

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

September 27,
2026



The 18th
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

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- + **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 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.

WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *Please STAND as you are able*

Blessed be the Father, †Son, and Holy Spirit – the one God who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

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

Compassionate God, we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of everlasting life. Receive † freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“Lord Whose Love in Humble Service”

ELW 712



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
still the cap - tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun-dant life to share.
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer - cy know and live.

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

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** *Following the prayer, please SIT.*

WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

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

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God,

did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped,

⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly

and gave him the name that is above every other name,

¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend,

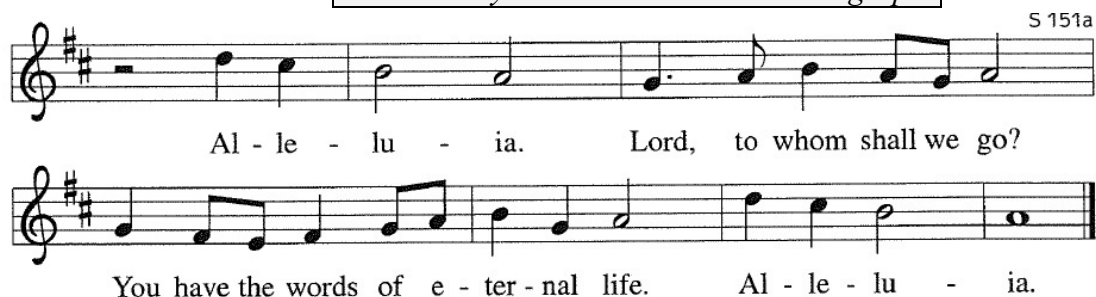
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

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



GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

A reading from the Holy Gospel... according to the apostle Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

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

SERMON

“Gaslighting God”

The Rev. Brian M. Robison, pastor

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



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

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 “Hear us, O God,” is “Your mercy is great.”*

Ken Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Natalie & Cody** Best, **Don** Boatman, **Dave** Brauer, **Rob** Buck, **Cindy** Collingham, **Lorraine** Crannage, **Gary** Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Michael** Foppe, **Ola** Fulton, **Mary** Hill, **Morris** Kugler, **Diane** Maes, **Bruce** Martens, **Lucy** Montgomery, **Ron** Neustadt, **Jon** Newton, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Wilma** Shroat, **Nancy** Tegtmeier, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol** Weshinsky, **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.*

HANDBELL ANTHEM

“Carillion Celebration”

Douglas E. Wagner

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.

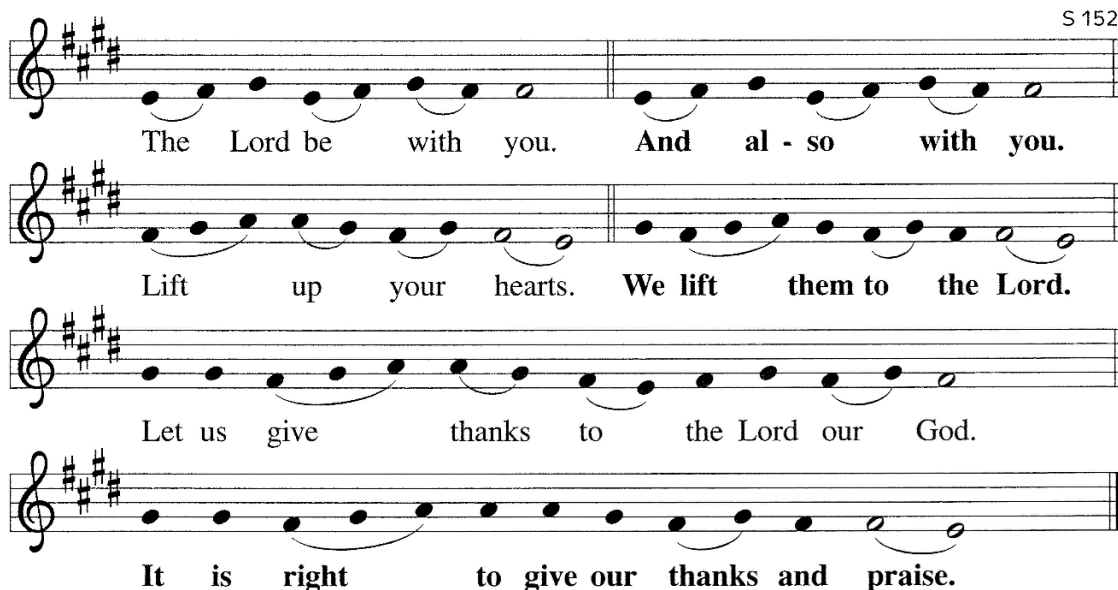
OFFERING PRAYER *Please STAND as you are able*

Assistant: Let us pray together...

