St. Mark Lutheran Church

A congregation of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

welcomes you!

November 15, 2026



The 25th 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 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.

PRELUDE *"A Quiet Moment"* *D. Lasky*

WELCOME

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *Please* **STAND** *as you are able*

Blessed be the one God – Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit - our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

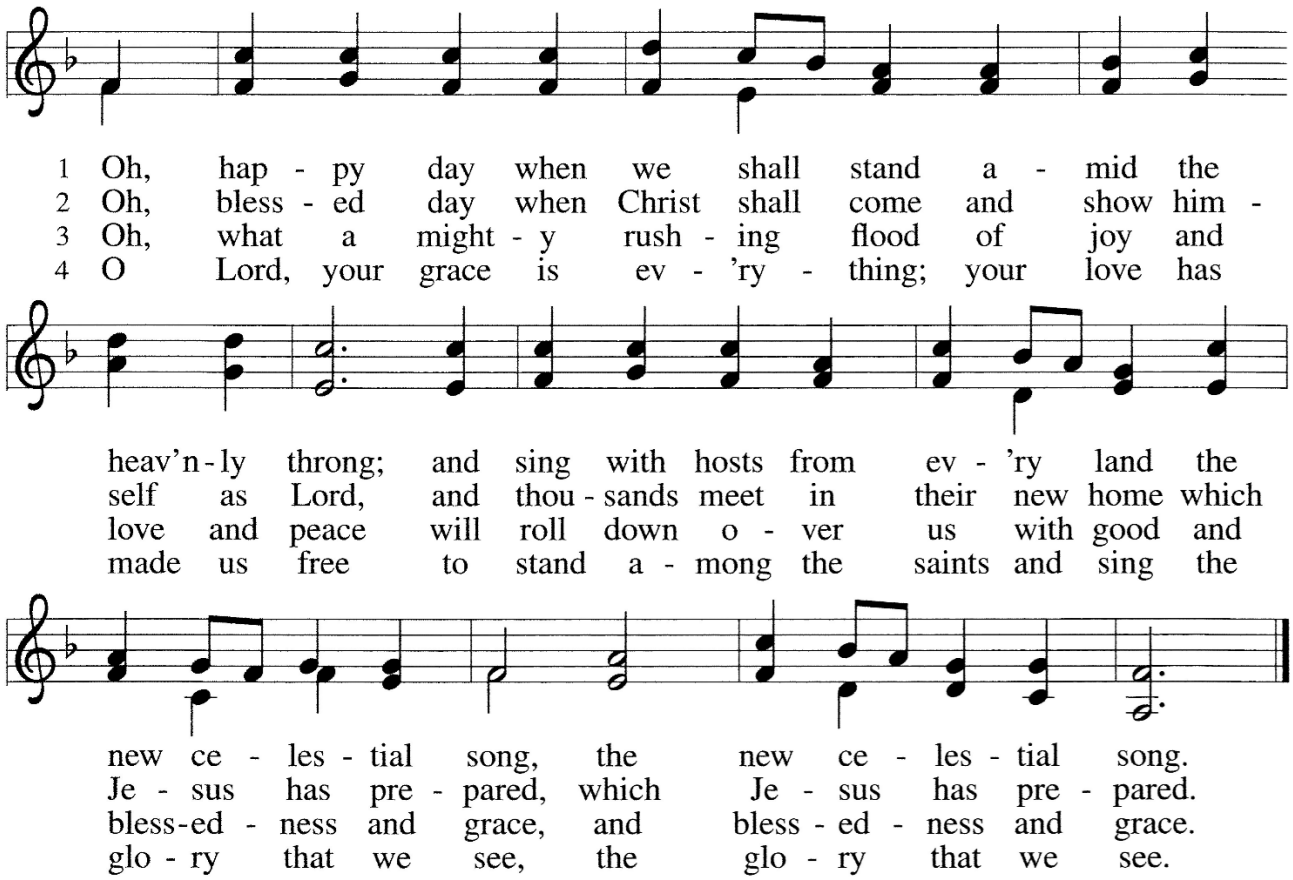
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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

Holy God, **we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**

Inherit the riches of God's grace. Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are ☩ forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN **"Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand"** **ELW 441**



