

Gathered Together by God to Grow and Go Out!

March 17, 2024

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday Worship In-Person and Online at Facebook and YouTube

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Waukesha, Wisconsin

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GATHERING HYMN *(please stand as you are able)*

My Lord, What a Morning

Refrain



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un - der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be - gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

CONFESSION

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Holy God,

C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.

We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.

We speak in ways that silence others.

We are silent when we should speak up.

We keep score in our hearts.

We let hurts grow into hatred.

For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord.

Amen.

P: Here is a flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✙ Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Share a sign of peace with your neighbor expressing God's peace.

If you are joining us for worship online, please share a sign of peace in the comments section of the live stream.

HYMN OF PRAISE

A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:

We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

GREETING

A: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Son of Man, you encouraged your followers to obey only your voice, and promised that they would see your glorious presence. Show us your glory and teach us to obey.

C: Amen.

+ WORD +

CHILDREN'S TIME WITH THE PASTOR

FIRST READING: Psalm 102:12-17

But you, O LORD, will sit on your throne forever.
Your fame will endure to every generation.

You will arise and have mercy on Jerusalem—
and now is the time to pity her,
now is the time you promised to help.

For your people love every stone in her walls
and cherish even the dust in her streets.

Then the nations will tremble before the LORD.
The kings of the earth will tremble before his glory.

For the LORD will rebuild Jerusalem.
He will appear in his glory.

He will listen to the prayers of the destitute.
He will not reject their pleas.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION *(please stand as you are able)*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra-cious and mer-ci-ful,
slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:1-8, 24-37

As Jesus was leaving the Temple that day, one of his disciples said, “Teacher, look at these magnificent buildings! Look at the impressive stones in the walls.” Jesus replied, “Yes, look at these great buildings. But they will be completely demolished. Not one stone will be left on top of another!”

Later, Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives across the valley from the Temple. Peter, James, John, and Andrew came to him privately and asked him, “Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will show us that these things are about to be fulfilled?”

Jesus replied, “Don’t let anyone mislead you, for many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah.’ They will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars, but don’t panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won’t follow immediately. Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in many parts of the world, as well as famines. But this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come.

“At that time, after the anguish of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will give no light, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then everyone will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds with great power and glory. And he will send out his angels to gather his chosen ones from all over the world—from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven.

“Now learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branches bud and its leaves begin to sprout, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see all these things taking place, you can know that his return is very near, right at the door. I tell you the truth, this generation will not pass from the scene before all these things take place. Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear.

“However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows. And since you don’t know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert!

“The coming of the Son of Man can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. When he left home, he gave each of his slaves instructions about the work they were to do, and he told the gatekeeper to watch for his return. You, too, must keep watch! For you don’t know when the master of the household will return—in the evening, at midnight, before dawn, or at daybreak. Don’t let him find you sleeping when he arrives without warning. I say to you what I say to everyone: Watch for him!”

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

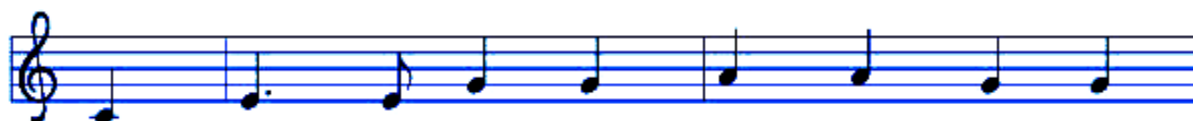
C: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE by Pastor Sara Gillespie

A brief silence follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY *(please stand as you are able)*

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

APOSTLES' CREED

A: Let us profess our faith together in the words of the 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 THE PEOPLE *(please be seated)*

We will sing the song responsively after each petition is offered.

Please sing a new verse each time the song is sung.

We offer prayers during this time of meditation and singing. As a way of practicing our faith, you are invited to offer ways in which you experience the seeking and granting of forgiveness during the prayers of the people.

*If you have prayers you would like to have offered up during this time, please place names and concerns on a prayer request card and hand it to a welcome team member. **If you are joining us for worship online please begin typing names in the comment section so we might pray continuously during worship.***

O God, We Call

The musical score for 'O God, We Call' is presented in three systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system covers the first line of the song, the second system covers the second line, and the third system covers the third line, ending with a double bar line. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature.

O God, we call, O God, we call, from
deep in - side we yearn, from deep in - side we yearn, from
deep in - side we yearn for you.

Text: Linnea Good, b. 1962

Music: O GOD, WE CALL, Linnea Good

Text and music © 1994 Borealis Music, linneagood.com

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LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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

MISSION MOMENT AND OFFERING

We give thanks for our continued offerings that invest in God's work in and through St Mark's. You may mail your offering to church (424 Hyde Park Ave Waukesha WI 53188); if you prefer to give digitally, follow this [link](#). If you'd like to text your contribution, please use this number: (262) 383-2338. We are very grateful for all your offerings and give thanks to God, the giver of all things.

OFFERTORY SONG



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

C: Amen.

