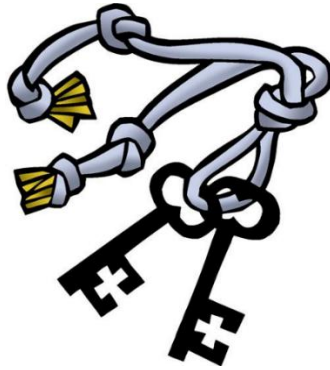


ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

August 23,
2026



The 13th
Sunday after
Pentecost

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (1ST SATURDAYS-CHAPEL)

SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

EDUCATION HOUR: 10:30AM

105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

EMAIL: WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

THE REV. BRIAN M. ROBISON, PASTOR

THE REV. RONALD C. NEUSTADT, PASTOR EMERITUS

-
- + **To parents with small children:** We are glad your family is worshipping 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 use the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is audible over the speakers).
 - + An **accessible Restroom** is available off the Welcome Area/Narthex next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level. **Parish Hall and additional Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. 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.
 - + **Land Acknowledgement:** This 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 recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and still call this land home.

PRELUDE

“Renaissance Medley”

Peggy Andersen, Recorder

WELCOME *Please STAND as you are able*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the one God, whose compassion endures forever: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

You may KNEEL or remain as you are. Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In His name, I declare that your sins are ✠ forgiven. Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

ELW 645



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,

bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you,

for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places

and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation,

for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out,

and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath,

for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE *The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia once*

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to the apostle Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

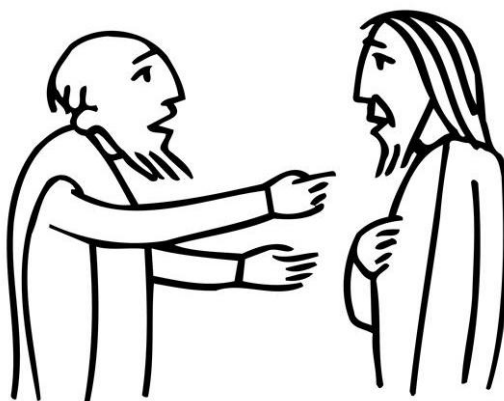
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *Please SIT*

SERMON

“The Long Journey”

The Rev. Brian M. Robison

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



Acknowledgements: Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2022 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 by permission: License #SBL07861. Songs and hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-729176: “We are All One in Mission” Text: © 1986 Hope Publishing Company Tune: © 2006, Augsburg Fortress; “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” Text & Tune © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress. All other hymns used are in the Public Domain.



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

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 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 “God of grace,” is “Hear our prayer.”*

Ken Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Don** Boatman, **Rob** Buck, **Lorraine** Crannage, **Gary** Dozier,
Evelyn Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Michael** Foppe, **Mary** Hill, **Morris** Kugler, **Diane** Maes, **Bruce** Martens,
Lucy Montgomery, **Ron** Neustadt, **Jon** Newton, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Wilma** Shroat,
Cohen Summers, **Carol** Weshinskey, **Gary** Weshinskey

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.*

OFFERTORY

“Pastorale”

N. Chedeville

Peggy Andersen, recorder

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.

OFFERING PRAYER *Please STAND as you are able*

Assistant: Let us pray together...

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,

so that all creation can taste your abundance.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,

through the Spirit abiding with us,

now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *spoken*

The Lord be with you. **And also 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
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *chanted*

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins
as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*



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.*



“Take My Life, That I May Be”

ELW 685



- 1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

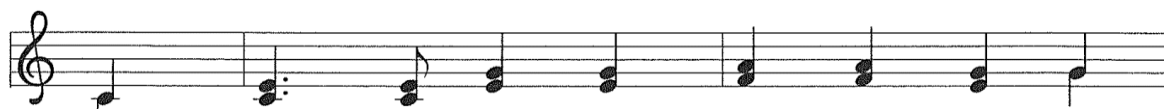


take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

ELW 597



- 1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
- 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
- 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



