



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



FEBRUARY 16, 2025

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY / LECTIONARY 6

10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

In today's gospel, Jesus' words about "Blessings and Woes" lay bare our aspirational and self-centered world of wealth and instant gratification. Jesus' words are challenging for us because, lost in our wealth, we often fail to use God's blessings to help others. Jesus' words "Woe to you" remind us that wealth and "the good life," when not used with compassion and justice for the hungry, weeping and excluded, only create distance from God. To live in the power of Christ's resurrection is to bear the fruits of new life, sharing our blessings with those who live in life's wilderness and parched places.

GATHERING

*The congregation is invited to join in the **BOLD** responses.*

Prelude

"Voluntary on The Doxology"

Tune OLD HUNDREDTH by Louis Bourgeois

Organ setting by Henry Purcell

Please stand as able.

Processional Hymn

"Jesus Shall Reign" ELW 434

DUKE STREET

1. Jesus shall reign where're the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.
4. Blessings abound where're he reigns:
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.; Music: arr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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 creates us, redeems us,
and calls us by name.

Amen.

Remembering the waters of Holy Baptism, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news:
In ☩ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
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.

Please stand as able.

Kyrie

“Kyrie eleison” from *All Creation Sings*, Holy Communion Setting Twelve

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Meg Fielding, lector

⁵Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. ⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. ⁹The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? ¹⁰I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 1

Amy Woodall, Jack Richardson, cantors

Psalm 1:3 (Daniel Kallman) from *Psalter for Worship Year C*; © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

The canticle 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.

They are like trees plant - ed by streams of wa - ter.

¹Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;
²but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. ³They are like trees planted by
streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. ⁴The
wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. ⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; ⁶for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Meg Fielding, lector

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia, Lord, to Whom Shall We Go” from *ACS Holy Communion Setting Twelve*

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

The Holy Gospel

Luke 6:17-26

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. ²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you

who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

“Blessed are you; Woe to you”

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

“Let Justice Flow like Streams” ELW 717

ST. THOMAS

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926 © 1984 Hope Publishing Co.; Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar-ling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous-ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans-ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans-lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus-tice, right, and peace per-vade this world our whole life through.

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.

Please be seated.

Prayers of Intercession

Riley Smith, prayer assistant

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

With the spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Loving God, help us, your church, to see the humanity in all we meet, even those who have hurt us. Give us your strength to forgive, extend grace, and offer mercy. May your love flow through us always, transforming our hearts and actions. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Creator God, you have created a wondrous world for us filled with an abundant diversity of life and marvelous beauty, yet in our endless pursuit of wealth, we have destroyed and defaced creation. Encourage the people of this and every nation to see that in working together, we can heal our planet home. Grant us vision and courage to love and care for your creation as you daily love and care for us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, guide our earthly leaders in pathways of righteousness and integrity. Give them grace to delight in your will and to serve the common good with humility and compassion. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Beloved Healer, bless and heal all who are struggling with illness, depression, addiction, and loneliness; give to them wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to our church family with healing and hope; we pray especially for: John Simon, Judy Cox, Mike Doyne, Lisa Wiedemer, Ross Boheler, Betty Denison, Charlene Oppermann, Ron and Nancy Stepp, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Mark Thornton, Patty Allen, Jarrod Braunschweiger, Julie Dornberger, Jettie Leslie, Angie Blackwelder Malone, Norma Alexander, Laura Elliott, Gene Ellington, Ken Foust, Tanner Grant, Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Danyne 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. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Gracious Lord, we see the faces of those without homes, struggling with hunger and uncertainty. We pray for them, for comfort, protection, and hope. Open our hearts and arms to share generously and compassionately. Guide us to a better world of safety, and love for all. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks that Jesus prepares a place for us in your kingdom. Bless us to faithfully follow Jesus, using our wealth and our time, our hands and our voices, to serve you and our neighbor our whole life long. May our lives witness to your kingdom alive and present in this world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promises are revealed among all peoples, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
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

Please be seated.

OFFERING

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

Anthem

“Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain”

Carolyn Jennings

Climb to the top of the highest mountain, joyous tidings proclaim to the world, lift up your voice, shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you. He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will carry the lambs in his arms, he will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you. He who made the stars in the heaven, he who fashioned the earth and

the sea, from time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, he. Behold, behold, your Lord! He will come in pow'r and glory, he will rule with mercy and truth, hope of nations, light of all the world. He will love the little children, he will hold them in his arms. Love him and trust him as a little child, your Lord comes to you.

Please stand as able.

