

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

September
28,
2025



The 16th
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

"Give Thanks"

arr. J. Randy

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please STAND as you are able*

Blessed be the one God - Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, 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.

Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. Forgive us and give us strength to turn from sin and to serve you in newness of life. **Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace, you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins + are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you through the power of the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **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... O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

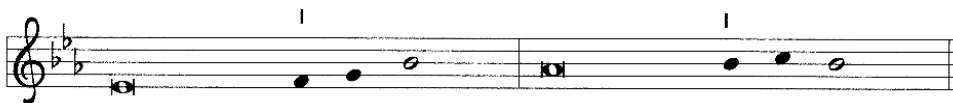
FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

- ^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.
- ⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,
- ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,
- ⁶ who drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
- ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146 *chanted responsively between choir and congregation*



- ¹ Hal- | lelujah!
Praise the Lord, | O my soul!
- ² **I will praise the Lord as long | as I live;**
I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.
- ³ Put not your | trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there | is no help.
- ⁴ **When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**
and in that day | their thoughts perish.

- ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,
whose hope is in the | Lord their God;
- ⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**
who keeps promis- | es forever;
- ⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.
The Lord sets the | captive free.
- ⁸ **The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who | are bowed down;**
the Lord | loves the righteous.
- ⁹ The Lord cares | for the stranger;
the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.
- ¹⁰ **The Lord shall | reign forever,**
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

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

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

S 151a



GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

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

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

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

SERMON “When Resurrection Isn’t Enough”

The Rev. Brian M. Robison

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

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1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
 The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
 Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Hal - le - lu - jah!

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, **Ken** Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Toni** Brendel, **Gary** Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Wally** Kleist, **Ivan** Kohlmeier, **Bruce** Martens, **Linda** Ness, **Kim** Palmer, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol** Weshinskey, **Gary** Weshinskey, **Julia** Cardoza

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.*

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Psalm 1”

Mark Hayes

Lyrics to the anthem are printed on the last page

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

Assistant: Let us pray together...

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.

**Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you,
who richly provides for us.**

**Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 152

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

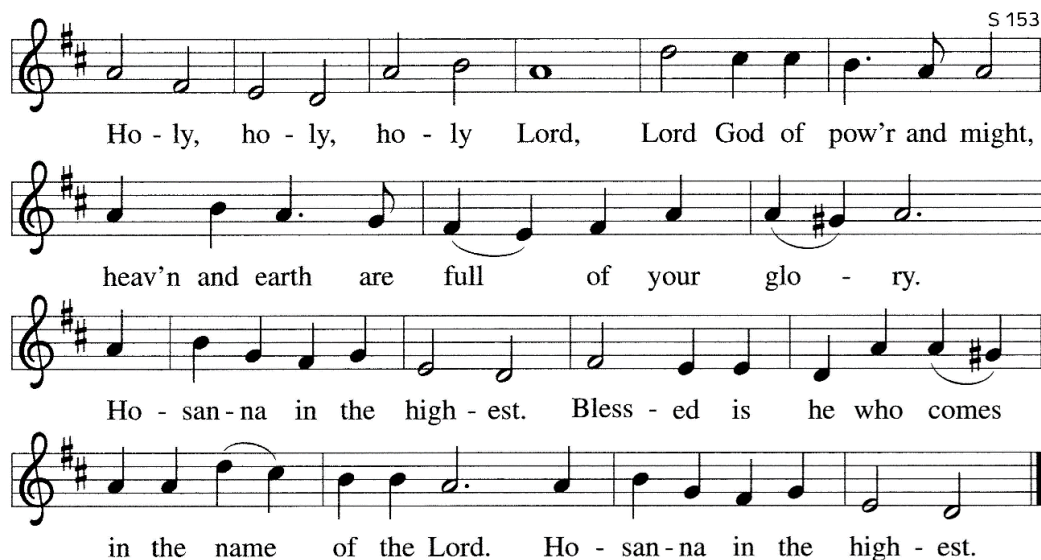
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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.

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

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.*

SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

“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.

HANDBELL CHOIR

“Fanfare on Old Hundredth” *Bourgeois/Angerman*

*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.**

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION

“Now Lord”

ELW 201

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together...

**O God, through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.**

Send us to do good and to share our resources with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the blessed and most holy Trinity –
Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit –
bless you and keep you, now and forever. **Amen.**



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“Voluntary”

G.F. Handel

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

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

Crucifer & Lector: Corbin Monfre + **Chalice Bearer:** Mike Murakami

Tech Minister: Aaron Fuchs + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards

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

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

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

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Bonnie Baete, John Belz, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam,
Patty Brennecke, Julia Cardoza, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison,
Richard Fahrner, Katrina Fenner, Andrea Hendrix, Josh Gansmann, Marge Gardner, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie,
Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Andrea Hendrix, Jamie House, Jimmy Jurgens,
Austin Lickenbrock, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martisus,
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, 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

Wilma Shroat (9/28), Kim Palmer (9/28), Sherri Foppe (10/2), and Cindy Collingham (10/4)

Lyrics to today's anthem: *Psalm 1* by Mark Hayes

Blessed are the ones who delight in the law of the Lord.