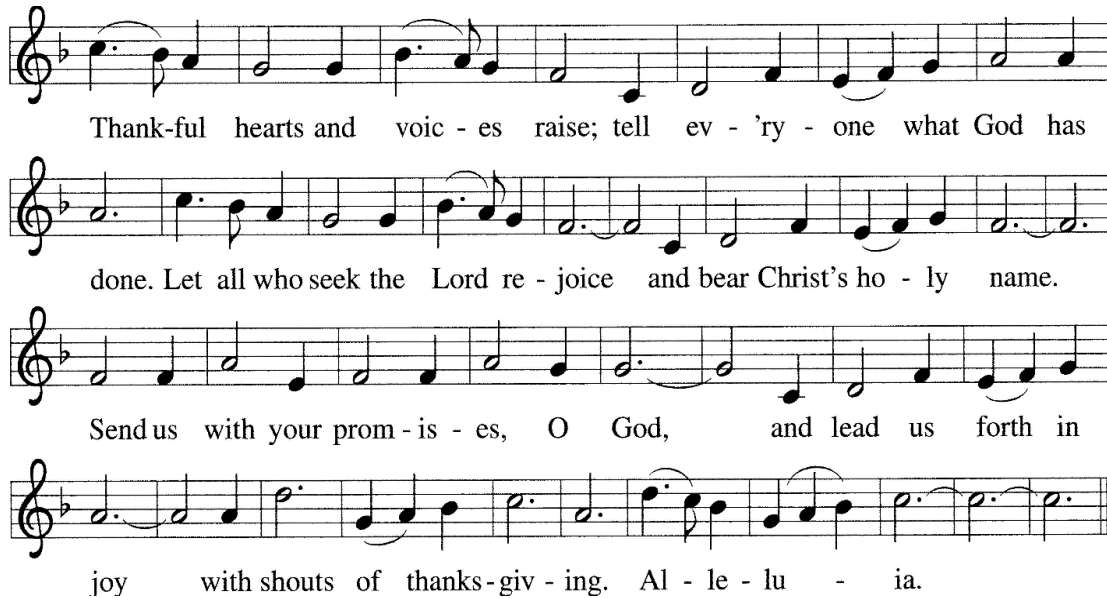
On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

*After the distribution is complete, please **STAND** as you are able for the blessing.*

TABLE BLESSING

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 206



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, O God, and lead us forth in
joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

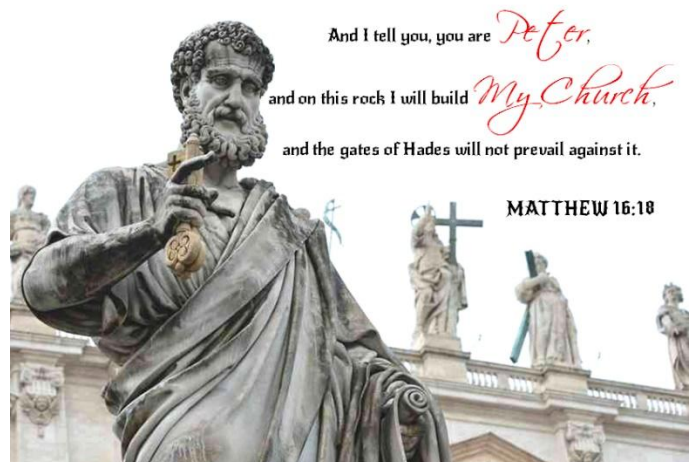
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together... Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May God –
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit -
bless, heal, and hold you, today and always.
Amen.





1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
 2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Praise the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“Let's All Give Thanks and Praise”

R. Williamson

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Greg Martens

Crucifer: Keith Kniepkamp + **Chalice Bearer:** Mike Murakami + **Lector:** Curtis Dowty

Tech Minister: Melanie Robison + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards + **Organist:** Evelyn Duncan

Ushers: Danielle Tribout & TBD

Prayer Intentions

Members

Ken Augustine, Eleanor Benton, Natalie & Cody Best, Don Boatman, Rob Buck, Lorraine Crannage, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Michael Foppe, Mary Hill, Morris Kugler, Diane Maes, Bruce Martens, Lucy Montgomery, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Wilma Shroat, Cohen Summers, Carol and Gary Weshinsky

Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Bert Alvarez, Stellamarie Bearth, John Belz, Jim Boeving, Thomas Boxdorfer, Patty Brennecke, Patrick Campbell, Susan Carson, Christine, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Maryann Fernandez, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Glenna Hamilton, Jamie House, Jimmy Jurgens, Rachel Knicely, Austin Lickenbrock, Dusty Little, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Bobby McCall, Don McCoy, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Lana Perry, Larry Powers, Goldie Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, Larry Powers, Denise Sebastian, James Showmaker, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Tom Stookey, Ingrid Thompson, Gary Timm, Pat Tubbs, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, Molly Witherell, Karen Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Joshua Anthony, Ethan Collins, Tom Fox, Taiylar Foppe Merrel, Josh Merrel, Ryan McKenzie, Amy Morgan