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

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please **SIT.**

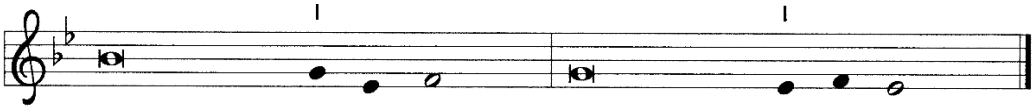
WORD

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a
sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I
will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The
LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." 13 Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses
laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them. 14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening
fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be
a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and
gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the
fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 17 I will bring such distress upon people that they
shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured
out like dust, and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save
them on the day of the LORD's wrath in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

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

PSALM: Psalm 90:1-8, 10, 12 *chanted responsively between choir and congregation*



1 Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.

**2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were born,
from age to age | you are God.**

3 You turn us back to the | dust and say,
"Turn back, O child- | ren of earth."

**4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;**

5 you sweep them away | like a dream,
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:

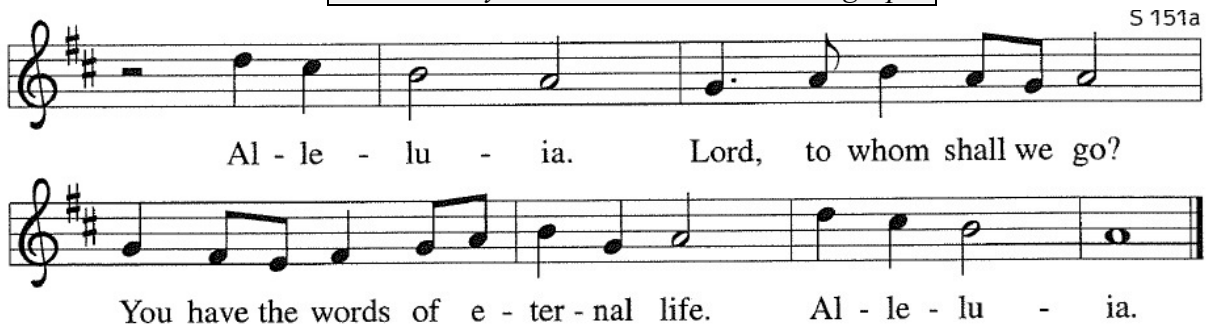
[6]in the morning it is | green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.
[7]For we are consumed | by your anger;
we are afraid because | of your wrath.
[8]Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.
[10]The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength | even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and | we are gone.
[12]So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

[1]Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. [2]For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3]When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! [4]But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; [5]for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6]So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; [7]for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9]For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. [11]Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

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



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to the apostle Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