On God's law they meditate day and night.

They are like a tree, planted by the water, which yields its fruit in season, whose leaf shall never wither,
And all they do shall prosper.

Blessed are the ones who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
or stand in the way of sinners, or sit in the seat of mockers,
for they delight in the law of the Lord.

Blessed are the ones who delight in the law of the Lord.

On God's law they meditate day and night.

They are like a tree, planted by the water, which yields its fruit in season, whose leaf shall never wither,
And all they do shall prosper.

Blessed are the ones who delight in the law of the Lord.

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 September 28, 2025

Wednesday, Oct. 1: 10:30AM Joint Use Task Force – conference room

Thursday, Oct. 2: 4:00PM Chancel choir

5:30PM Men's Chorus

6:00PM Bell Choir

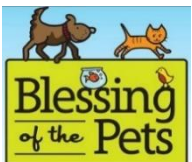
6:00PM Yoga – Parish Hall

Sunday, Oct. 5: 4:00PM SHINE worship with Blessing of the Animals - courtyard

Adult Forum: *The Parables of Luke 16, Part 2*

Dovetailing with our Gospel readings for today and next Sunday, Pastor Brian will offer bible classes on the parables found in each. We conclude today with the parable of the "Rich Man and Lazarus." Grab your coffee and snacks and meet us on the far end of the Parish Hall after worship.

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 will be at **4:00PM NEXT Sunday, October 5*** 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.

*There is no SHINE service on Saturday this month. **If the courtyard is obstructed by construction materials, the event may be held on the big parking lot.

Meals on Wheels Needs Help!

The Meals-On-Wheels services provided out of our Parish Hall need more volunteers, particularly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please see Frank Dressel or David Buckley for more details about serving those for whom these meals may be the only substantial meal of the day.



SHARE THE WARMTH October 5 thru 26, 2025: Inspired by Phillip's Wish in the movie **5000 Blankets** and the needs of our food pantry clients, we are collecting gently worn **coats, thermal underwear, sweatshirts, t-shirts, undershirts, socks, hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves** for the homeless in our area. **Warming blankets, handwarmers and new underwear for men and women** are also appreciated! Donations will be distributed to various organizations throughout the project period with donation numbers provided periodically. A collection container is in the Narthex!

Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet at Papa Vito's in downtown Belleville on **Wednesday, October 8 at 12 noon**. Please RSVP to June at 618 977 4389 or Jandcbenedick@gmail.com.

Offerings (9/21): General Fund: \$4,447.27; Food Pantry/Woodrome Memorials: \$5/\$194.92

Join the Choir!

The chancel choir welcomes Cheri and Curtis as new members. We are delighted to have them and would love to have you join too! Check out our new Thursday rehearsal times: Voice choir meets at 4:00PM; Men's Choir meets at 5:30PM; and Bell Choir meets at 6:00PM. 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!

From the Bishop: A Word to Fall

"Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance" (Luke 15:7).

Jesus knows his "why." Throughout the gospels, and especially in Luke's telling, Jesus is never unclear about his purpose, his mission, his very reason for being. From the very beginning, his role is proclaimed: "Do not be afraid," the angel tells the shepherds, "for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord" (Luke 2:10–11). Jesus is sent into the world to save.

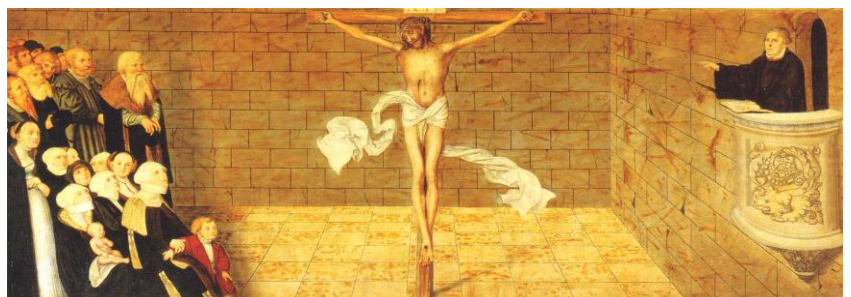
This "why" comes into sharp focus in Luke 15. In response to the complaints of religious leaders, Jesus tells three parables. In the first, his "why" looks like a shepherd who leaves behind ninety-nine sheep to search for the one that is lost. In the second, it looks like a woman who sweeps her entire house to find a single lost coin. In the third, it takes the form of a father who runs to embrace his wayward son. Together, these stories paint a picture of Jesus' mission: to seek and to save the lost. And he never abandons that mission—not even at the cross.

