

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

August 3,
2025



The Eighth
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

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- + **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

"Truth Abides"

G.F. Handel

WELCOME *Please STAND as you are able*

In the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Please KNEEL, or remain as you are. Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. **Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are + forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *Please STAND* "God of Grace and God of Glory" ELW 705



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

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... Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity.

²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But

now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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

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



GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

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

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

SERMON

The Rev. Tina Reyes, guest preacher
Campus Pastor, LuMin-STL

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

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1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's free grace and
 2 God, who hith - er - to has fed me and to man - y
 3 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope my heart a -
 4 Well you know what best to grant me; all the long - ing
 5 If on earth my days should length - en, God, my wea - ry



con - stant bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
 joys has led me, is and ev - er shall be mine.
 new will quick - en, all my long - ing shall be stilled.
 hopes that haunt me, joy and sor - row, have their day.
 soul still strength - en; all my trust in you I place.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en by their God are
 God, who did so gent - ly school me and who dai - ly
 To your lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der all my be - ing
 I shall doubt your wis - dom nev - er; as you will, so
 Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing; like a stream a -



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
 guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
 I sur - ren - der; Lord, on you a - lone I build.
 be it ev - er; I com - mit to you my way.
 way it's glid - ing; safe I an - chor in your grace.

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**”...*

John Andersen, **Eleanor** Benton, **Toni** Brendel, **Gary** Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Wally** Kleist, **Ivan** Kohlmeier, **Bruce** Martens, **Diane** Martens, **Linda** Ness, **Kim** Palmer, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Larry** Shurtleff, **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.*

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 “Peace, Perfect Peace”

D. Bish

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

Assistant: Let us pray together...

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC 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, the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away 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.*

SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

“O Living Bread from Heaven”

ELW 542



- 1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
- 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
- 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
- 4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;



O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

ELW 515



- 1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
- 2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
- 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond - age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

After the distribution is complete, the assembly STANDS for the blessing.

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Glorious Things of You Are Spoken”

ELW 647

Based on Psalm 87

Sung to the tune of “Austria”

1 Glorious things of you are spo-ken,
Zion, city of ou-r God!
He whose word cannot be bro-ken
formed you for his own a-bode.
On the Ro-ck of Ages foun-ded,
what can shake your sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
you ma-y smile a-t all your foes.

2 See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply your sons and daughters,
and all fear of want re-move.
Who can faint, while such a river
ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
Nev-er fails fro-m age to- age.

3 Round each habitation hov'ring,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which God gives them on their way.

4 Savior, since of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in your name.
Fading are the world's vain pleasures,
all their boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasures
none but Zion's children know.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Live by the Spirit! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“Triumphant March”

G.F. Handel

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Guest Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Tina Reyes + **Assisting Minister:** Greg Martens

Crucifer: Rex Rothgangel + **Lector:** Charlie Duncan

Chalice Bearer & Tech Minister: Mike Murakami + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Ushers:** Frank Dressel & Jason Martens

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

John Andersen, Eleanor Benton, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Wally Kleist, Ivan Kohlmeier, Bruce Martens, Diane Martens, Linda Ness, Kim Palmer, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol and Gary Weshinsky

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Bonnie Baete, John Belz, Kathy Boxdorfer, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Josh Gansmann, Marge Gardner, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Jamie House, Jimmy Jurgens, Mark Klawonn, Austin Lickenbrock, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Don McCoy, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Goldie Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Buddy Roth, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, Denise Sebastian, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Ingrid Thompson, Bob Vaughn, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, 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 who celebrate birthdays this week

Robin Buck (8/3), Tyler Martens (8/4), Bryce Smith (8/6),
Tim Richards (8/7), Jeremy Hayes (8/7), Henry Evans (8/8), and Eric Kniepkamp (8/8)

Members who celebrate Wedding Anniversaries this week

Natalie & Cody (Ott) Best (8/3)

St. Mark Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Pastor Emeritus:** The Rev. Ronald C. Neustadt

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

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

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for August 3, 2025

August 2-August 11: *Pastor on vacation*
Monday, August 4: 2:30PM Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
Wednesday, August 6: 10:30AM Joint Use Taskforce – conference room
Thursday, August 7: 6:00PM Yoga – Parish Hall

Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Brian is on vacation through Monday, August 11. In case of pastoral emergency, please contact **Father Mark Ohlemeier at 785-220-5528**.

