



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



MAY 25, 2025

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus gives us peace, but not as the world gives. With his peace, our hearts are not troubled or afraid, and early Christians like Lydia had their hearts opened by the Lord's Spirit. We long for a day, as Revelation suggests, when the nations will walk by God's light, sharing their glory and honor with God and one another.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

“Theme and Adagio” from *Variations on ‘Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise’*

Organ settings by Hans Uwe Hielscher

The congregation stands as the cross is carried into the sanctuary.

Processional Hymn

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ELW 834

ST. DENIO

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
‘tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824-1908, alt.; Music: Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807-1876

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 forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you and given
ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have done
and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

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

“Come and Fill Our Hearts” ELW 528 sing two times CONFITEMINI DOMINO



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Hymn of Praise “All Glory Be to God on High” ELW 410 stanza one

ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HOH

Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1485-1550, tr. Composite, © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress; Music: Plainsong; adapt. Nikolaus Decius



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, who has the world be -



friend - ed; to us no harm shall now come nigh, the



strife at last is end - ed. God shows good-will to



one and all, and peace when trou - bled sin - ners call. Thank



God for grace and mer - cy! A - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through 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

Acts 16:9-15

Flora Chance, lector

⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by

Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

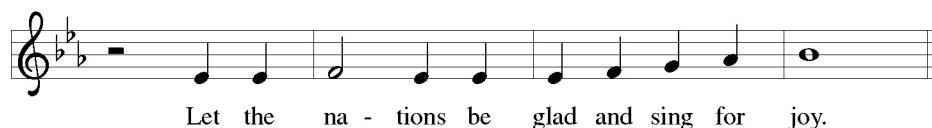
The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 67

Amy Woodall, Nick Hanewinkel, cantors

Psalm 67:4 (Carl Schalk) from Psalter for Worship Year C © 2006 Augsburg Fortress



May God be merciful to | us and bless us; may the light of God's face | shine upon us. ²Let your way be known | upon earth, your saving health a- | mong all nations. ³Let the peoples praise | you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you. ⁴Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth. R ⁵Let the peoples praise | you, O God; let all the | peoples praise you. ⁶The earth has brought | forth its increase; God, our own | God, has blessed us. ⁷May God | give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe. R

Second Reading

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

Flora Chance, lector

¹⁰And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. ²²I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. ¹Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ²through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

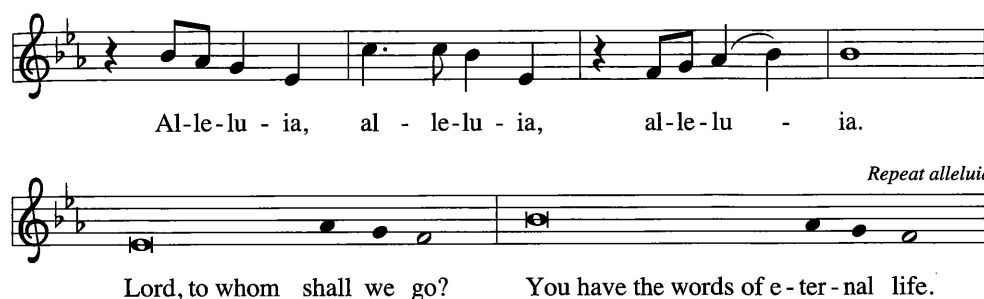
The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia” from *Holy Communion Setting Twelve*



The Holy Gospel John 14:23-29

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me. ²⁵"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

"My peace I give to you"

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

"The Peace of the Lord" ELW 646

LA PAZ DEL SENOR

Text: Anders Ruuth; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923; Music: Anders Ruuth; Spanish T&M © Anders Ruuth; English text © Lutheran World Federation

1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the

peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the

Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's
Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -
Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to

chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for
ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right
share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not

me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.
now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.
live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

The Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Dave Dunlap, prayer assistant

