

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
welcomes you!

February 16,
2025



The Sixth
Sunday after
Epiphany

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (*1st Saturdays - Chapel*)

SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

in-person & streaming

EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP HOUR: 10:30 AM

105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

PHONE: 618.233.9809

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WEBSITE: WWW.STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

The Reverend Brian M. Robison, Pastor

PLEASE wear a **mask/face covering** *if* you are **exhibiting any upper respiratory symptoms consistent with allergies, a cold, or COVID-19** (runny nose, cough, sore throat).

To parents with small children: We are glad your family is worshiping with us today! “*Quiet Bags*” (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to walk to the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is still audible over the speakers).

Parish Hall and Restrooms are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. A second **handicapped access** restroom is available next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level is located in the Welcome Area. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.

Assistive listening devices and **low vision items** are available. Please ask one of our ushers for assistance.

PRELUDE

“Offertorie”

by Dubois

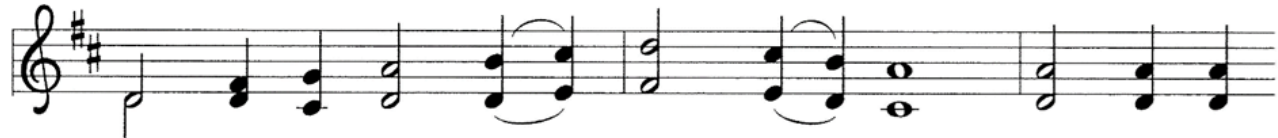
WELCOME

Please RISE in body or in spirit

GATHERING HYMN

“Jesus Shall Reign”

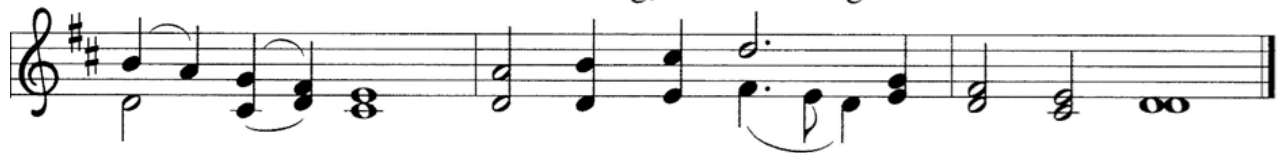
ELW 434



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
 thron - g to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

GREETING

Blessed be the one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life: Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Glory to God”

Assisting minister S 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of ten staves of music. The first staff is for the Assisting Minister. The second staff is marked 'All'. The lyrics are written below the notes. The music features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and ties.

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.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

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 *spoken responsively by half-verse*

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel [|] of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats [|] of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law [|] of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching [|] day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that [|] do not wither;
everything they [|] do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so [|] with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind [|] blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when [|] judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council [|] of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way [|] of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall [|] be destroyed.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

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.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as recorded by the evangelist Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] 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 SIT*

SERMON *"Great Power, Great Responsibility"* **The Rev. Brian M. Robison**

Following the sermon, the assembly STANDS to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY **"Light Dawns on a Weary World"** **ELW 726**

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

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.

MEAL

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *The names of those for whom we pray aloud (members, staff, first-time additions) are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the back of this bulletin. The response to “Lord, in your mercy,” is “Hear our prayer”...*

Eleanor Benton, **Toni** Brendel, **Kathy** Casey, **Gary** Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Ivan** Kohlmeier,
Bruce Martens, **Dwight** Ness, **Mae** Newsome, **Kim** Palmer, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson,
Wilma Shroat, **Larry** Shurtleff, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol & Gary** Weshinsky.

PEACE *The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God’s peace with one another. Following **the Peace**, you may be seated for a few moments*

OFFERING *Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.*

OFFERTORY “Let There Be Peace on Earth” by Miller/Arr. by Ades St. Mark Chancel Choir

OFFERING PRAYER *Please **STAND** as you are able*

Assistant: Let us pray together...