We are excited to welcome back as our guest preacher and presider this morning the **Rev. Tina Reyes**, campus pastor at LuMin-STL!

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.com.



Guys' Nite Returns in 2025!



St. George's and St. Mark are inviting all the guys for an evening hangout on **Friday, August 22! Events** start at **5pm**, with **dinner at 6pm**, complete with brats, sides, beer, and desserts. **New in 2025: INDOOR** options, including cards, board games, and more! **Returning in 2025:** Pickleball on Jackson Street! Look for official sign-up sheets soon, along with other updates and details. Save the date and alert your guys!

School Supply Collection Ends TODAY

Our **school supplies** collection to support Franklin Elementary **ends TODAY, August 3**. A box and can are in the narthex/Canterbury Room. Items needed: **plastic 3-prong folders - all colors; 24 count crayons; standard 10 count markers; ear phones/ear buds for computer use; dry erase markers - all colors; high-lighters - all colors; facial tissues; baby wipes; quart and gallon zip-lock bags; glue sticks; sharpies; water colors; 3 ring binders 1-3"**. And **cash** is always helpful!

NOT needed: backpacks, spiral notebooks; loose-leaf paper; rulers; Elmer's glue; ballpoint pens; pencils.

Heroes & Hand-Me-Downs: The Great Church Lot Bash is coming to a big parking lot near you! Watch for more information coming soon about this community event on **Saturday, September 13 from 10am-2pm** featuring a **tailgate sale**, “**touch the trucks**,” and maybe a few **superheroes** dropping in!



Ladies Lunch Bunch meets **NEXT Wednesday, August 13** at 12 noon at the **Round Table Cafe** (11 N. 64th Street, Belleville). For info contact Debbie Guenther at 618-406-1370.

Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program is in its **LAST WEEK!**

+ **Volunteers Needed** for **Packing** this Wednesday, 5–5:45 PM @Westview Baptist, and for **Delivery** on Thursday, 10:35 AM–1 PM

+ Sign-up in Parish Hall!

Info: Sherri (618)791-6148 | cookinsherri2@gmail.com or Ann (618)235-7762 | ga72mart@charter.net



Chestnut Health Systems will present information on *Mental Health, Substance Abuse/Narcan and Suicide Awareness/Prevention* in a class sponsored by the Joint Safety Committee on **Saturday, September 20** from 9am-1pm. A sign-up sheet is on St. George's table in the narthex.

Offerings (7/27): Gen. Fund: **\$2,210**; D. Ness Memorials: \$100; L. Gentsch Memorials: \$100; School Supply Drive: \$40; Fiber Arts: \$101; Muller Landscaping: \$101; Grounds/Property: \$101

July was **UV Safety Awareness Month** or in lay terms, **Sun Safety**. Though it is now August, it is always important to raise awareness about the dangers of ultraviolet (UV) radiation and promote sun safety practices. Everyone is encouraged to take precautions to protect their skin and eyes from the harmful effects of UV rays which can lead to skin cancer, cataracts, and premature aging.

Before catching rays by the pool or taking part in other outdoor activities, make sure you know how to protect yourself from harmful UV light.

Skin care:

- **Seek Shade:** Limit your exposure to the sun, especially during peak hours (usually between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.), when UV rays are strongest. The American Academy of Dermatology recommends **seeking shade if your shadow is shorter than you**.
- **Wear Protective Clothing:** Cover your skin with long-sleeved shirts, pants, wide-brimmed hats, and sunglasses. You can also find clothing specially designed for sun protection, which will list an ultraviolet protection factor (UPF) number. There are lightweight and breathable options that still offer UV protection so you can continue your outdoor activities without overheating.
- **Use Sunscreen:** Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher liberally and reapply every two hours, or more often if swimming or sweating. If you're taking part in water activities, make sure to look for a water-resistant variety. Whether you're sweating or swimming, make sure to reapply according to the directions for maximum effectiveness
- **Be Mindful of Reflective Surfaces:**
Water, sand, and snow can reflect UV rays, increasing your exposure.

GriefShare Group at St. Mark Begins September 2

St. Mark will host an 11-week GriefShare program at the church **beginning Tuesday, September 2**. Sessions will be held from **6:30-8:00PM** alternating between the **Parish Hall and the conference room** due to available space.



Sign up at [GriefShare at St. Mark](#), or <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/269699> All are welcome! The program is free but freewill donations are accepted.