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Risen Lord, unite your church in faith and in loving dialogue among different denominations and between different religions. Help us to listen for your voice wherever you are revealed in this world, that all people might know you and your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creator God, as we continue to pray for those heavily impacted by natural disasters, help us to support the victims of these tragedies around our nation and around the world with shelter, food, and clean water. Help us to also remember the impact of these disasters on the livelihood of these areas, the impact to livestock and wildlife, and to the educational needs of school-age victims. Continue to show us that the planet you have provided for us is fragile so that we can be better stewards of our collective home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving God, your Son the Wonderful Counsellor, taught us to love our neighbors as ourselves. In this time when we celebrate His resurrection, we also continue to hear so much of what divides. Help us to remember we are all children of God that we might accept, embrace, and celebrate our differences rather than question and suppress them. Help us to set aside hate, bigotry, and prejudice, and in His name to love each other for who we are. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Holy Comforter, heal and sustain all who suffer from sickness, addiction, loneliness and fear, and grant strength and peace to the dying. Bless our extended church family: Marcia Newlin, Bill Stevenson, Andres Puky, Diane Thornton, Susan Ginns, Ashlyn Bordelon, Betsy League, Carmelita Harris, Lucille Johnson, Marilyn Stevens, Jerry Poplin, Satoko Yamada, Judy Cox, Ross Boheler, Betty Denison, Charlene Oppermann, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Angie Blackwelder Malone, Norma Alexander, Laura Elliott, Gene Ellington, Ken Foust, Tanner Grant, Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Dannye Olin Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa and Oakley Coburn, Ingrid Keiris, Shirley Larson, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Arlene Fielding, David Kutscher, Danielle Clausen, Rachel Fulp, Joseph Tolbert, and Jay Harbinson. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Heavenly Father, Jesus drove the scammers and profiteers out of the temple because they were taking advantage of the poor and many who did not know better. Today those with similar intent hide behind all forms of modern technologies, but their intent is the same. Help us to recognize, as Jesus did, those who take advantage others, and help us to call them out, stopping them from their wrongdoing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of peace, we give you thanks for the living saints who have befriended, taught, and witnessed to us. Grant us your abiding peace that amid the storms of life, we might embody your peace toward those around us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

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

“Arise, My Soul, Arise”

Dan Forrest

Madeline Phillips, soprano

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off thy guilty fears. The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears. Before the Throne my Surety stands. My name is written on His hands. Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on Calvary. They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me. “Forgive him, O, forgive,” they cry, “nor let that ransomed sinner die.” God is reconciled; His

pard'ning voice I hear; He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear. With confidence I now draw nigh, and "Father, Abba, Father," cry. Arise, my soul, arise!

Please stand as able.

Offertory

(The offering is brought forward by the ushers)

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" ELW 815 stanza one

HOUSTON

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934; Music: Kathleen Thomerson, T & M: 1970, 1975 Celebration

1. I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

S 152

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

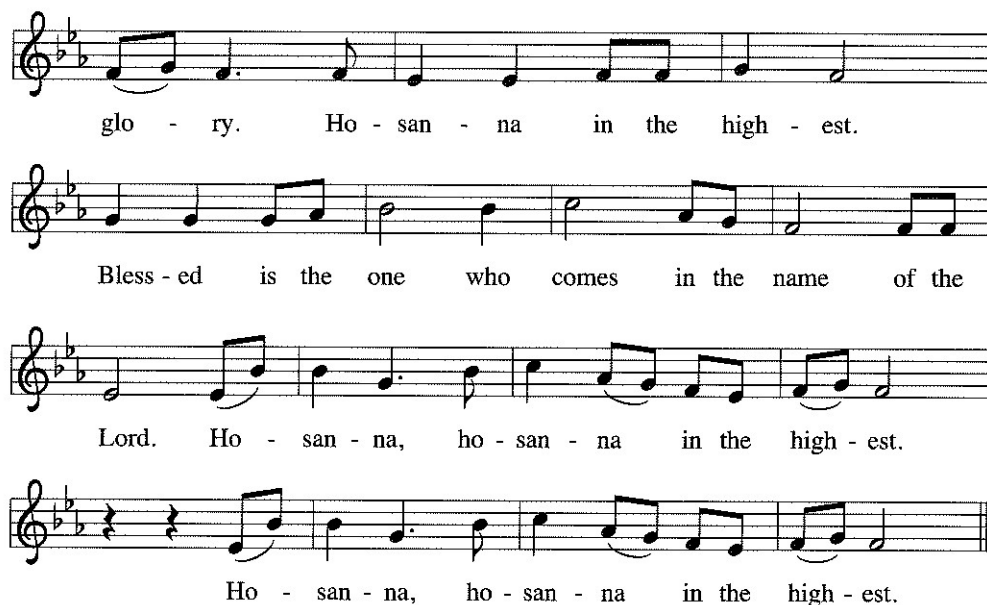
Sanctus

"Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord"

Holy Communion Setting Twelve

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

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your



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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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

“Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus” from *All Creation Sings*

Holy Communion Setting Twelve

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first and third staves are identical, as are the second and fourth staves.