+ MEAL +

DIALOG

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, our living Water and our merciful Guide,
 You led your people Israel through the desert,
 and provided them water from the rock.
 We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
 who joins us in our desert, pouring out his life for the world.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,
 we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.

COMMUNION

The table of Holy Communion is inclusive, all people are welcome to receive this free gift of God. You will be invited by welcome team members to come forward down the center aisle. Bread is distributed at the center, with gluten free options at request. Your choice of grape juice or wine is available to you as you move toward either direction to return to your seats. Baskets for your empty cups are in the aisles as you return to your seats. If you need to have communion brought to you, please let a welcome team member know and the pastor or the assisting minister will commune you in your seat.

Prayer Partners (wearing a red badge) are available for confidential prayer for yourself or others in the front and back of the sanctuary.

EUCCHARISTIC INVITATION

P: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

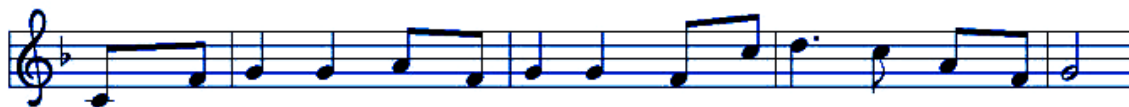
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

As the Deer Runs to the River



- 1 As the deer runs to the riv - er, parched and wea - ry from the chase,
- 2 When your Is - rael crossed the des - ert where no stream or spring was seen,
- 3 "Come and drink," I - sa - iah sum-moned, "all who for God's mer - cy plead!
- 4 Christ, we come from des - ert plac - es, deep - est thirst un - sat - is - fied.



we have come from hurt and hur - ry, thirst - ing for your heal - ing grace.
Mo - ses struck the rock, and wa - ter flowed for them, re - fresh - ing, clean.
God's for - give - ness, like a foun-tain, flows to sat - is - fy your need."
Lead us to the wa - ters flow - ing from the cross on which you died.



Je - sus, source of liv - ing wa - ter, may we drink of you and live!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: JULION, David Hurd, b. 1950

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TABLE BLESSING *(please stand as you are able)*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in God's grace and peace now and forever.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to
feed the world. In the name of Jesus, the Bread of life,

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed.

God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage,
and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN - please sing twice

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood. When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.'

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share your blessings.

C: Thanks be to God!

St Mark's Lutheran Church
424 Hyde Park Avenue
Waukesha, WI 53188
262-547-8213

Interim Pastor: Sara Gillespie (sara.gillespie06@gmail.com, (920-214-3132)

Pastor Sara's Sabbath Day is Monday.

Deacon: Marcia Marquardt (marcia1@wi.rr.com, 262-784-2062)

Deacon Marcia's Sabbath Day is Friday.

Music Director: Jennifer Manvilla

Assisting Minister: Brian Trautman

Sunday School is held on the 1st and 4th Sundays of the month from February through April, and 1st and 3rd Sundays in May. Children will be excused for the class after the "Children's Time with the Pastor" within worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Where to find information:

- Welcome2stmarks.com
- facebook.com/welcome2stmarks
- Youtube.com (Search St. Mark's Waukesha)
- Church email address is: welcome2stmarks@gmail.com
- Weekly email blast (if you don't receive these, contact Marcia at marcia1@wi.rr.com)
- Prayer Chain Requests to Lana DeCoto at lrdecoto@gmail.com.

Final MET Listening Session - TODAY AFTER WORSHIP in the fellowship hall

AND on Zoom: We will discuss what gifts for ministry we are seeking in a new pastor. Join us for some coffee, snacks and great conversation about the future of St. Mark's. If you are unable to attend the Listening Session you can communicate with the MET at their email address - metstmarks@gmail.com. We are looking forward to hearing your ideas about the future of St. Mark's. MET Members, Sara Gillespie, Brian Trautman - Chair, Karen Handford, Cathy Hernandez, Mary Johnson, Frank Remfrey, Kelly Colgrove, Lisa Salb. **The Zoom meeting number is 823 2326 4353 Contact Marcia for passcodes.**

Lent invites us to slow down for 40 days to reflect, turn to God, and pray. The season prepares us to observe and appreciate the gift of Jesus' death and resurrection for us. You are invited to these opportunities to draw near to God during this season:

- **Midweek Lenten Prayer Services on Wednesdays (February 21-March 20) at Noon** are in-person and on live stream on Facebook and YouTube. Our theme for these services will explore the meaning of the Lord's Prayer and help us experience peace through the pathway of prayer. Deacon Marcia and the "Still Waters Run Deep" discipleship huddle will lead these services.
- **A Special Lenten Offering for ELCA World Hunger. We have already received enough to buy 3 farms! THANK YOU!** More than 820 million people—that's about 11 percent of people in our world today—are hungry. An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops and offspring to sell at market.

We hope to gather \$715 to purchase a family farm (a cow, two pigs, a couple of goats, a dozen chicks, farming tools, seeds, and agricultural training) that creates a world of opportunity for a family living in poverty. Maybe we can contribute enough to purchase four or five or six farms! Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's Lutheran Church with "Lenten special offering" on the memo line. You can give online by using the button on the church's website home page. More than 85 percent of our contributions will directly support the program; less than 15 percent is used for administration and fundraising by ELCA World Hunger.