SERMON *"Free Parking"* **The Rev. Brian M. Robison,** *pastor*

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

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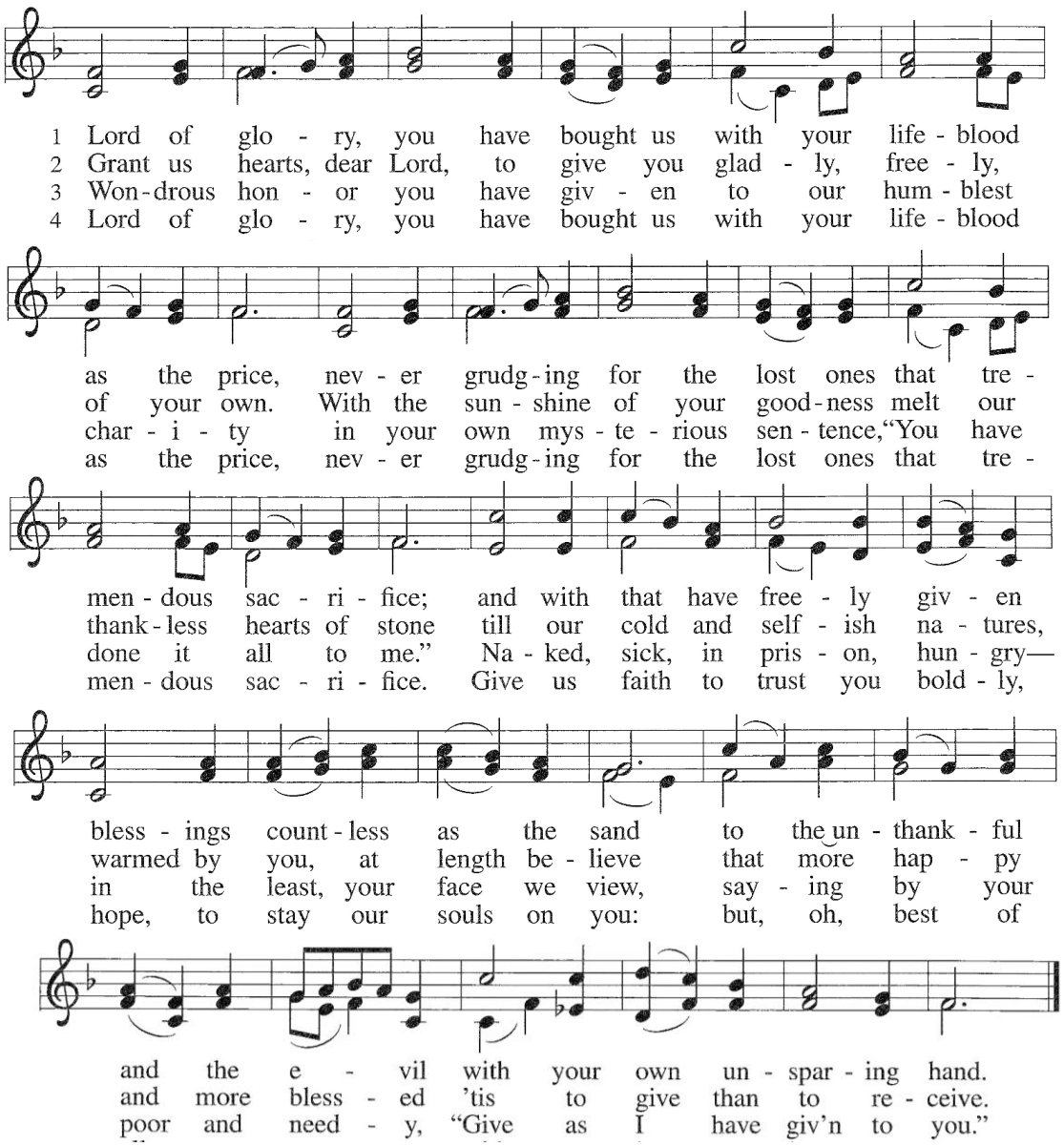
HYMN OF THE DAY **"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"** **ELW 707**



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, in your mercy," is* **"Hear our prayer."**

Ken Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Natalie & Cody** Best, **Harper** 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, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Wilma** Shroat, **Cohen** Summers, **Nancy** Tegtmeier, **Carol** Weshinskey**, Gary** Weshinskey, **Jonathan** Whitaker

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 CHOIR *"Celebrate With Joy"* *Dobrinski*

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…
Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

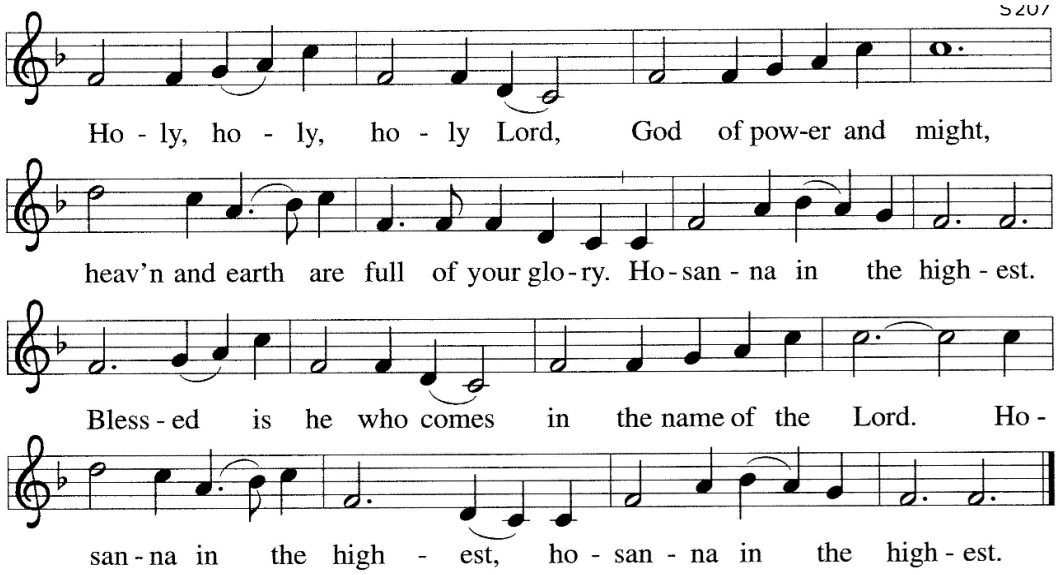
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