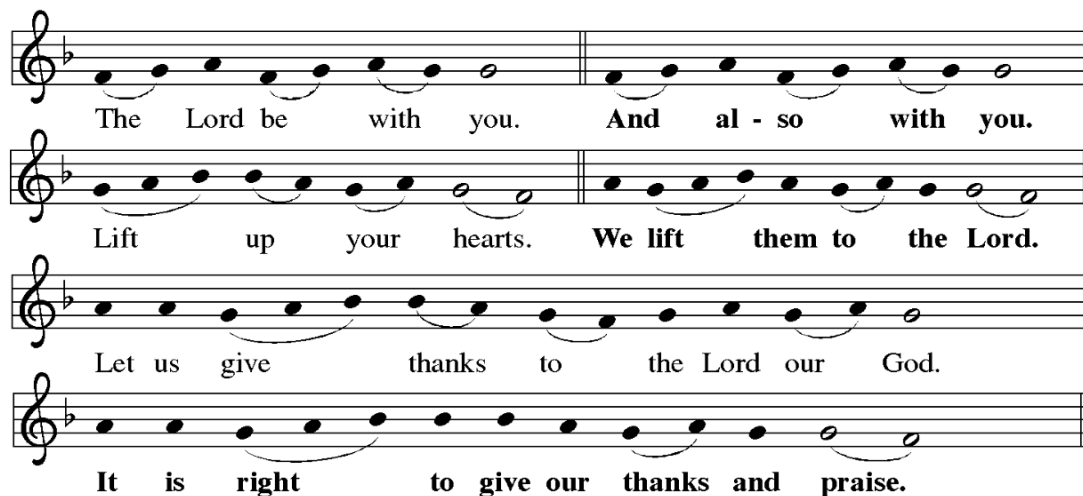
God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas.

Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.

Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

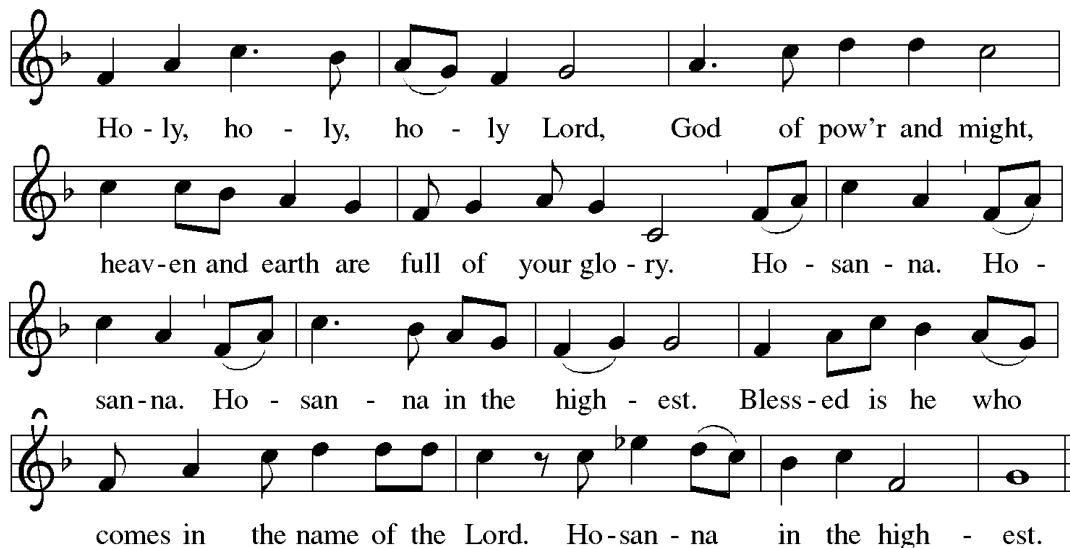
*Acknowledgements: Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Liturgy reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Used with permission of OneLicense #SBL07861. Songs and hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-729176 “Light Dawns on a Weary World” Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc.; Tune © 2000 William P. Rowan, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.; “Canticle of the Turning” © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.; “Thankful Hearts and Voices” © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress. All other printed hymns used are in the Public Domain. **Offertory Anthem:** “Let There Be Peace on Earth” by Miller. Arranged by Ades.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

It is indeed right...we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

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.