**God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 152



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

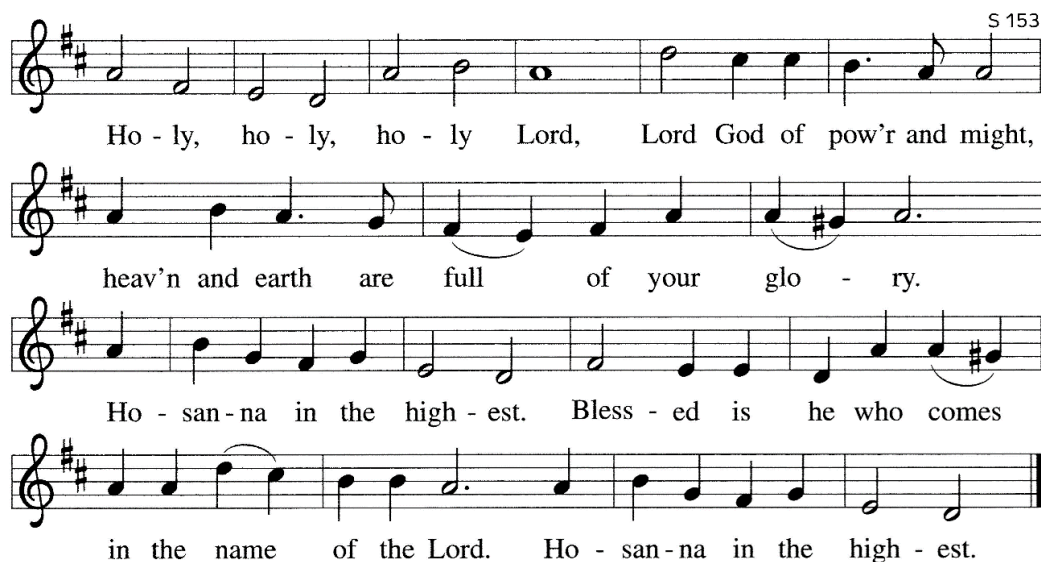
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

S 153



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 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,

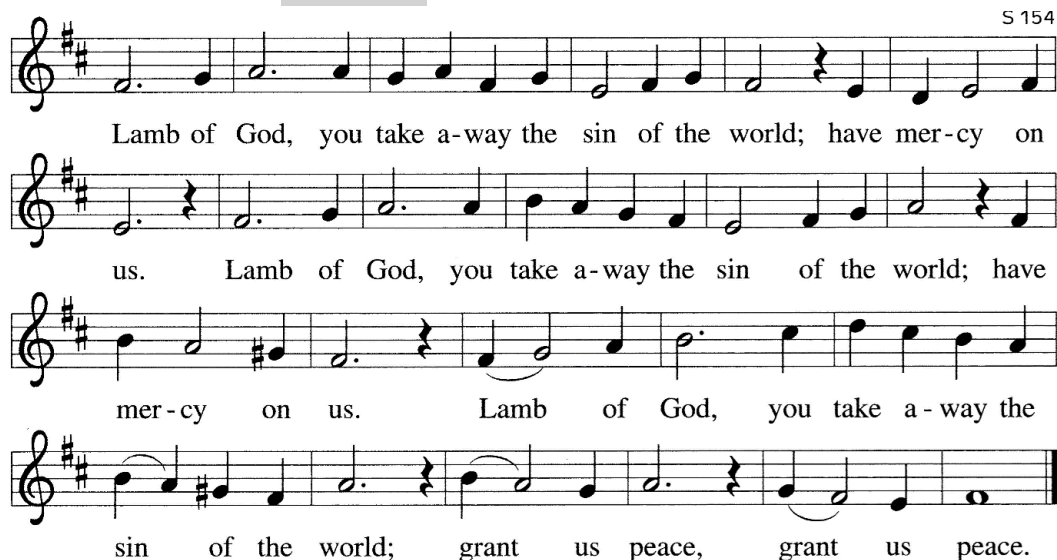
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