Offertory

(The offering is brought forward by the ushers)

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” ELW 884

OLD HUNDREDTH

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.

Amen.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Holy Communion Setting Three

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.

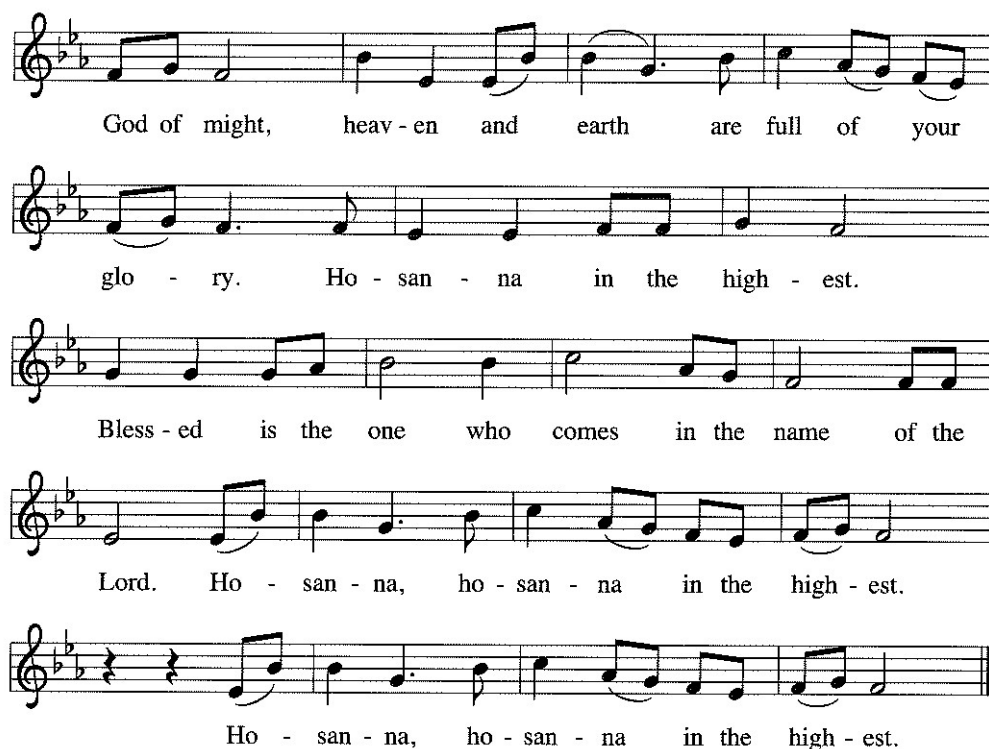
Proper Preface

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy” from *All Creation Sings*

Holy Communion Setting Twelve

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and



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 to God's table.

There is a place for you and enough for all.

Please be seated.

