



**Sunday, February 25, 2024**  
Second Sunday in Lent



**WELCOME TO**  
**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

St. Mark's is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.  
We welcome you to our worship today & hope you will worship with us again soon!

Our worship service is also available online each Sunday at 10 AM as well.

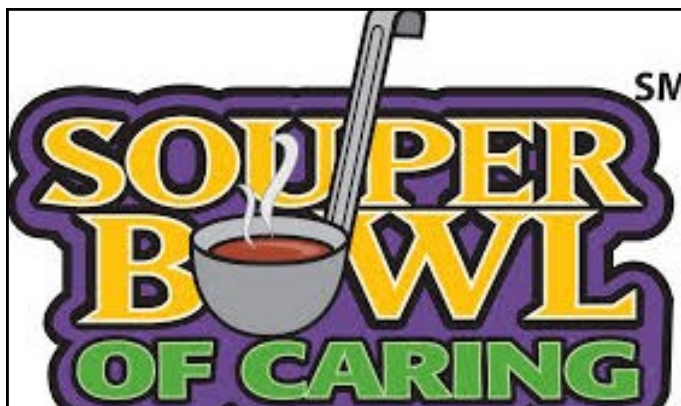
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3350 N. Delany Road Waukegan, IL 60087  
Phone: 847-623-5135  
Email: stmarkslutheran@gmail.com

**February Mission of the Month**  
**Souper Bowl Of Caring**

Please refer to the January/February issue of the Messenger for further information regarding the mission of the month.





## Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## Gathering Song - Fullness

Fullness of eternal promise  
Stirring in Your sons and daughters  
Earth revealing Heaven's wonders  
Spirit come, Spirit come

What You spoke is now unfolding  
All Your children shall behold it  
Dreams awaken in this moment  
Spirit come, Spirit come

Pour it out, let Your love run over  
Here and now, let Your glory fill this house  
Pour it out, let Your love run over  
Here and now, let Your glory fill this house

Now the world awaits Your presence  
And this power is within us  
We will rise to be Your witness  
Spirit come, Spirit come

Pour it out, let Your love run over  
Here and now, let Your glory fill this house  
Pour it out, let Your love run over  
Here and now, let Your glory fill this house

Tongues of fire, testifying of the Son  
One desire, Spirit come, Spirit come  
Speak revival, prophesy like it is done  
One desire, Spirit come, Spirit come

Tongues of fire, testifying of the Son  
 One desire, Spirit come, Spirit come  
 Speak revival, prophesy like it is done  
 One desire, Spirit come, Spirit come  
 Spirit come

Let our hearts continue burning  
 For our King is soon returning  
 As we hold to this assurance  
 Spirit come, Spirit come  
 Spirit come, Spirit come

Pour it out, let Your love run over  
 Here and now, let Your glory fill this house  
 Pour it out, let Your love run over  
 Here and now, let Your glory fill this house, oh

Tongues of fire, testifying of the Son  
 One desire, Spirit come, Spirit come  
 Speak revival, prophesy like it is done  
 One desire, Spirit come, Spirit come  
 Oh, Spirit come

## **Confession and Forgiveness for the 2nd Sunday in Lent**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Merciful God, in this season of Lent, we come before you, recognizing our frailty and our need for your grace. Help us to turn from our sin and embrace the path of repentance. Empower us with your Holy Spirit, that in acknowledging our weaknesses, we may be drawn closer to the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Guide.

**Amen.**

Let us now confess our sin, mindful of God's presence and in the company of our brothers and sisters in faith.

Compassionate God,  
**have mercy on us. In this time of reflection, we acknowledge that we have strayed from your ways and succumbed to sin's grasp. With contrite hearts, we repent. Forgive us for our sins, those we know and those hidden from our conscious mind, for our actions and our inactions. Restore us, O God, and renew us by your Spirit, that we might walk in the light of life, serving you with renewed purpose through Jesus Christ, our Guide and Savior. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God, abounding in mercy, has loved us with an everlasting love and brings us back to life in Christ. Through grace, we are saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, be assured that your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God fortify you with the Holy Spirit's power, enabling Christ to dwell within your hearts through faith, as we journey through Lent with reflective hearts and minds. **Amen.**

## **Kyrie**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,  
 Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,  
 Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,  
 Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,  
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,  
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

### **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.**

### **Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in this holy season of Lent, we embrace the journey of renewal and reflection you set before us. We remember the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, who turned the cross, once a symbol of suffering, into a beacon of life and hope. Inspire us to carry our own crosses with courage, finding in every challenge an opportunity to witness your love and grace. Grant that we may embrace the Lenten path with steadfast faith and anticipation of the resurrection. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Word**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### **First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16**

A reading from Genesis.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly

numerous.” Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

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

### **Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25**

A reading from Romans.

*Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.*

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many

nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

## **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day - We are an Offering**

We lift our voices  
 We lift our hands  
 We lift our lives up to You  
 We are an offering

Lord use our voices  
 Lord use our hands  
 Lord use our lives they are Yours  
 We are an offering

All that we have  
 All that we are  
 All that we hope to be  
 We give to You  
 We give to You



We lift our voices  
 We lift our hands  
 We lift our lives up to You  
 We are an offering  
 We are an offering

## **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**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender,



ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others. Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **Offering Song - Create in Me a Clean Heart**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

### **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Great Thanksgiving / Dialogue**

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.**

### **Preface**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **Holy, Holy, Holy**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

### **Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

### **Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Lamb of God**

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

### **Invitation to Communion**

#### **Communion Song - Show Me Your Ways**

I'm asking in the Father's name  
Reveal Your heart to me  
I wanna bear the fruit that stays  
So come abide in me

Show me Your ways, show me Your ways  
Show me Your ways, Jesus  
Show me Your ways, show me Your ways  
Show me Your ways

I wanna hear You call me friend  
That what is Yours is mine  
So I'm laying down my life again, yeah  
And I will testify

That You tore the veil  
That stood in between  
My heart and Your mystery

Show me Your ways, show me Your ways  
Show me Your ways, Jesus  
Show me Your ways, show me Your ways  
Show me Your ways

I wanna do what You do  
I wanna say what You say  
I wanna see Your face  
Show me Your ways

I wanna do what You do  
I wanna say what You say  
I wanna see Your face  
Show me Your ways

Like a garden in a desert  
Living water from the rock  
God, Your love, it can't be stopped  
All your ways are good

Like a city in the darkness  
Or a light upon the hill  
Spirit, guide me to Your will  
'Cause all Your ways are good

Like a never-ending sonnet  
I feel You writing on my heart  
There's no end to who You are  
All Your ways are good

Like a child I am running  
Lead me down the narrow path  
Lord, I'm never turning back  
'Cause all Your ways are good  
And all your ways are good  
All your ways are good  
All your ways are good

Show me Your ways, show me Your ways  
Show me Your ways, Jesus  
Show me Your ways, show me Your ways  
Show me Your ways

I wanna do what You do  
 I wanna say what You say  
 I wanna see Your face  
 Show me Your ways

I wanna do what You do  
 I wanna say what You say  
 I wanna see Your face  
 Show me Your ways

Show me Your ways  
 Show me Your ways  
 Show me Your ways  
 Show me Your ways

Show me Your ways  
 Show me Your ways  
 Show me Your ways

I'm asking in the Father's name  
 Reveal Your heart to me  
 I wanna bear the fruit that stays  
 So come abide in me

### **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ✝ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## Sending Song - Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons (

1. "Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?"
  
3. "Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you and you in me?"
  
4. "Will you love the you you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?"
  
5. Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Share your bread. **Thanks be to God.**

*Announcements & Events*

**Join us after worship for our New Member Class**

**February 2024 - Souper Bowl of Caring**

Join us as we tackle hunger! We are asking you to bring loose change, checks, and of course, cans of soup/food to contribute to C.O.O.L Food Pantry. Donations can be placed in the offering plate with "Souper Bowl of Caring" noted in memo.

**March 3rd - Pasty Orders are here!**

Stop by the fellowship hall after worship to pick up your pasty order.

Please make checks payable to St. Mark's Lutheran Church

If paying by cash, exact change is appreciated as we won't be able to make change.

**March 6th - Holden Evening Prayers & Soup Supper**

Join us @ 6 PM for our Soup Supper and 7 PM for our Holden Evening Prayers.

And if you're feeling generous, you can even bring a soup to share.

Just give a shout-out to our awesome hospitality team if you'd like to contribute.

**Easter Flower Ordering**

March 31st is Easter Sunday.

Let's fill the church with the beauty of Spring and the splendor of the season!

Contributors and designations (in memory / honor of)

will be published in the Easter worship bulletin.

**All orders must be received by Thursday, March 7th.**

Please make checks payable to St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Order online using the link below. Or, refer to the order forms located in the narthex.

**<https://www.stmarkslutheran.us/easter-flower-order-info.html>**

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*Please feel free to join the following small groups:*

**Women of St. Mark's** - 1st Monday of the month @ 7 PM.

**Yarns of Compassion** - 3rd Monday of the month @ 7 PM.

**Reflections in the Spirit** - 1st Tuesday of the month @ 7 PM.

**Reflections of the Seasons** - 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 12 PM

**Zoom Weekly Bible Study** - Wednesday Night @ 7 PM

**Gather Bible Study** - 2nd Friday of the month @ 7 PM.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting** - Friday Night @ 7 PM in the fellowship hall.

## Come as You Are, Whoever You Are

**Everyone is welcome at St. Mark's, no matter what you have done, what has been done to you, what darkness or struggles you have faced, and regardless of whether you have been marginalized by society or denied involvement by other churches.**

**All are worthy of God's love and grace. We celebrate diversity, and seek to be inclusive of every race, ethnicity, faith background, age, economic status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental ability, or anything else that divides us.**

**Christ's church is not ours to control, nor is it our job to sort, divide, categorize or exclude. But it is our place to love all our neighbors, aid the less fortunate, and to be a voice on their behalf.**

**Welcome!**

**“Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.” Romans 15:7**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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If you'd like more information about St. Mark's, please scan the St. Mark's Website QRC code below.

If you'd like to receive emails from St. Mark's or your contact information needs to be updated, please scan the Contact Form QRC below. Or, fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate.

### **St. Mark's Member/Visitor Information Card** **Please provide the following information:**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



St. Mark's Website



Contact Form