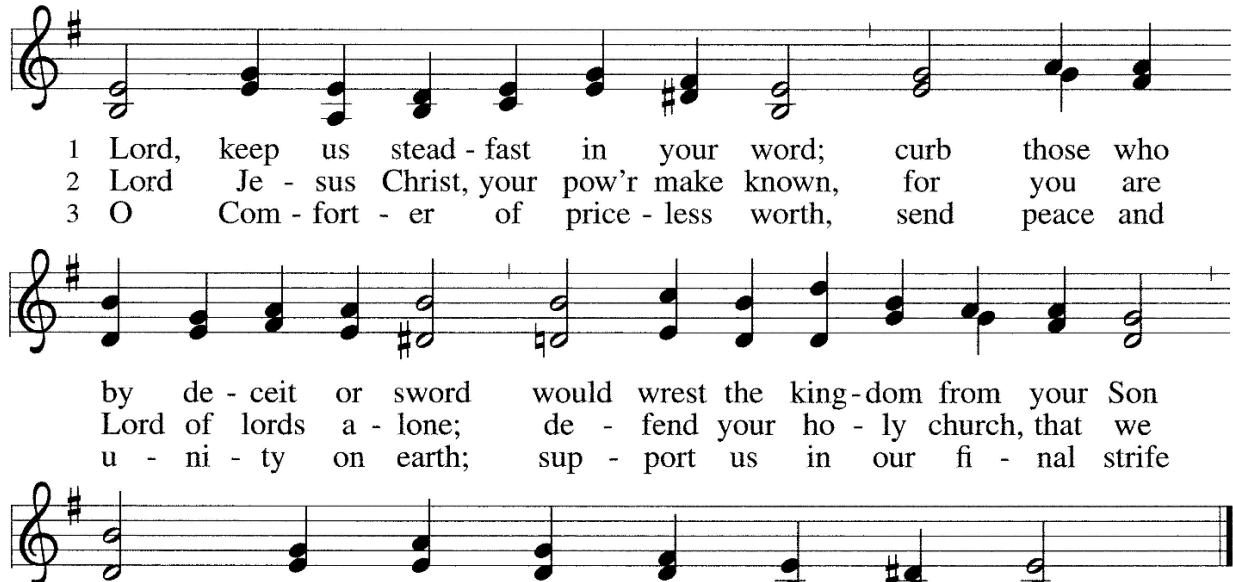
Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.

- ✘ *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

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

ELW 517



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

CHANCEL CHOIR

“Fill My Cup, Lord”

Carl Schalk

*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.**

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
 ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
 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 together...

Sustaining God,

with this bread and cup,

you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.

By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.

Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,

following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er dwell-ing in the ho-liest realms of light;
 2 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er liv-ing as the church's ver-y life;
 3 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er work-ing through the church's min-is-try;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er brood-ing o'er a world of gloom and night;
 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er striv-ing through us in a cease-less strife;
 quick-'ning, strength-'ning, and ab-solv-ing, set-ting cap-tive sin-ners free;



Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er rais-ing those of earth to thrones on high;
 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er form-ing in the church the mind of Christ:
 Ho-ly Spir-it, ev-er bind-ing age to age and soul to soul



liv-ing, life-im-part-ing Spir-it, you we praise and mag-ni-fy.
 you we praise with end-less wor-ship for your gifts and fruits un-priced.
 in com-mu-nion nev-er end-ing, you we wor-ship and ex-tol.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

"March"

G.F. Handel

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister & Crucifer:** Corbin Monfre

Chalice Bearer: Greg Martens + **Lector:** Curtis Dowty

Tech Minister: Aaron Fuchs + **Safety Volunteer:** Tina Partelow

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Ushers:** Kathy Casey & Nancy Guenther

