



**Sunday, March 16, 2025  
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.

To find us online, please visit our website, YouTube, Facebook:

- <https://www.stmarkslutheran.us>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCSZGBTjTxsR3QcZ9YX0xNw>
- <https://www.facebook.com/StMarksLutheranWaukegan/>

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**March Mission of the Month  
ELCA World Hunger**



*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. – Matthew 25:35*

Working with and through our congregations in the U.S., Lutheran churches around the world, and other partners, [ELCA World Hunger](#) is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.



## Pastor Colin Cranmer - Welcome

### Gathering

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

### Gathering Song - Boldly I Approach your Throne: Rend Collective

By grace alone somehow I stand  
Where even angels fear to tread  
Invited by redeeming love  
Before the throne of God above



He pulls me close with nail-scarred hands  
Into His everlasting arms  
When condemnation grips my heart  
And Satan tempts me to despair  
I hear the voice that scatters fear  
The Great I am the Lord is here  
Oh praise the One who fights for me  
And shields my soul eternally

Boldly I approach Your throne  
Blameless now I'm running home  
By Your blood I come  
Welcomed as Your own  
Into the arms of majesty

Behold the bright and risen Son  
More beauty than this world has known  
I'm face to face with Love Himself  
His perfect spotless righteousness  
A thousand years, a thousand tongues  
Are not enough to sing His praise

Boldly I approach Your throne  
Blameless now I'm running home  
By Your blood I come  
Welcomed as Your own  
Into the arms of majesty

Boldly I approach Your throne  
Blameless now I'm running home  
By Your blood I come  
Welcomed as Your own  
Into the arms of majesty

This is the art of celebration  
Knowing we're free  
from condemnation  
Oh praise the One,  
praise the One  
Who made an end to all my sin

This is the art of celebration  
Knowing we're free from condemnation  
Oh praise the One, praise the One  
Who made an end to all my sin



Boldly I approach Your throne  
 Blameless now I'm running home  
 By Your blood I come  
 Welcomed as Your own  
 Into the arms of majesty

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **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.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and 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 15:1-12, 17-18**

A reading from Genesis.

*God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a child, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.*

After 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." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But 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." He 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." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

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

## **Gospel Acclamation - Let Your Steadfast Love Come To Us, O Lord**

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.  
 Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.  
 Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.  
 Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

### **Gospel: Luke 13:31-35**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.*

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

### **Hymn of the Day - Known**

It's so unusual, it's frightening  
 You see right through the mess inside me  
 And you call me out to pull me in  
 You tell me I can start again  
 And I don't need to keep on hiding

I'm fully known and loved by You  
You won't let go no matter what I do  
And it's not one or the other  
It's hard truth and ridiculous grace  
To be known fully known and loved by You  
I'm fully known and loved by You

It's so like You to keep pursuing  
It's so like me to go astray  
But You guard my heart with Your truth  
A kind of love that's bulletproof  
And I surrender to Your kindness, ooh

I'm fully known and loved by You  
You won't let go no matter what I do  
And it's not one or the other  
It's hard truth and ridiculous grace  
To be known fully known and loved by You  
I'm fully known and loved by You

How real, how wide  
How rich, how high is Your heart  
I cannot find the reasons why  
You give me so much  
How real, how wide  
How rich, how high is Your heart  
I cannot find the reasons why  
You give me so much

I'm fully known and loved by You  
You won't let go no matter what I do  
And it's not one or the other  
It's hard truth and ridiculous grace  
To be known fully known and loved by You  
I'm fully known and loved by You  
It's so unusual, it's frightening  
I'm fully known and loved by You

## 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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church,  
the world, and all those in need.

*A moment of silence.*

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**



Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need. May all know they are not alone.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example.

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

## **Announcements**

### **Offering Song - Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me**

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure;  
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2 Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfill thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring;  
simply to thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.

## Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our 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 - His Mercy Is More**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father, so tender, is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor  
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more



Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
 Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
 Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us  
 His blood was the payment, His life was the cost  
 We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
 Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more  
 Stronger than darkness, new every morn  
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more  
 Our sins they are many, His mercy is more

### **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**

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **Sending Song - Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer**

1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,  
 pilgrim through this barren land.  
 I am weak, but you are mighty;

hold me with your pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain  
where the healing waters flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
shield me with your mighty arm,  
shield me with your mighty arm.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs and praises, songs and praises,  
I will raise forevermore,  
I will raise forevermore.



## Dismissal

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

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*Please feel free to join the following groups:*

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

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

*(Yarns of Compassion does not meet in December)*

**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** - 3rd Friday of the month @ 5:30 PM

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

*Announcements & Events*

**Sunday, March 30th**

Pasty orders will be available for pick up after worship from 11-12

**Monday, March 31st**

Deadline for ordering Easter Flowers  
Order forms are available online & in the narthex



**Sunday School News**



I am putting together a list of volunteers to sub on the occasions I am ill or unavailable. (I already have a few, so Thank you to those folks!) I'm also open to any youth who would like to visit with us and play a game or do a craft. We average 4 kids (ages 7-9) and have plenty of stuff to use up. - Thank You

Just shoot me a text [224-538-8499](tel:224-538-8499) or email at [jrdoxie2@gmail.com](mailto:jrdoxie2@gmail.com)



Altar flowers for Sunday worship can be purchased in honor or in memory of loved ones. The cost is \$39.95 which includes delivery. A sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board located in the narthex. Please indicate who the flowers are in memory or honor of along with your flower color preference.



## 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**

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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