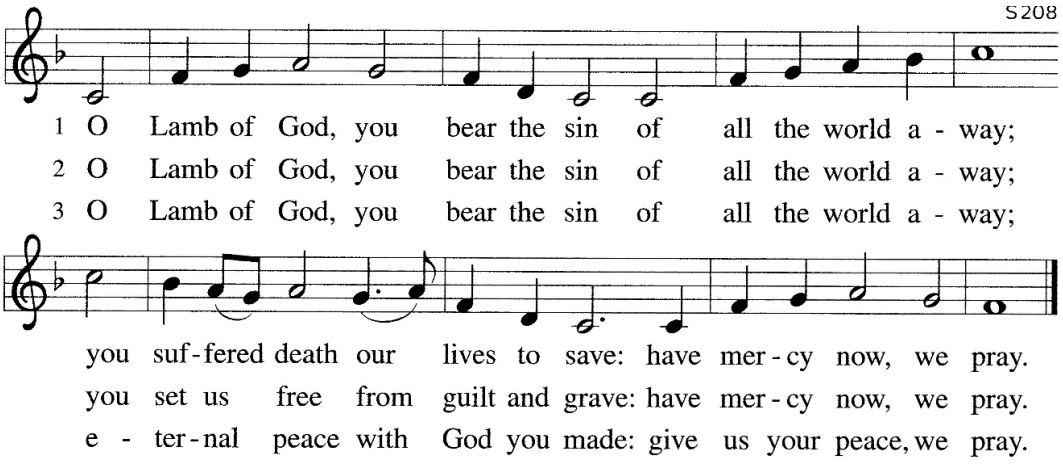
THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