Prayer Intentions

Members

Ken Augustine, Eleanor Benton, Natalie & Cody Best, Don Boatman, Dave Brauer, Rob Buck, Cindy Collingham, Lorraine Crannage, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Michael Foppe, Ola Fulton, Mary Hill, Morris Kugler, Diane Maes, Bruce Martens, Lucy Montgomery, Ron Neustadt, Jon Newton, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Wilma Shroat, Cohen Summers, Nancy Tegtmeier, Carol Weshinsky, Gary Weshinsky

Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Bert Alvarez, Stellamarie Bearth, John Belz, Jim Boeving, Thomas Boxdorfer, Patty Brennecke, Patrick Campbell, Susan Carson, Christine, Liliam Coleman, Robyn Combs, 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, Debbie Jacobs, 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

Piper Perry (9/27), Wilma Shroat (9/28), Kim Palmer (9/28), and Sherri Foppe (10/2)

Members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this week:

Mark & Patty Bearth (9/27) and Todd & Letitia Downing (9/27)

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

A Word to Fall from *Bishop Greg Busboom, Central/Southern Illinois Synod*

Shortly after arriving in Palestine this past January, our group was greeted by Bishop-Elect Imad Haddad, now bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. His words are words I have carried with me and pondered ever since. He shared with us words of both invitation and warning. “While here in Palestine,” he said, “**keep your eyes and your ears open, but keep your hearts safe.**” I knew these were important words Bishop Haddad was sharing with us, though, at that point in our travels, I did not know why.

Keep your hearts safe. I think these words capture the Lord’s message to Ezekiel in Ezekiel 18. The prophet Ezekiel, together with all the other leaders living in exile in Babylon, was blaming everyone but themselves, including their ancestors, for the dire situation in which they now found themselves. The Lord, however, is not impressed with Ezekiel’s blame game. Instead of pointing the blame at others, the Lord commands God’s people to look into their own hearts, calling them to repentance. “Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin” (18:30).

Living in captivity in a foreign land, nearly everything was outside of the control of God’s people. The one thing, however, that was under their control was their hearts. The one thing that was under their control was how they responded to the events around them. The one thing that was under their control was whether they remained faithful even in the midst of a seemingly impossible situation. Interestingly, it is this one thing over which God’s people had control — their hearts — about which the Lord is most concerned.

There is so much that seems outside of our control these days — life in our world, life in our nation, life in our churches, even life in our own families. In the midst of so much that lies beyond our control, it is all too tempting to play the blame game. When things seem out of our control, it is all too easy to blame the other political party or certain groups of people or “the ELCA” or even those we once considered friends and family. And yet, in doing so, we fail to look inside our own hearts. We fail to see how our own words and actions have contributed to broken relationships and unjust systems. We fail to keep our hearts safe, choosing judgment over grace, condemnation over understanding, hate over love.

In his classic work *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer puts it this way: “Judging others makes us blind, whereas love is illuminating. By judging others we blind ourselves to our own evil and to the grace which others are just as entitled to as we are.” The key to keeping our hearts safe is love, a love that is only made possible when we are honest with ourselves and with God, turning from our own sinful words and actions so that we might live in the freedom of God’s grace in Christ Jesus, a grace that is for us and for all. The key to keeping our hearts safe is confessing the evil that lives in us so that we can love all people with the same love with which God in Christ first loves us.

This life of confession and forgiveness is the life to which we are called in baptism. Having been freed from the powers of sin, death, and the devil through the water and Word of baptism, we are freed to daily return to these baptismal waters, boldly confessing our sin and brokenness and receiving anew the gift of God’s forgiveness. It is the reason that before we do anything else in worship—before the worship leaders process into the sanctuary, before we sing the gathering hymn, before we hear the Word and share the Meal — we confess together, “We are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves,” and hear the good news, “God forgives you all your sins.” Simply put, it is how we keep our hearts safe.

By the time we left Palestine, I had begun to understand, at least in part, Bishop Haddad’s warning to us. Everywhere we went, we witnessed first-hand the indescribable suffering of the Palestinian people. When so much seems out of our control, it is easy to choose hate. Christ, however, calls us to love, even those who may consider us to be their enemies. As we enter these fall months, may each of us look deep into our hearts, confessing all that needs to be confessed so that we might be freed once again by God’s grace to love all our neighbors.

