

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

August 10,
2025



The Ninth
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

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.

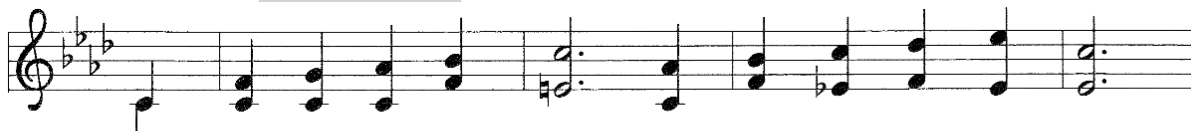
Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy,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

We belong to Christ Jesus and we are God's children through faith. In the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, God forgives us all our sins. Clothed with Christ, we are a new creation. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *Please STAND*

“The God of Abraham Praise”

ELW 831



1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;
2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su-preme com-mand
3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all-suf-fi-cient grace
4 Your prom-ise you have sworn; I on your oath de-pend.



An-cient of ev-er-last-ing days, and God of love—
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.
shall guide me all my pil-grim days in all my ways.
I shall, on ea-gle wings up-borne, to heav'n as-cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con-fessed;
I all on earth for-sake—its wis-dom, fame, and pow'r—
You deign to call me friend; you call your-self my God!
I shall be-hold your face; I shall your pow'r a-dore,



I bow and bless the sa-cred name for-ev-er blest.
and you my on-ly por-tion make, my shield and tow'r.
And you will save me to the end through Je-sus' blood.
and sing the won-ders of your grace for-ev-er-more.

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... Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

PSALM 33:12-22 *spoken responsively by whole verse*

¹²Happy is the nation whose God [|] is the LORD!

Happy the people chosen to [|] be God's heritage!

¹³**The LORD looks [|] down from heaven,
and sees all [|] humankind.**

¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell [|] on the earth.

¹⁵**God fashions [|] all their hearts
and observes [|] all their deeds.**

¹⁶A king is not saved by the size [|] of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by [|] their great strength.

¹⁷**The horse gives vain [|] hope for victory;
despite its great strength it [|] cannot save.**

¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear [|] you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your [|] steadfast love,

¹⁹**to deliver their [|] lives from death,
and to keep them alive in [|] time of famine.**

²⁰Our innermost being waits for [|] you, O LORD,

our helper[|] and our shield.

²¹**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we[|] put our trust.**

²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD,[|] be upon us,
even as we place our[|] hope in you.

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



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

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

[Jesus said:] ³²"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. *Please SIT*

SERMON

Danielle Tribout, *Licensed Lay Minister - guest preacher*

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



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
 flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

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

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.**

PRAYER FOR COMMUNION WITH PRE-CONSECRATED ELEMENTS

In congregations with particular expectations related to the role of ordained minister, the following prayer is offered as the bread and wine - consecrated at an earlier time by an ordained minister - are elevated by the presider.

Let us pray... Almighty Father, whose dear Son, in the night in which he was betrayed, instituted the Sacrament of His Body and Blood: Mercifully grant that we may receive it thankfully, in remembrance of Jesus Christ our Lord, who in these holy mysteries gives us a pledge of eternal life; and who lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

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.**

ELW 856

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

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

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.**

Almighty God bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Guest Presider & Preacher: Danielle Tribout + **Assisting Minister:** Greg Guenther

Crucifer: Frank Dressel + **Lector:** Curtis Dowty + **Chalice Bearer:** Tom Partelow

Tech Minister: Greg Martens + **Safety Volunteer:** Mark Bearth

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Ushers:** Rex Rothgangel & TBD

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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, 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

Nicole Parker (8/10), Vivienne Bearth (8/11), Diane Martens (8/15), Cody Buck (8/15), Carolyn Simard (8/16), and Jordan Renner-Brown (8/16)

Members who celebrate Wedding Anniversaries this week

Tom & Tina Partelow (8/11), Jan & Tim Richards (8/15), and David & Marsha Brauer (8/16)

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 10, 2025

August 2-August 11: *Pastor on vacation*
Wednesday, Aug. 13: 9:00AM Evangelism/Social Ministry meeting – conference room
12:00PM Ladies Lunch Bunch at Round Table Cafe
Thursday, August 14: 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 welcome back to the pulpit as our guest preacher and presider this morning our own Licensed Lay Minister, **Danielle Tribout**.

Ladies Lunch Bunch meets **THIS 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.

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!



Sign up NOW for Guys' Nite! St. George's and St. Mark are inviting all the guys for an evening hangout on **Friday, August 22nd!** Registration at 5pm, dinner at 5:45, complete with brats, sides, beers, and desserts. Thanks to one of our more traveled members, we have a supply of Wisconsin's New Glarus Spotted Cow farmhouse ale!

New in 2025: INDOOR options as well, including cards, board games, and possibly a Cardinals game! Bring your favorite card or table game and play in the air conditioning!

Returning in 2025: Pickleball on Jackson Street and Bags in the circle drive! Invite your friends!

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!



Offerings (8/3): Gen. Fund: **\$3,129**; Coffee Fund: \$5; Franklin School Lunches: \$200.91

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](https://www.griefshare.org/groups/269699), or <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/269699> All are welcome! The program is free but freewill donations are accepted.

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.

THANK YOU to Dave Buckley and friends for the Food Pantry remodel. It looks great and easy to work in.

UV Protection: Eye Safety

Your eyes need sunscreen too—figuratively speaking! Sun safety for your eyes is crucial because **ultraviolet (UV) rays can cause serious long-term damage**, even on cloudy days. Here's how to keep your vision sharp and protected:

Risks of UV Exposure to the Eyes:

- **Cataracts:** Clouding of the lens that impairs vision.
- **Macular degeneration:** Damage to the retina affecting central vision.
- **Pterygium:** A growth on the eye's surface, common in surfers and skiers.
- **Eye cancers:** Including melanoma of the iris, especially in people with light-colored eyes.

Smart Sunglass Choices:

- **Look for 100% UV protection** or UV400-rated lenses that block both UVA and UVB rays.
- **Wraparound styles** help shield your eyes from light entering from the sides.
- **Polarized lenses** reduce glare, especially around water, snow, or sand.

Hats & Shade:

- A **wide-brimmed hat** can reduce UV exposure by up to 50%.
- Seek shade during peak sun hours (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) when UV intensity is highest

Kids & Seniors Need Protection Too:

- Children's eyes are more vulnerable—get them **kid-sized sunglasses and hats**.
- Seniors, especially those with cataract surgery, may need extra protection.

Sunscreen Around Eyes?

- Mineral-based sunscreens (like titanium dioxide) are safe around the eyelids, but **they don't protect the eyes themselves**—sunglasses are still essential.