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

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

LAMB OF GOD *Please* **SIT**

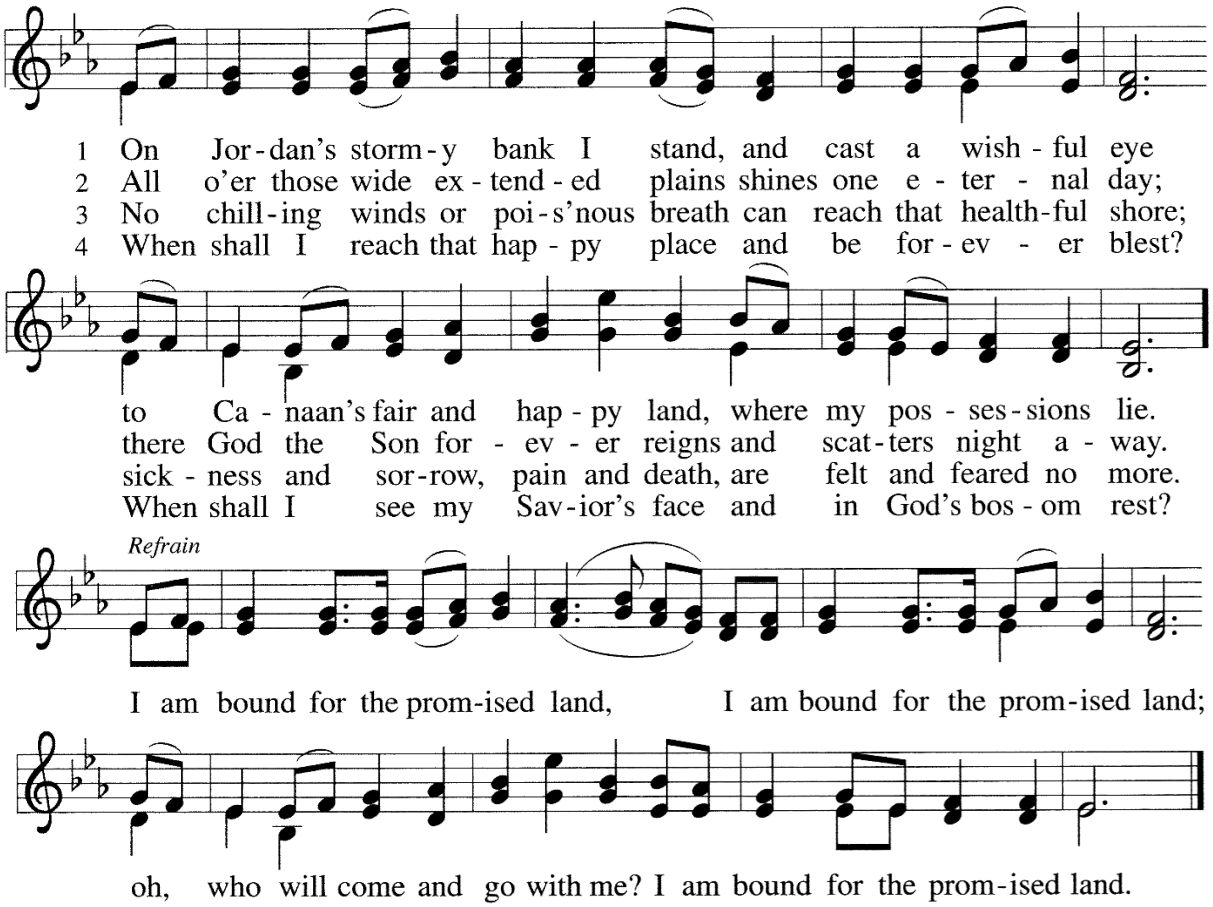


COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

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

- ✠ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✠ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✠ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✠ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✠ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

COMMUNION HYMNS "On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand" ELW 437



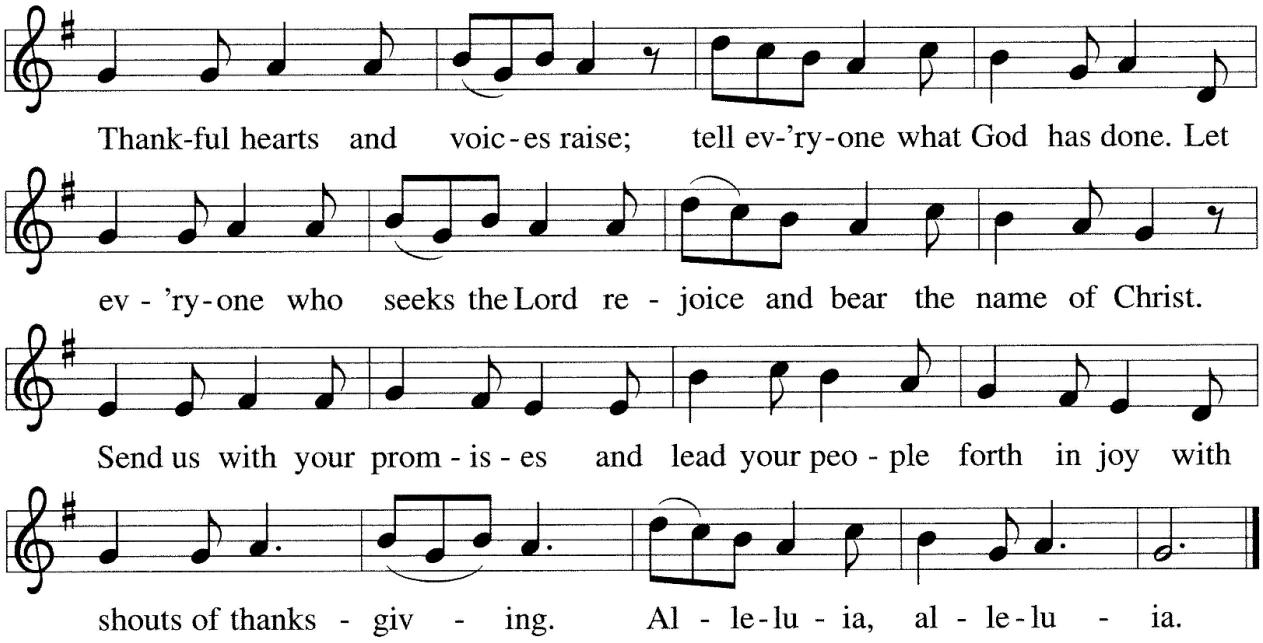
CHOIR ANTHEM *"Precious Lord Take Me Home"* *Dorsey/Schrader*

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

TABLE BLESSING

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

CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" ELW 207



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together…

Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost,
bind the injured,
and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out,
awake to your presence,
now and forever. Amen.

