

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

August 24,
2025



The Eleventh
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

-
- + **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

"I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes"

A. Schreiner

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 is Here"

ELW 526



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here, in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com-ing of the Spir-it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
here, in new-ness and re-new-al, God the Spir-it comes to each.
what it means in dai-ly liv-ing to be-lieve and to a-dore.
we, who can-not live with-out you, we a-dore you! We be-lieve!

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, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you,

the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually,

and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,

like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;

you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,

serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;

¹⁴then you shall take delight in the LORD,

and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

¹⁸You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant...

²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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 13:10-17

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

¹⁰Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON “God’s Grace: A Dam Powerful Thing”

The Rev. Brian M. Robison

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Christ the Healer, We Have Come”

ELW 610



- 1 O Christ, the heal-er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends.
- 2 From ev - 'ry ail-ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies clam - or to be freed;
- 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease;
- 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may find



How can we fail to be re-stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
yet in our hearts we would con-fess that whole-ness is our deep-est need.
our com - mon life de-clar-es our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
the whole-ness that, en - rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man-kind.

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God’s only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *The names of those for whom we pray aloud (members, staff, first-time additions) are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the back of this bulletin. The response to “Hear us, O God,” is “Your mercy is great.”*

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, **Jackie** Woodrome

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

“Bunnesen”

E. Landlin

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.*

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SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

“Here is Bread, Here is Wine”

ELW 483



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.
 2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
 3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.
 Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.
 We'll pro - claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.



Refrain

In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is life for - ev - er.



In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

“How Firm a Foundation”

ELW 796



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 “Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 “When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 “Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.”
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.”
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne.”

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

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”

ELW 521



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



sing, “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,” to the great God tri - une.
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three-fold light was giv'n.
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

POSTLUDE

“Let the Trumpet Sound”

L. Smith

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Charlie Duncan
Crucifer & Lector: Corbin Monfre + **Chalice Bearer:** Greg Martens
Tech Minister: Aaron Fuchs + **Safety Volunteer:** Melanie Robison
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 Weshinskey, Gary Weshinskey, Jackie Woodrome

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Bonnie Baete, John Belz, Thomas Boxdorfer,
Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison,
Katrina Fenner, Andrea Hendrix, 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,
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

Jason McKenzie (8/24), Ted Engelage (8/25),
Kinsely Partelow-Smith (8/26), and Marilyn Robinder (8/29)

Members who celebrate Wedding Anniversaries this week

Brooke & Damian Summers (8/27)

Those who Grieve the Loss of Loved Ones

The family and friends of **Helen Krypciak** (8/20)

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 24, 2025

Monday, August 25: 6:00PM Pastoral Care committee meeting - CR

7:00PM Church Council meeting - CR

Thursday, August 28: 6:00PM Yoga – Parish Hall

Heroes & Hand-Me-Downs: The Great Church Lot Bash is coming to the big parking lot (the corner of D and High Streets) on **Saturday, September 13 from 10am-2pm!**

Sell your arts, crafts, used home goods, et al, at the **tailgate sale** (rent one a single parking space for \$25.00 or two for \$35.00; **proceeds from rentals benefit the food pantry**, but **you keep proceeds from the sale of your goods**). A limited number of spaces are available, so make your reservation soon! To reserve a spot, e-mail heroesandhandmedowns@gmail.com.

In addition, there will be **free hot dogs**, and children's activities include "touch the trucks" (fire truck, police car, ambulance), face painting, and meeting costumed superheroes.



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. Sign up by midnight on Monday, Sept. 1.

Chestnut Health Systems will present information on *Mental Health, Substance Abuse/Narcotics 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.

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.net.



Choirs Resume in September

Choirs resume rehearsals on **Thursday, September 4**. **Voice Choir** meets at **4:00PM**; **Men's Chorus** meets at **5:30PM**; and **Bell Choir** meets at **6:00PM**. If you can carry a tune *at all*, the Chancel choir would love to welcome you (you don't need to sing solo or even to read music well)!

Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program End of Season THANK YOU

The Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee wishes to thank everyone who supported the program again this year by donating money, chips, cookies, fruit juice pouches, packing and/or delivering to provide free lunches for low-income children!

Together with Westview Baptist, **over 1300 lunches were assembled and delivered to Belleville's children over the 10 weeks!**

On two different weeks, the children were treated to Goodie Bags, and on two other weeks freezer pops were an extra treat!

On two Thursdays, at two different locations, Jan Richards and Sherri Foppe held traveling Mini-Vacation Bible Schools. The 15-minute VBS included a Bible story, craft or game and a song! Attendance was lower than anticipated, as is often the case with a new event. Christian Education and Evangelism/Social Ministry will consider this type of event again next summer.

This program makes a real difference in the lives of those served! The following is a note we received from the parent of a lunch recipient:

"I would like to take this time to thank everyone that has hands in making these lunches happen for the children of Belleville. I am a single mom that appreciates all the help I can get. You all made it possible for my children to eat even when I could not provide for them. I am truly grateful to God for you all. I wish I could repay you! If there is a way to donate to keep this going, I would love to help."



From the Parish Nurse: National Immunization Awareness Month

Part 1: The Public Health Impact of Vaccines

Vaccines remain one of the **greatest triumphs in modern medicine**, protecting both individuals and entire communities. Diseases that once caused widespread suffering—like smallpox, polio, and measles—have been brought under control or even eliminated through global vaccination campaigns. Smallpox was eradicated worldwide in 1980; polio cases have dropped by over 99% since 1988; and measles has become rare in countries with strong vaccine coverage. These victories show clearly how powerful vaccines are in reducing illness and saving lives.



Importantly, **vaccination is more than just a personal choice**. It is a **shared responsibility**. Some people - such as newborns, the elderly, and those with compromised immune systems - cannot safely receive every vaccine. So, they rely on **herd immunity**—the protection created when enough people in a community are vaccinated to slow or stop the spread of disease. **By getting vaccinated, each of us helps shield our neighbors as well as ourselves.**

Advances in technology continue to expand vaccine possibilities. The rapid development of mRNA vaccines for COVID-19 highlighted how science, collaboration, and global cooperation can respond to new threats. Looking ahead, continued investment in vaccine research, fair distribution, and public education will be crucial. Vaccines are more than medicine—they are acts of compassion, contributing to a healthier, more resilient world.

Offerings (8/17): Gen. Fund: **\$1,195**; Food Pantry: \$5