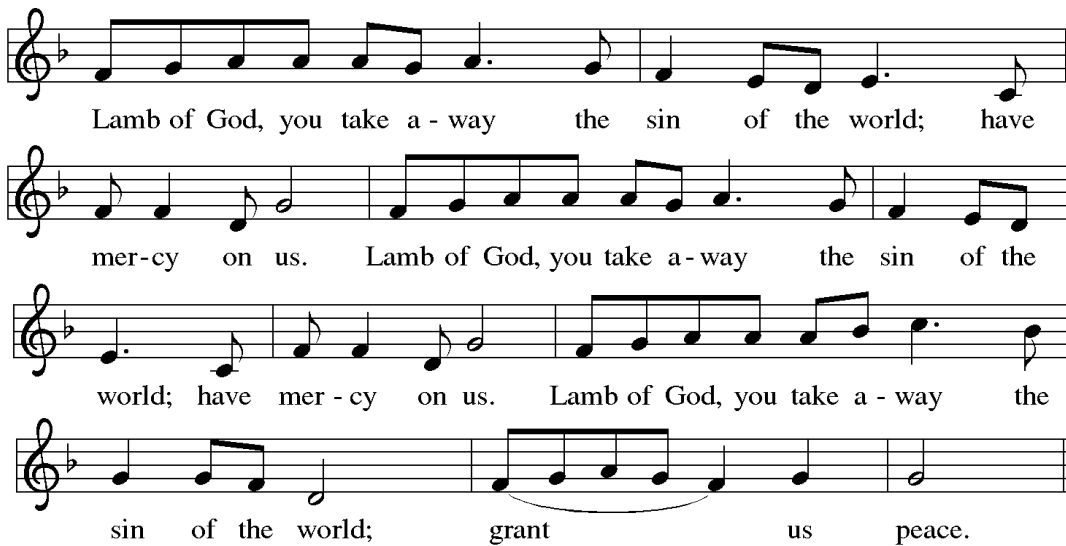
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come forth - receive this meal of gladness.

LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*



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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

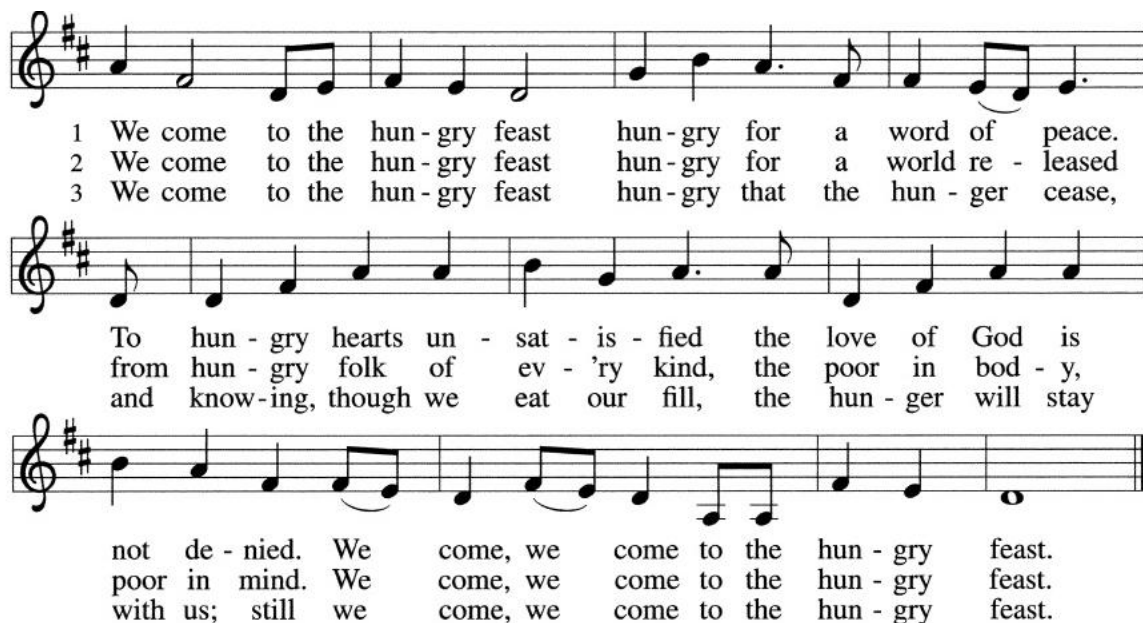
Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.

- ✘ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✘ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✘ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✘ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✘ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

COMMUNION HYMNS

“We Come to the Hungry Feast”

ELW 479



1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,
To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay
not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

“Let Justice Flow Like a Stream”

ELW 717



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling 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.

MEN'S CHORUS

“I Love You, Lord”

Klein

TABLE BLESSING *After the distribution please STAND.*

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

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” ELW 204



Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - ry - one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray...

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

BLESSING

May God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit – today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

ELW 858



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
if with his love he be - friend you.
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Assistant: Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Toccata in E Minor”

By Pachelbel

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Sherri Foppe

Crucifer: Keith Kniepkamp + **Lector:** Terry Tribout + **Organist & Choir Director:** Carol Kugler

Chalice Bearer: Mike Murakami + **Tech Minister:** Gerg Martens

Ushers: Danielle Tribout & Curt Gansmann + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Toni Brendel, Kathy Casey, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Ivan Kohlmeier, Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Kim Palmer, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Wilma Shroat, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol and Gary Weshinsky