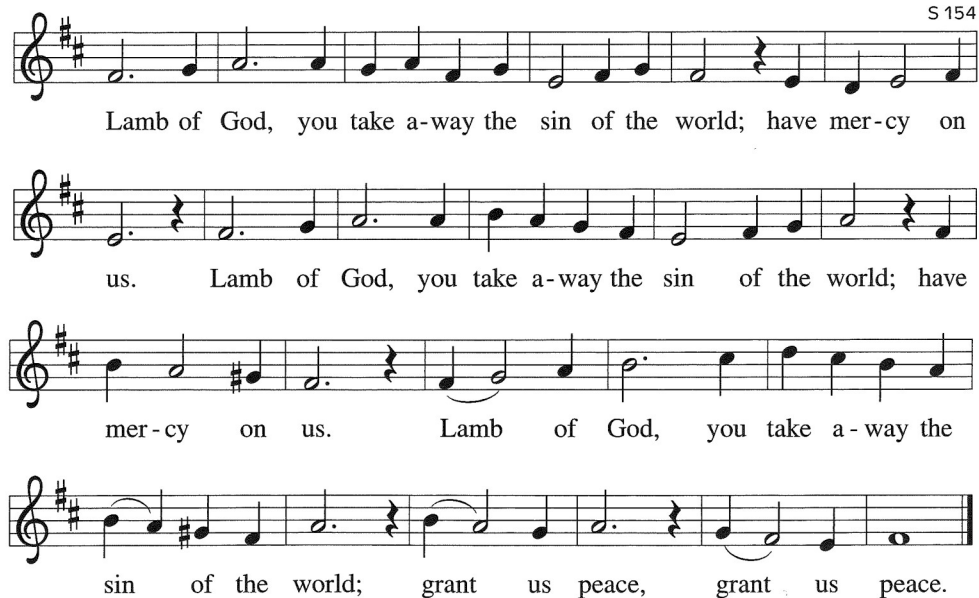
Distribution of Holy Communion

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 Four*

S 154



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

"Jesus Shall Reign" from *Twenty Hymn Trios*

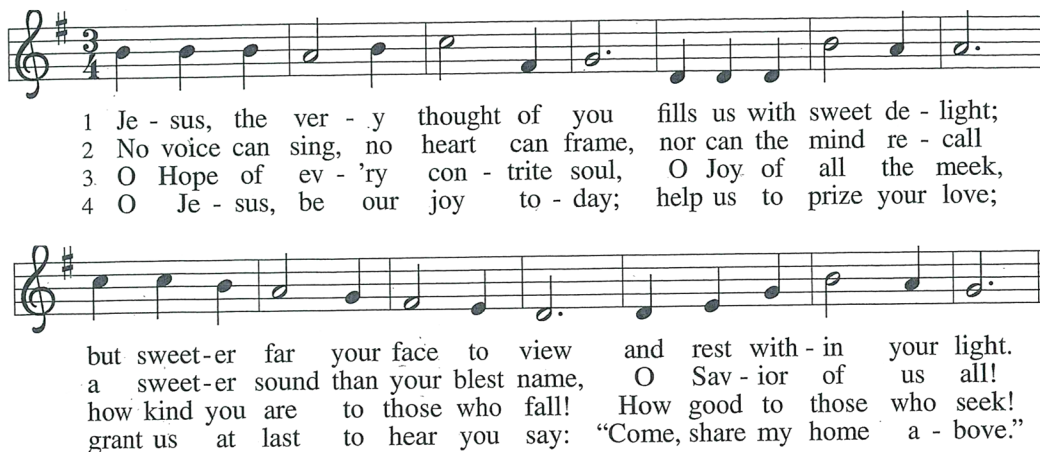
Tune DUKE STREET by John Hatton
Setting for organ by David S. Harris

Communion Hymn

"Jesus, the Very Thought of You" ELW 754

ST. AGNES

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878; Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;
but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

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. We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SENDING

Sending Blessing

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✠ bless your going out and your coming in,
today and forever.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

“We Know That Christ Is Raised” ELW 449

ENGELBERG

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932 © John B. Geyer; Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,
and our despair he turned to blazing joy.
Hallelujah!
2. We share by water in his saving death.
Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,
as living members of our Savior Christ.
Hallelujah!
3. The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life.
The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One.
Hallelujah!
4. A new creation comes to life and grows
as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe restored and whole will sing:
Hallelujah!

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world.

Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.



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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; prayer assistant: Riley Smith; crucifer: Needed; acolyte: Riley Smith; lector: Meg Fielding; live streaming camera: Charles Lakeman; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: John Simon, Mike Doyne, Jenny Dagenhart, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Jay Jacob, Bill Thompson, Michael Thompson; greeters: Millie Cansler, Jay Jacob; communion assistants: Lisa Barnette, Jay Jacob, Susan Lakeman, A.J. Pridgen, Nick Wartner; communion helper: Karen Covington; tabulators: Meg Fielding, Diane Thomas; musicians: St. Mark's Choir; Jack Richardson, Amy Woodall, cantors; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Michael Thompson; crucifer/acolyte: Brady Ferner; lector: Karen Feezor; live streaming camera: Charles Lakeman; soundboard: Alan Harms; ushers: Team A; greeters: Dave & Eileen Dunlap, Charles & Susan Lakeman; communion assistants: Rebecca Huang, Virginia Molan, A. J. Pridgen, Tom Puky, Nick Wartner; communion helper: Sandy Rach; tabulators: Meg Fielding, Carol Goodall, Dawn Schwartz



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, March 5). 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, revealing the scope of our proclamation and work as modern-day Christians. On the final Sunday of this season, The Transfiguration (March 2), we see the fullness of Christ's divinity revealed in his humanity, also revealing the gift of his Spirit dwelling in us. Epiphany is a season in which we respond in faith and service to Jesus Christ, as his contemporary disciples and messengers, always moving ever outward with faith active in love.

In the grace and peace of Christ,
Pastor Tim McKenzie
pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Worship and Congregational Life

Room in the Inn volunteers are needed! Please sign up in the Gathering Place.