For us, however, it is far too easy to forget our "why." Through baptism, we are called to share in Christ's mission, yet we often become more concerned with protecting what we already have. We focus on keeping the ninety-nine sheep safe, on preserving the nine coins still in hand, or on placating the elder brother—while overlooking those who are wandering, waiting, and longing to be welcomed home.

If our "why" is not Jesus, we risk losing the heart of what it means to be the church. If the purpose behind our sermons, worship services, choirs, youth gatherings, potlucks, offerings, quilts, food drives, social statements, advocacy, and acts of hospitality is not to lead the lost to Jesus, then we are missing the point. Our work may be busy and well-intentioned, but without Christ at the center, we fail in our calling. The question for us is clear: if Jesus is not our "why," then church, what are we doing?

Several years ago, I visited the St. Marien Church in Wittenberg, Germany, where Martin Luther regularly preached. The altar painting inside St. Marien bears powerful witness to the essential "why" of our existence as Christ's church. Created by Lucas Cranach the Elder and completed by his son, Lucas Cranach the Younger, around 1547, the bottom panel of the painting depicts Martin Luther in a pulpit on the right. On the left is gathered Luther's congregation in Wittenberg. Directly in the center of the painting, between Luther on the right and the congregation on the left, stands the image of the crucified Christ. From the pulpit, Luther's arm is outstretched, intentionally pointing his hearers toward the crucified Christ.

In the image of the crucified Christ to which Luther points, we see the fullness of Jesus' "why." Jesus comes to save the lost, including us — all of us. We are the lost ones who Jesus saves. As those who have been saved, we are now the ones who Jesus calls and sends, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to lead other lost ones to him. Who are the lost ones today in your congregation, in your community, in the world around you? How are you pointing them to Jesus? And if you are not, what's your why?



Centered in Christ +
Bishop Greg

Sunday		Mon.	Tues.	Weds.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
OCTOBER 2025				1 10:30AM Joint Use Task Force —CR	2 4:00PM Voice Choir 5:30PM Men's Chor 6:00PM Yoga—PH 6:00PM Bell Choir	3 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	4
5 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00AM Joint Divine Liturgy 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship 10:30A Adult Forum: <i>Giants and the Conquest of Canaan</i> —PB 4:00P SHINE w/Blessing of the Animals	6 2:30PM Fiber Arts @ Westfield Manor	7	8 9AM Evangelism/ Social Min. mtg—CR 12:00PM Ladies Lunch Bunch at Papa Vito's Downtown	9 4:00PM Voice Choir 5:30PM Men's Chor 6:00PM Yoga—PH 6:00PM Bell Choir	10 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	11 	
12 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00AM The Divine Liturgy 10:00AM Blood Pressures —PH 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship 10:30A Adult Forum: <i>Lutheran Exorcisms</i> —PB	13 <i>Office Closed</i>	14 	15 11:00AM Table Talk Bible class — CR	16 4:00PM Voice Choir 5:30PM Men's Chor 6:00PM Yoga—PH 6:00PM Bell Choir	17	18	
19 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:00AM The Divine Liturgy 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship	20 2:30PM Fiber Arts @ Westfield 6:00P Safety Committee—CR	21 5:30P Food Pantry mtg—CR	22	23 4:00PM Voice Choir 5:30PM Men's Chor 6:00PM Yoga—PH 6:00PM Bell Choir	24 5:30PM Downtown Trick-or-Treat	25 6:00PM Reformation Dinner and Hymn Festival—PH	
26 Reformation Sunday 9:00AM The Divine Liturgy 10:20AM Coffee & Fellowship 10:30A Adult Forum: <i>The Haunted History of Ev. Zion Lutheran School aka Papa Vito's - St. Clair Co. Hist. Society</i>	27 6:00PM Pastoral Care Committee 7:00PM Council	28	29	30 4:00PM Voice Choir 5:30PM Men's Chor 6:00PM Yoga—PH 6:00PM Bell Choir	31 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 	1 6:00P SHINE Worship—chapel	

St. Mark Lutheran Church 105 East D Street Belleville, Illinois

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assisting Minister</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Crucifer</u>	<u>Chalice Bearer</u>	<u>Tech Minister</u>	<u>Usher</u>	<u>Safety Volunteer</u>	<u>Coffee Hour</u>
Oct. 5	Charlie D.	Charlie D.	Rex R.	Mike M.	Mike M.	Frank D. & Jason M.	Jan R.	Team 5
Oct. 12	Corbin M.	Curtis D.	Frank D.	Tom P.	Melanie R.	Rick C. & Rex R.	TBD	Team 6
Oct. 19	Greg G.	Corbin M.	Corbin M.	Mike M.	Greg M.	Curt G. & Danielle T.	Frank D.	Team 7
Oct. 26	Greg M.	Aaron F.	Greg M.	Danielle T.	Aaron F.	Kathy C. & Nancy G.	Mark B.	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	Wally K.	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