MARK TIMES

News & Notes for September 27, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

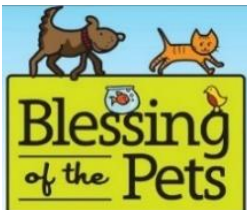
Monday, September 28:	6:00PM	Pastoral Care
	7:00PM	Council Meeting
Thursday, October 1:	4:15PM	Voice Choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – <i>Parish Hall</i>
Sunday, October 4*:	4:00PM*	SHINE Worship – <i>Chapel</i>
		<i>*Special day and time!</i>

Church Picnic TODAY

Pack a lunch and join us **TODAY, September 27** from **noon to 3pm** at the first pavilion at **Schranz Memorial Park** in Swansea for this year's **church picnic**! Water and ice cream will be provided. Friendly competition in cornhole, Bottle Bash, Cribbage, and more **guaranteed**!



Blessing of the Animals NEXT SUNDAY!



We join our partners from St. George's and our animal friends to celebrate the feast of St. Francis with a special SHINE service and a **Blessing of the Animals**!

Our service is at **4:00PM NEXT Sunday, October 4** in the **church courtyard**. Please **bring your own chair** if possible.

Part of our service is dedicated to **remembering our beloved pets who have died**. You are invited to **bring a photo of your departed pet** (framed, if possible) to place on a remembrance table.

Chili Cook-Off Help Wanted!

'Tis the season! Belleville's annual Chili Cook-Off will be **Friday, October 9 and Saturday, October 10**. The production and sale of St. George's chili benefits both congregations, and volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Tentative plans are to make and sell at least 200 gallons of White Chili this year.



Preparation begins next week! **Chicken cooking** is scheduled **9:00AM-3:00PM** on **Wednesdays September 30 and October 7**. Each cooking day needs two three-hour shifts of two people to accomplish the grinding, cooking and bagging of the cooked chicken.

The signup sheet for helping with the Chicken Cooking is in the Parish Hall on the wall opposite the stairs.

SHARE THE WARMTH October 4 thru 25, 2026

Continuing to be inspired by “Phillip’s Wish” in the movie **5000 Blankets** and the needs of our food pantry clients, a collection of gently worn **coats, thermal underwear, sweatshirts, t-shirts, undershirts, socks, hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs**, etc. will be collected for the homeless in our area. Warming blankets, handwarmers and new underwear for men and women are also greatly appreciated. Donations may be distributed to various organizations throughout the project period with donation numbers provided at the end of the collection. A collection container will be in the Narthex/Canterbury Room next Sunday. Please feel free to contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 with any questions.

St. Mark 50th Anniversary celebration!

St. Mark Lutheran Church turns 50 years old in December, and the anniversary committee has been hard at work planning events! A year of celebration kicks off on **Saturday, December 5 at 10:30AM** with a commemorative **worship service** in the place where it all started: the **Belleville Philharmonic Hall**. A luncheon in our Parish Hall immediately follows.



Then starting in January, we will alternate celebrating a “decade” of St. Mark (with photos, memorabilia, and special guests) one month, and an anniversary activity the following month. Activities will include a church retreat, trivia night, organ concert, picnic/BBQ, bells/choirs concert, and culminating in a float in the 2027 Belleville Santa Parade!

The anniversary committee meets each month in the Parish Hall, and anyone may sit in on the meetings. OR, if you missed the original call for committee members, it's not too late! **We're glad to have more committee members** to help make our celebration as grand as it can be. All are welcome!

If You Missed Out on the In-Person Pampered Chef event...

There are other ways to order and still generate funds for the Food Pantry!

- 1. Order 24/7 via Pampered Chef's TABLE platform** through September 28. This fundraiser link (<https://table.pamperedchef.com/party/3811308ynm>) includes recipes, product information and other goodies! *NOTE: If you have not previously accessed Pampered Chef's TABLE platform, you will be asked for your phone number and email address. Pampered Chef does NOT sell or share customer information!*
- 2. Shop from the link** then contact Sherri at 618 791-6148 voice/text or cookinsherri2@gmail.com to place your order. Be sure to tell her your order is for the St. George/St. Mark Food Pantry Fundraiser!
- 3. Grab a catalog** from the small table in the Parish Hall to take home. Sherri will be in the Parish Hall this Sunday after St. Mark's 9:00am service and after St. George's 10:30am service if you prefer to place your order in person.