The Ethnic Restaurant Group will dine at Aroma Indian Restaurant on 18 February, 2025. Aroma is "proudly the largest Indian restaurant in the Greater Charlotte Area with authentic Indian flavors and exquisite ambiance." Dining at Aroma provides an experience, not just a meal. Aroma is in the Red Stone Complex, beside the Cinemas: 9648 Red Stone Dr, Indian Land, SC 29707. Head south on US-521 (Johnson Rd), turn left at either the SC-160 intersection (and work your way behind Reid's), or you can turn left at the first traffic light after the SC-160 intersection. Aroma's cuisine reflects a wide range of the various culinary regions of the Indian sub-continent. We often order extra as take-out for the next day's meal. There also is full bar service. Spice levels are adjusted to personal preference (if you want super mild, you must say so, since this will limit some selections). The staff courteously helps with selections. Mark your calendars for a scrumptious feast and join the fun at Aroma. Tom & Judy Tolbert

Theology on Tap Thursday, February 20 at 7 pm at Open Tap at 7p located at 5010 Carmel Center Drive 28226. Everyone is welcome!

The St. Mark's Book Study Group's next meeting is on Thursday, Feb. 27, at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom. Our selection is Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt. After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her 18-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over 30 years ago. Tova becomes acquainted with curmudgeonly Marcellus, a giant Pacific octopus living at the aquarium. Marcellus knows more than anyone can imagine but wouldn't dream of lifting one of his eight arms for his human captors—until he forms a remarkable friendship with Tova. Ever the detective, Marcellus deduces what happened the night Tova's son disappeared. Now, Marcellus must use every trick his old invertebrate body can muster to unearth the truth for her before it's too late. All interested persons are invited to join us for this

study. For more information, please contact Kay Sehorn or Judy Tolbert.

Carolina Pro Musica in Concert 2/28/25 7:30 PM

"Celebrating Scarlatti" Alessandro Scarlatti, who lived until 1725, is credited with establishing the Neopolitan style of music including opera overtures, forerunners of the symphony. He wrote hundreds of cantatas which served as models for others, too. Celebrate his life. Half price tickets for SMLC using code StMarksHO at <https://www.carolinapromusica.org/schedule>

Save the Date! The Congregational Life Committee is again hosting a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, March 4 at 6:00 pm. Mark your calendar now and plan to join us! Please copy the link to your browser or call the church office to sign up <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4DAFAB23A6F49-54863812-shrove>

Charlotte Flute Association Recital Heads Up!

Sunday, March 9 at 2:30 PM. Admission is free, and everyone is welcome!



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.

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. 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 YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/@st.markslutherancharlotte234/streams>), St. Mark's website (<https://saintmarkscharlotte.org/live-stream/>), and 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

Please prayerfully consider your 2025 pledge to Christ's mission at St. Mark's. Your pledge is important to St. Mark's mission and may also be offered at any time. 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.



2025 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

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

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" ELW 884 & 885 Bishop Thomas Ken (1637-1711) is the author of this famous Doxology. This text is actually the final stanza of three hymns written for the boys at Winchester College, one of the oldest public preparatory schools in England. His instructions read: "Be sure to sing the morning and evening hymn in your chamber devoutly, remembering that the psalmist, upon happy experience, assures you that it is a good thing to tell of the loving kindness of the Lord early in the morning and of his truth in the night season." The term Doxology can be broadly defined as an expression of the glory of God. From the Roman liturgy there are two texts, the Lesser Doxology "Gloria Patri" (Glory Be to the Father), and the Greater Doxology, the "Glory to God in the Highest", included in our Lutheran Liturgy. American churches often use the Doxology at the Offertory, as we plan to sing today at St. Mark's. **OLD HUNDREDTH** is one of the tunes from the *Genevan Psalter* (1562), and received its name from pairing with a metrical setting of Psalm 100.

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

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

John Simon, Judy Cox, Mike Doyne, Lisa Wiedemer, Ross Boheler, Betty Denison, Charlene Oppermann, Ron and Nancy Stepp, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Patty Allen, Jarrod Braunschweiger, Julie Dornberger, 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 2/23/2025

7th Sunday after Epiphany

Lectionary 7

Genesis 43:3-11, 15

Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40

1 Corinthians 15:35-50

Luke 6:27-38

Birthdays

2/16 Gene Daniels

2/17 Claire Dixon

2/17 Daniel Adden

2/18 Barry Fulp

2/21 Max Doyne



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



Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor

pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Lester Ackerman,

Director of Music Ministry, Organist

les@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Sue Wadgymer, Parish Administrator

admin@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Elaine Johnson,

Financial Administrator

finance@saintmarkscharlotte.org

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

1001 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207 | saintmarkscharlotte.org | 704.375.9185