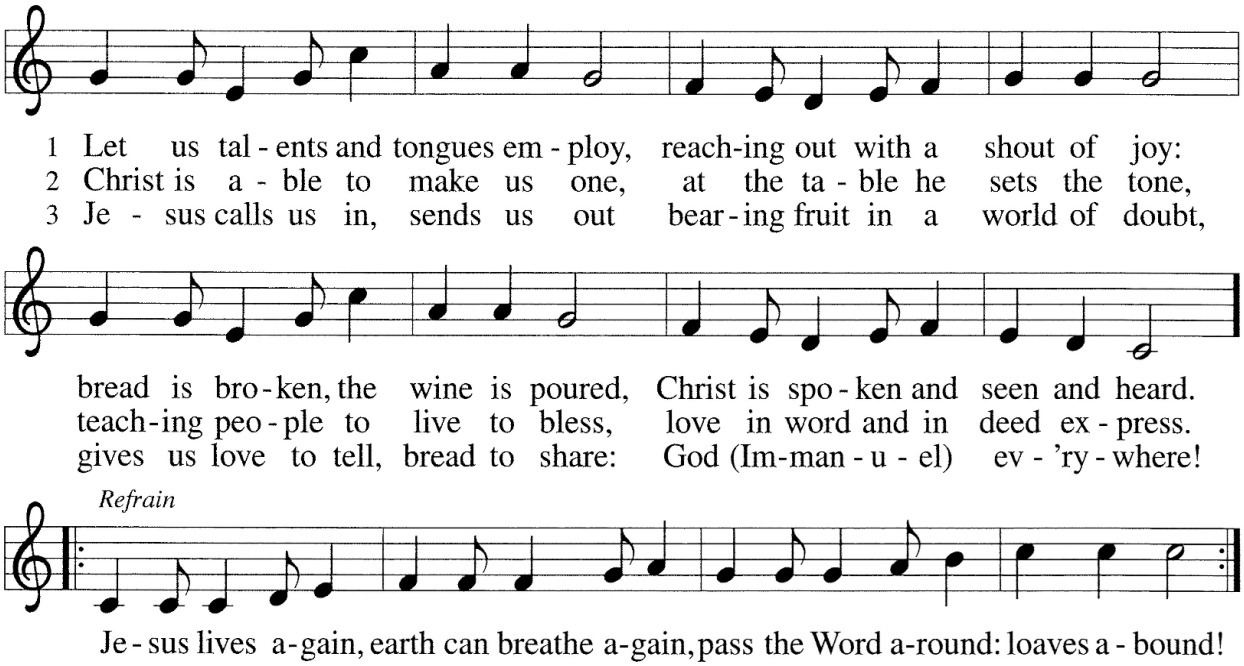
SENDING

BLESSING

The Most Holy Trinity - Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit - bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN **"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"** **ELW 674**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE *"March"* *F.J. Haydn*

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Danielle Tribout
Crucifer: Keith Kniepkamp + **Lector:** Terry Tribout + **Chalice Bearer:** Greg Martens
Tech Minister: Melanie Robison + **Safety Volunteer:** Frank Dressel
Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Ushers:** Kathy Casey & Mark Bearth



Prayer Intentions

*New additions listed in **bold***

Members

Ken Augustine, Eleanor Benton, Natalie & Cody Best, **Harper Best**, Don Boatman, 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, Marilyn Robinson, Wilma Shroat, Cohen Summers, Nancy Tegtmeier, Carol Weshinskey, Gary Weshinskey, **Jonathan Whitaker**

Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Linda Althardt, 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 Goodall, 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, 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

Nancy Ypma (11/16) and Mike Murakami (11/17)

Members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this week:

Diane & Robert Maes (11/16)

Members celebrating the birth of a loved one:

Natalie (Ott) and Cody Best, on the birth of **Harper Blaine** (11/10)