Coming Soon!

Saturday, October 24, 6:00PM: **Reformation Potluck and Hymn Singing**

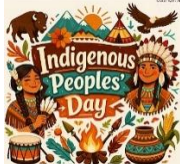
Friday, October 30, 5:00-8:00PM: **Downtown Belleville Trick or Treat**

Sunday, November 15: **Pumpkin Palooza**

Saturday, November 21: **Boy Scout Food Drive**

Saturday, December 5, 10:30AM **St. Mark 50th Anniversary worship service at the Belleville Philharmonic Hall – luncheon to follow in the Parish Hall**

St. Mark Offerings for 9/20: General Fund: **\$1,934.11**; Food Pantry: \$5; Coffee Fund: \$44

Sunday	Mon.	Tues.	Weds	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
  OCTOBER 2026				1 4:15PM Voice Choir 6:00PM Bell Choir 6:00P Yoga—PH	2 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	3
4 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00AM The Divine Liturgy 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship 10:30AM Adult Forum: <i>Witchcraft: Strictly Taboo</i> 4:00PM SHINE with Pet Blessing	5 2:30PM Fiber Arts @ Westfield Manor	6	7 10:30AM Joint Use meeting - CR	8 4:15PM Voice Choir 6:00PM Bell Choir 6:00P Yoga—PH Pastor at Continuing Education	9	10
11 20th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00AM The Divine Liturgy 10:00AM Blood Pressures—PH 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship Pastor at Continuing Education	12 Office Closed 	13	14 9:30AM Evangelism Meeting—CR 12:00PM Ladies Lunch Bunch	15 4:15PM Voice Choir 6:00PM Bell Choir 6:00P Yoga—PH	16 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	17
18 21 st Sunday after Pentecost 9:00AM The Divine Liturgy 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship 10:30AM Adult Forum: <i>Ouija Boards: We're Not Playing Games</i>	19 2:30PM Fiber Arts @ Westfield Manor	20	21 10:15AM H&W Meeting – CR	22 4:15PM Voice Choir 6:00PM Bell Choir 6:00P Yoga—PH	23 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	24 6:00PM Reformati on Dinner & Hymn- Sing
25 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 9:00AM The Divine Liturgy 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship 10:30AM: Adult Forum: <i>Lutheran Hymnwriters</i>	26 6:00PM Pastoral Care Committee 7:00PM Church Council Mtg.	27	28	29 4:15PM Voice Choir 6:00PM Bell Choir 6:00P Yoga—PH	30 5:30PM Downtown Trick-or- Treat	31 

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Crucifer	Chalice Bearer	Tech Minister	Ushers	Safety Volunteer	Coffee Hour
Oct. 4	Danielle T.	Charlie D.	Rex R.	Mike M.	Mike M.	Frank D. & Jason M.	Jan R.	Team 5
Oct. 11	Greg M.	Aaron F.	Frank D.	Tom P.	Melanie R.	Rick C. & Rex R.	Missy K.	Team 6
Oct. 18	Greg G.	Terry T.	Keith K.	Mike M.	Melanie R.	Danielle T. & TBD	Frank D.	Team 7
Oct. 25	Charlie D.	Corbin M.	Corbin M.	Greg M.	Aaron F.	Kathy C. & Nancy G.	Tina P.	Team 8



Sherri F.	10/2	Cindy C.	10/4	Greg M.	10/6
Aaron F.	10/12	Laura E.	10/13	Jaxson R.	10/13
Luke G.	10/15	Marva D.	10/19	Jack G.	10/23
Lucy M.	10/24	Ellie G.	10/25	Jason M.	10/26
Gary W.	10/28	Nathan E.	10/31		



Jerry & Cynthia S.	10/19
Bonnie & Mike S.	10/20
Cheryl & Jason M.	10/25
Charlie & Evelyn D.	10/26