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Bonnie Baete, Phyllis Booker, Kathy Boxdorfer, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Jordyn Brazelton, Patty Brennecke, Doug Carpenter, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Marilyn Dichsen, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Josh Gansmann, Marge Gardner, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Jamie House, Debbie Jacobs, Jimmy Jurgens, Austin Lickenbrock, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Theresa Painter, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Becky Schnitzius, Stefanie Schroeder, Denise Sebastian, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Ingrid Thompson, Marian Tribout, Bob Vaughn, David Vaught, Bob Walentine, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, Sue Witherell, Karen Woolf, Wilma Woolf, Jeanie Workman, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Taiylar Foppe Merrel & Josh Merrel, Ryan McKenzie

Members Celebrating Birthdays This Week

Lorraine Crannage (2/18), Carol Weshinsky (2/19), and Becky Evans (2/22)

Members and Friends Who Mourn the Death of Loved Ones

Dave Schaaf (2/7) *Former member of St. Mark*

Bob Walentine (2/9) *Brother of Cindy Collingham*

Ron Robinson (2/10) *Family of the Robinsons & Cardozas*

St. Mark Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Brian M. Robison

Administrative Assistant: Randi Cardoza + **Music Director:** Carol Kugler

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Parish Nurse:** Becky Schnitzius

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Ronald C. Neustadt

Land Acknowledgement

St. Mark Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the **Quapaw**, **Myaamia**, **Kaskaskia**, and **Kickapoo** peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Lenten Quiet Day at Toddhall for St. Mark & St. George's

On **Saturday, April 5**, from 9:30AM to 2:30PM, Pastor Brian and Fr. Mark will co-lead a spiritual Quiet Day at Toddhall Retreat and Conference Center in Columbia. The event includes time for worship, prayer and reflection, lunch at Toddhall, as well as spiritual lectures by our clergy and opportunities to walk the grounds of the retreat center. The event is free to attend, and a freewill offering will be taken on the day to cover the cost of lunch. **Registrations are required by Wednesday, March 5** to obtain an accurate headcount for the meal. You may register at <https://forms.gle/NZmXZGgz6hcQo4eo6> or by contacting the church office.

Mark Times Email List

Due to technical difficulties at the year's beginning, the email list for the *Mark Times* had to be recreated from an old database. If you have not received the *Mark Times* emails lately, please call (618-233-9809), text (618-671-2693) or email (office@stmarkbelleville.org) the office to be added back to the list.

What About Yoga at St. Mark??

Yoga is a Sanskrit word which means to connect, join or balance. It is defined as union, unite, or to be yoked. Yoga is a mind, body and spirit practice that focuses on various postures (body positions), breath control and meditation or contemplation. According to Christian Yoga, "we unite our postures with our breath and our practice with our lives. We also create a union with the community and those we practice with."



Yoga is centuries old. Hinduism is the most popular religious group to use yoga. However, it was being practiced in some form long before Hinduism. **Yoga was first introduced in the United States in 1893** when an Indian swami attended a religious conference in Chicago. He stayed in the U.S. to teach the philosophy of yoga. The second wave of yoga came in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s. With this wave, the emphasis was on the postures of yoga and is what we see in common practice today.

It is true that some people do not feel comfortable doing yoga as a Christian. Because of yoga's strong ties to Hinduism and Buddhism, several churches and religions do not encourage the practice of yoga. But Pastor Brian (who has himself practiced yoga before) agrees with a colleague who said that it is not yoga *in and of itself* that is a problem; it is the **intention** with which one does it. Is the **intention to improve your body and health** or is it to **practice a religion**, like Hinduism, associated with yoga? According to yogafaith.com (which affirms that intentionality), **yoga is not a religion, but it does have the ability to deepen one's faith** regardless of religious affiliation.

According to the American Osteopathic Association, the benefits of yoga include: Increased flexibility; Improved balance; Increased muscle strength and tone; Improved energy and vitality; Weight reduction; Improved athletic performance; Protection from injury; Lessens chronic pain, such as lower back pain, arthritis, and headaches; Lower blood pressure; Reduces insomnia; Stress reduction.

Yoga classes at St. Mark are held for 45 minutes on Thursday evenings at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall. A donation of \$5.00 is asked for each session. Please bring your own mat and water bottle.

ATTENTION: **Yoga class will not meet on February 27.**

Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers

Come enjoy a nice evening of fellowship over a meal of **soup and salad at 6:00PM** in the **Parish Hall** starting **Wednesday, March 12**, before joining us in the church for evening prayer.

Form a group and host one of the suppers! A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand.

St. Mark Offerings for 2/9: General Fund: **\$5,016**; Food Pantry: \$25; Franklin Lunches: \$97.77