Members celebrating birthdays this week

Michelle Mizulski (8/23), Jason McKenzie (8/24), Ted Engelage (8/25), Kinsley Partelow-Smith (8/26), and Marilyn Robinder (8/29)

Members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this week:

Brooke & Damian Summers (8/27)

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

MARK TIMES

News & Notes for August 23, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, August 24:	7:00PM	Council Meeting – Conference Room
Thursday, August 27:	6:00PM	Yoga – Parish Hall
Saturday, August 29:	10:00AM	Synod Day at Our Lord's, Maryville

Choirs Resume Thursday, September 10

Choirs resume rehearsals **Thursday, September 10**. Voice Choir meets at 4:15PM and Bell Choir meets at 6:00PM. One new bell ringer is needed, please join the fun. If you can carry a tune at all (you don't need to sing solo or even read music), the chancel choir would love to welcome you! Interested? Call Carol Kugler at 618-581-3079.

Coffee Hour Teams

Being on a Coffee Hour team is not just “bringing snacks and making coffee;” it is a **ministry of service and hospitality** to our members and guests that is MUCH appreciated. If you would like to serve on a coffee hour team, or be a captain, or make a change to a different role on a team, please contact Melanie in person or at 314-265-8722 or melanierobison@earthlink.net.

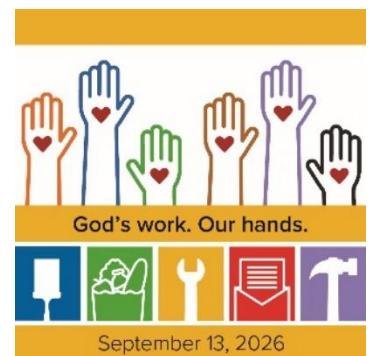


Bicycle Donations

Have a gently-used bicycle you've thought of discarding? Our Brothers' Keepers would love to have it! Bring your bicycle to church on September 13 or notify Sherri Foppe, Pastor Brian, or the office if you'd like someone to come pick it up for you!

“God's Work. Our Hands.” Day

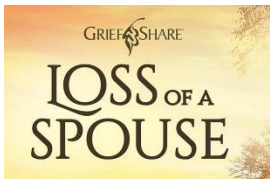
The ELCA's national day of service is coming up on **Sunday, September 13**. We are working to plan activities for various ages and abilities, both in the Parish Hall and out in the community – including at Our Brother's Keepers. Watch this space next Sunday for more information.



St. Mark Offerings for 8/16:

General Fund: **\$2,805.32**; Coffee Fund: \$35; Thrivent Choice: \$1,414;

GriefShare: *Loss of a Spouse* Event on September 19



People who are widowed haven't just lost a **loved one**; they've lost an *entire lifestyle*. This one-day, two-hour session GriefShare session hopes to offer support, clarity, and peace during this unsettling time.

You will meet people who understand what you are going through in a safe space to talk, be encouraged, and connect. This 2-hour seminar includes a short video featuring expert Christian counselors, authors, and pastors, followed by small-group discussion.

Join St. Mark's special session, led by Nurse Becky, on **Saturday, September 19** from **1–3 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. The free event includes a video, group discussion, and a Survival Guide. Pre-registration is required at <https://find.griefshare.org/events/294594>

NOTE: Even if you attended this session in April, please consider attending again; grief and loss affect us differently with the passage of time, and you may benefit from another session in ways that you don't anticipate.



Second Sunday Food Collection

In addition to being "God's Work. Our Hands." day, **Sunday, September 13** is our **monthly focus on food pantry donations**, and we're asking folks to bring **Dollar Tree-sized dish detergent and laundry detergent, and jellies**. Please place them in the big basket as you come into church.

Church Picnic September 20

After the weather put a damper on our pool party but still wanting to have an outdoor church event, we have pivoted back to a **church picnic**, which will be on **Sunday, September 20** from **noon to 3pm** at **Schranz Memorial Park** in Swansea. Format will be as in years past: bring food enough for you and your family, and a game to share!

Healing Service Next Sunday

We will offer **healing prayer with laying on of hands** **NEXT Sunday, August 30** during worship. All who feel the need for healing in any aspect of life are welcome and encouraged to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit through this ancient ministry.



*Your pastor did not gamble when he was in Vegas ☺