“Improvisation on ‘Drawn to the Light’”

Tune LA CROSS by John C. Ylvisaker; Organ setting by James Biery

“I Am the Vine, You Are the Branches”

Paul D. Weber

Abide in me as I abide in you. I am the vine, you are the branches. You are the branches, I am the vine. Those who abide in me and I in them, those who abide in me bear much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing. Abide in me as I abide in you.

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, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

SENDING BLESSING

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

“Drawn to the Light” ELW 593

LA CROSSE

Text: & Music: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937; T&M: 1990 John C. Ylvisaker

1. People who walk in darkness have sought a light in the heart of the darkest night. Just when we thought all would be lost, we were drawn to the light of God.

Refrain Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the light and the morning.
Glorious and bright, oh, what a sight to be drawn to the light of God.

2. How can we tell a heaven from hell if ev’ryone dwells in the dark of night? Morning dispels, gently compels, and we’re drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*
3. Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the one who is shining bright, bids us to come! Life has begun when we’re drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Postlude

“Fugue in F Major” BuxWV 157

Dietrich Buxtehude



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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; prayers assistant: Dave Dunlap; crucifer: Andrew Puky; acolyte: Ella Puky; lector: Flora Chance; live streaming camera: Joe Barrett; soundboard: Alan Harms; ushers: John Simon, Mike Doyne, Jenny Dagenhart, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Jay Jacob, Bill Thompson, Michael Thompson; greeters: Patrick & Rebecca Huang, Dale & Mary Lou Hopp; communion assistants: Lisa Barnette, Jay Jacob, Charles & Susan Lakeman, A.J. Pridgen; communion helper: Chris Miller; tabulators: Meg Fielding, Janice Miller, Dawn Schwartz; musicians: St. Mark’s Choir; Nick Hanewinckel, Amy Woodall, cantors; Madeline Phillips, soprano soloist; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Larry Dagenhart, Jr.; crucifer/acolyte: Needed; lector: Larry Lippert; live streaming camera: Charles Lakeman; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: Team B; greeters: Jay Jacob, Millie Cansler; communion assistants: Rebecca Huang, Jay Jacob, Kevin Feezor, A. J. Pridgen, Nick Wartner; communion helper: Karen Covington; tabulators: Susan League, Charles Lakeman

From the pastor -

"If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." (Colossians 3:1)

Blessed Eastertide greetings! The joy we experience at Easter is profound because Christ is risen and alive in every heart open to him. In Holy Baptism we are raised with Christ to live into his resurrection life each and every day. Paul certainly experienced this, encouraging the church at Colossae to know that we are freed to seek and live for "the things that are above, where Christ is." The good news of Easter is powerful because daily we also live among the things that are "below" - the things of this broken and sinful world. This is the world God so loves, where Christ lived and died that he might raise us with Christ to seek the things that are above, moving us from death to life. Every day, freed from sin and death, may you seek the things that are above. In doing so, Christ, who is alive in you, will help you live for others with his unfailing strength.

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

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Worship and Congregational Life

The church office will be closed tomorrow, May 26, in honor of Memorial Day.

6/1 Senior Sunday (10:30) Please join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating high school seniors.

6/3 and 6/5 Bach Akademie Charlotte Festival, 7:30 pm. On 6/3 enjoy JS Bach & Sons Chamber Music, Orchestra and Chorus, and on 6/5 String Sonatas by Vivaldi and JS Bach. Get your tickets at www.bachcharlotte.com.



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 at 9:30 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

SPECIAL SUMMER FOOD DRIVE FOR NOURISH UP (Loaves & Fishes) The need for food

assistance in many families goes on. It is especially true for the low-income families whose children will not be receiving free breakfasts and lunches when school is out. Please remember these families and their children the next time you grocery shop. Put a couple "child friendly" items in your cart such as cereal, canned pasta entrees, single portions of mac & cheese, canned fruit, peanut butter and squeeze bottles of jelly. All foods are of course welcome. Just remember to make sure they are NON-PERISHABLE and NON-BREAKABLE. The baker's rack in the gathering place is waiting for your donations. Thank you!

