six stanza hymns, twelve stanzas total. From Matthew Bridges (1800-1894) we have stanzas one, two, three, and five, and from Godfrey Thring (1823-1903) stanza four. Both hymn writers were inspired by the passage from Revelation 19:12 "and on his head were many crowns." Each stanza itemizes the characteristics of the risen Lord: "The Lamb upon his throne," "The Lord of love," "The Lord of life," and "The Lord of years." George Elvey (1816-1893) wrote the tune **DIADEMATA** for this hymn, with its first publication in the 1868 edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern*. The tune name **DIADEMATA** is derived from the Greek word for crown or diadems, a royal headband.

"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" ACS 954 from All Creation Sings Susan Dunstan (1955-1993) has served as a pastor and as a duty chaplain in a maximum-security jail. Dunstan says she wrote this hymn in 1984 while commuting on a bus after a particularly bad day at the jail. It was later published in In Search of Hope & Grace under the title "Christus Paradox." All Creation Sings pairs Dunstan's text with the seventeenth century French folk tune PICARDY, named for that region of France.

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

November 24, Justus Falckner, (1672-1723); Jehu Jones (1786-1852); William Passavant (1821-1894), pastors in North America

A native of Saxony, **Falkner** was the son of a Lutheran pastor, and studied theology in Halle. He served congregations in New York and New Jersey. He the first Lutheran pastor ordained in North America, and his catechism was the first Lutheran book published on this continent. **Jones** was a native of Charleston, South Carolina. Ordained by the New York Ministerium in 1832, he became the Lutheran church's first African American pastor. Upon returning to South Carolina, he was arrested under a law prohibiting free blacks from reentering the state. For nearly twenty years, Jones carried out missionary work in Philadelphia in the face of many difficulties, where he led the formation of the first African American Lutheran congregation, St. Paul's Lutheran Church. **Passavant** organized social ministry in western Pennsylvania which became the seed of today's Lutheran Services in America. He also active in the founding of Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary (a predecessor of LSTC), and Passavant Hospital, now part of Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. Passavant sought to serve the poor, the sick, and to provide theological education for pastors.

November 25, Isaac Watts, hymnwriter (1674-1748)

Isaac Watts was born in England to a family of nonconformist Christians who thought the reforms of the Church of England had not gone far enough. Watts wrote about six hundred hymns, many in a two-year period beginning when he was twenty years old. Some of Watts's hymns are based on psalms, a nonconformist tradition. When criticized for writing hymns not taken from scripture, he replied that if we can pray prayers written by us, but not from scripture, then we can surely also sing hymns that reflect our faith. Ten of Watts's hymns texts are in the ELW, including "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (ELW 632).

November 30, Andrew, Apostle

Andrew was among the first of the disciples called by Jesus. In the gospels of Matthew and Mark he was called directly by Jesus, along with his brother Peter. In the Gospel of John, Andrew was one of two of John the Baptist's followers who were called by Jesus. Andrew in turn, brought his brother Simon Peter to Jesus, saying, "We have found the Messiah" (John 1:41). Further, Andrew is the disciple who brought forward to Jesus the boy with five loaves and two fish (John 6:8). Andrew, along with Philip, also brought a group of Greeks to Jesus who had said the words, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus" (John 12:21), which are quoted on the plaque behind St. Mark's pulpit. Andrew was a shepherd who introduced others to Jesus and is remembered as a martyr to his faith.

Adapted from Sundays and Seasons

St. Mark's Prayer List

Ross Boheler, Betty Denison, Charlene Oppermann, Susan G., Ron and Nancy Stepp, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Patty Allen, Jarrod Braunschweiger, Julie Dornberger, Grey Hamilton, Jettie Leslie, Angie Blackwelder Malone, Norma Alexander, Laura Elliott, Gene Ellington, Ken Foust, Tanner Grant, Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Dannye Olin Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa Coburn, Ingrid Keiris, Shirley Larson, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Sergei Kobiakov, Arlene Fielding, Oakley Coburn, David Kutscher, Danielle Clausen, Rachel Fulp, Joseph Tolbert, and Jay Harbinson. Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests (pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org)

Readings for 12/1/2024 First Sunday of Advent Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36

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Birthdays
11/24 Burkhardt Otterstadt
11/24 John Iannelli
11/25 Amy Jacob
11/26 Susan Ginns



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 (pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org)

Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

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