St. Mark Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Brian M. Robison
Administrative Assistant: Randi Cardoza + **Music Director**: Carol Kugler
Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Parish Nurse:** Becky Schnitzius
Pastor *Emeritus*: The Rev. Ronald C. Neustadt

MARK TIMES

News & Notes for the week of November 15, 2026

Monday, November 16:	2:30PM	Fiber Arts
Tuesday, November 17:	5:00PM	Food Pantry Meeting – *Conference Room*
Wednesday, November 18:	10:15AM	Health & Wellness Meeting – *Conference Room*
Thursday, November 19:	9AM-1PM	WC Conference Bishop's Colloquy – *Parish Hall*
	4:15PM	Voice Choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – *Parish Hall*
Friday, November 20:	12:00PM	Annual Meeting Reports Due

Pumpkin Palooza returns TODAY!

TODAY, Sunday, November 15, is the return of our eagerly anticipated **pumpkin-themed bake sale!** Bring - and shop for - **baked goods**, **crafts**, and **decorations** in the Parish Hall between and after all three services, with proceeds to **benefit our combined Food Pantry**.

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 catered luncheon in our Parish Hall follows. Sign-up sheets and invitations are available in the Parish Hall and narthex.

We are **capping attendance at the luncheon to 100 people; please **sign up/RSVP by November 20** so we can get accurate numbers to the caterer.*

GriefShare: *Surviving the Holidays* Event Next Saturday



St. Mark will again offer a one-day, two-hour session of *Surviving the Holidays* to offer support, encouragement, and practical tools to help you navigate this holiday season with peace and assurance after the loss of a loved one. Join our special session, led by Nurse Becky, NEXT **Saturday, November 21** from **1–3 PM** in the **Parish Hall**. The free event includes a video, group discussion, and a Survival Guide. Pre-registration is required at griefshare.org/events/294597

*If you've attended this session previously, please consider attending again; grief and loss affect us differently with the passage of time, and you may benefit from another session in ways you can't anticipate.

Food Pantry Pampered Chef Fundraiser Results



I'm excited to announce that the proceeds of the Pampered Chef Fundraiser for our Food Pantry were **$444.18**! Thanks to everyone who allowed me to use my Pampered Chef business to support our Food Pantry!! - *Sherri Foppe*

Community Dinner Volunteers Needed

St. Mark members have been assisting St. Paul UCC occasionally with their **free Community Dinner on Tuesday evenings**. Over the last several months, the number of individuals attending the dinner has increased. We have been asked to provide **two volunteers** on **1st Tuesdays** to assist their existing team. Volunteers would **arrive at 3:45pm** and **finish about 6:00pm**. No heavy lifting involved! Contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 or cookinsherri2@gmail.com if you would like to assist once a month or every other month.

Boy Scout Food Drive 11/21

This year's Boy Scout Food Drive is **THIS Saturday, November 21**. We need **volunteers** to help **sort food** for a couple of hours. *Meet at the **office/pantry** starting at about **12:30PM.**

"Angel Tree" Project with Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCFS)

St. Mark and St. George's are again participating in the Angel Tree Project Christmas Drive through LCFS. The project provides Christmas gifts to especially needy families in our area. **Children's names/wish lists with instructions are in the narthex/Canterbury Room.**

Remember, you are not asked to provide everything on the child's wish list—**a $60 limit per child** is recommended. However, we realize that may not be possible for many so please consider asking other members, family members or neighbors to share the joy of Christmas with you!

If you'd rather not shop, monetary donations are welcome.

Please return all gifts to church by December 6.

Proclaim Christ's birth with flowers!



Anyone wishing to donate should watch for a special envelope in the pews, fill out the front portion and return it, with a check/cash, to the offering plate or the office by 12/21 with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. *Online donations may be made through VANCO at https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-ZMGD. All dedications will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Thanksgiving Day Service



St. George's Episcopal Church is offering a **Thanksgiving Day worship** service at **9:00AM** in the **chapel** on **Thursday, November 26**. This is not a joint service but interested St. Mark members are welcome to attend!



Advent Evening Prayer Service & Soup Suppers return **Wednesday, December 2**. Plan to come enjoy a hot meal of soup and salad at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall before joining us in the church for Holden Evening Prayer. **Get a group together and host one of the soup suppers!** A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand.

Offerings for 11/8: General Fund: **$3,339**;