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

"The Peace of the Lord" ELW 646 (Spanish title: "La paz del Señor") This text and its tune **LA PAZ DEL SENOR** were written in 1968 by Anders Ruuth (b.1926). Ruuth was born in Stockholm, Sweden and was a pastor in Argentina and a professor of Theology in Buenos Aires. The hymn was written in Spanish, with an English translation done by Gerhard Cartford (b.1923). According to Cartford, Ruuth wrote the hymn for his seminary students to teach the meaning of the assembly's sharing in the greeting of peace during the eucharist. It is laid out in two parts. The first half is three phrases that ponder peace by repetition and lead to where it is found--in Jesus. The second half explores the nature of this peace--for us, for all God's children, and among us to be received and shared--and repeats the exploration.

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" ELW 834 Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908) a minister of the Free Church of Scotland, published this hymn in his *Hymns of Christ and the Christian Life* (London, 1867). The text is based on 1 Timothy 1:17 "To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever." He uses "light" to describe the invisible nature of God. The splendor of God's glory makes it impossible for mortals to see God's full greatness. Smith's text is set to the tune **ST. DENIO**, a lively Welsh tune "discovered" by John Roberts (1807-1876) a self-taught musician who wrote down folk tunes in his native Wales.

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

May 27, John Calvin, renewer of the church, died 1564

John Calvin began his studies in theology at the University of Paris when he was fourteen. In his mid-twenties he experienced a conversion that led him to embrace the views of the Reformation. His theological ideas are systematically laid out in his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. He is also well known for his commentaries on scripture. He was a preacher in Geneva, was banished once, and then later returned to reform the city under a theocratic constitution.

May 29, Jiří Tranovský, hymnwriter, died 1637

Jiří Tranovský is considered the “Luther of the Slavs” and the father of Slovak hymnody. Trained at the University of Wittenberg in the early seventeenth century, Tranovský was ordained in 1616 and spent his life preaching and teaching in Prague, Silesia, and finally Slovakia. He produced a translation of the Augsburg Confession, and a hymn collection *Cithara Sanctorum* (Lyre of the Saints) that is the foundation of Slovak Lutheran hymnody. The ELW (#602) contains his hymn “Your Heart, O God, Is Grieved.”

May 31, Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

Sometime after the Annunciation, Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth who was also expecting a child. This occasion is sometimes referred to simply as “The Visitation.” Elizabeth greeted Mary with the words “Blessed are you among women,” and Mary responded with her famous song, The Magnificat. This festival commemorates two women: one, seemingly too old to have a child, bears the last prophet of the old covenant; and the other, quite young, bears the incarnate Word and the new covenant.

Adapted from Sundays and Seasons



Festival Events at
St. Mark's
Lutheran Church
1001 Queens Road





GUY FISHMAN

Tuesday, June 3 • 7:30 pm
All in the Familie
JS Bach & Sons Chamber Music
Members of Bach Akademie
Charlotte Orchestra and Chorus
Led by cellist Guy Fishman,
BAC Artistic Leader



AISSLINN NOSKY

Thursday, June 5 • 7:30 pm
Follia & Fantasy
The Art of the Trio Sonata
String Sonatas by Antonio Vivaldi
and JS Bach
Led by violinist Aislinn Nosky,
BAC Artistic Leader

Tickets:
June Festival: <https://tickets.bacharlotte.com/a-musical-offering>

St. Mark's Prayer List

Marcia Newlin, Bill Stevenson, Andres Puky, Diane Thornton, Susan Ginns, Ashlyn Bordelon, Betsy League, Carmelita Harris, Lucille Johnson, Marilyn Stevens, Jerry Poplin, Satoko Yamada, Judy Cox, Ross Boheler, Charlene Oppermann, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Angie Blackwelder Malone, Norma Alexander, Laura Elliott, Gene Ellington, Ken Foust, Tanner Grant, Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Dannye Olin Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa & Oakley Coburn, Ingrid Keiris, Shirley Larson, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Arlene Fielding, 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

6/1/2025

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-21

John 17:20-26

Birthdays

5/25 Robert Adden, Jr.

5/29 Virginia Ginns

5/30 Melody Howarth

5/30 Sanavi Andujar

5/31 Jogi Miles



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)

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Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor

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Lester Ackerman,

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St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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