- **Something New! Daily Prayer Prompts.** Take 60 seconds a day to pray for someone else. We'll be praying for someone different each day. We'll provide a new prayer prompt each day on Facebook and in the email blast and bulletin announcements as we lift up others to God.

This Week Pray For Someone You Know Of Who:

- ❖ Sunday— has occupational stress (Matthew 11:28-30)
- ❖ Monday—is weary, discouraged, or needs hope (Jeremiah 29:11-13)
- ❖ Tuesday—prepares meal for others (Psalm 145:15-16, Matthew 25:37 & 40)
- ❖ Wednesday—has trouble with sleep (Psalm 4:8)
- ❖ Thursday—
- ❖ Friday—is a child or adult with special needs (Isaiah 41:10, 1 John 3:1)
- ❖ Saturday—is getting married (1 Corinthians 13:4, 7, & 13)

Looking for an evening Midweek Lenten Service? Christ the Servant Lutheran Church invites you to Midweek Lenten Services at 10 am and 6:00 pm which include a video series about Jesus called *The Chosen*. Christ the Servant is located at 2016 Center Road in Waukesha.

Communion Education for Children & Their Families: Join Pastor Sara to learn about the gift of Communion on Sunday, March 24 at 10:30-11:15am in the sanctuary. This class is appropriate for children who have never taken Communion, but are interested AND as a refresher class for children who take Communion now. Children should be accompanied by their adults.

Easter Continental Breakfast: You are invited to an Easter Continental Breakfast on Sunday, March 31 at 8:30-9:15am (before the 9:30am service) in the fellowship hall. Enjoy a light breakfast and fellowship with others! A sign-up sheet for breakfast food contributions will be available at the Welcome Center in the church lobby. There will be no Coffee Hour after service on Easter.

Zoom Meeting Numbers: Faith Formation Gatherings Zoom: 817 7030 6574,
Church Meetings Zoom: 823 2326 4353 Contact Marcia for passcodes.

THIS WEEK AT ST MARK'S

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

- Sunday Worship at 9:30am on YouTube and Facebook Live and in the sanctuary.
- MET Listening Session at 10:45am in fellowship hall AND on Zoom 823 2326 4353 Contact Marcia for passcode.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

- Quilting at 8:30am in fellowship hall

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

- Staff meeting at 10:00am
- Stewardship team meeting at 11:00am on Zoom 823 2326 4353 Contact Marcia for passcode
- Still Waters Run Deep discipleship huddle at 1:00pm in lounge

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

- Midweek Lenten Prayer Service at Noon on YouTube and Facebook Live and in the sanctuary
- Dave Groenewold sharing devotion
- Ruth Circle at 1:00pm in fellowship hall
- Zoom Bible Study at 3:45pm on Zoom 817 7030 6574 Contact Marcia for passcode.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

- Hybrid Bible Study at 10:00am in fellowship hall AND on Zoom 817 7030 6574 Contact Marcia for passcode.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

- Dwell in the Word small group at 1:00pm in fellowship hall

SUNDAY, MARCH 24

- Palm Sunday Worship at 9:30am on YouTube and Facebook Live and in the sanctuary
- Pastor Sara Gillespie preaching
- Sunday School
- Communion Education for Children & Their Families at 10:30am in sanctuary

Name: _____ Date: _____

Jesus Loves You

V C K H L E J O S H E N I H S D N A E S I R A A
G S V K P C G T H D S T P V R P L E C G D U G R
K M Q I X E M L O U Y W M K Q Z X Z W Y I S E O
Y B Z N Q H G L O T J H E A G T Y W T C M O A H
J D W D X D K K D D Q P H N W E O J R C C E L S
P Y R N H E W P K Z V I L N D Z G J E S U S P X
M C S E R P N Y D C H O F G S O D R T C L S L L
S Z W S N F G A T V K K N Y P H O U A H P H V T
Z E C S L A V I V E R R A A B G N G E C G I A N
S R Q B A Z M C M O F E T D Y Z U B W D E A X S
S D N W G Y C Y O J S M J H N Z M F H H B I Z R
B K Y C R E M J L Z H U N F A I L I N G G O D M
J T W A M J J W D A Q O K G F J K K F U S N Y D
R R S W N B Q N K N X C H R I S T L F T Z R U T
L Y W B H V O L Z J B V G F U L O H A O P W N I
G D N N N R O I M F U U K T J W Y P U S Y Q O F
R E U S W I E M R T E Q U F I Q H V R U S S J A
Q T M X S S O R C C T I W P V H I V L E H D Z I
Y J J F Z Q U E H E J F F H L Y P W Y F R J A K
U M E K I F B U L T C L T D H Y D W G M R C O A
Q A F V B P Y E H S B C U E Y T F P A C P Z D Q
I C L O O X L I E P O H M U K L P Z S X K B X T
P B U M V L J H A X K B A B U N D A N C E U U W
S I W B E B X S Y C B X C R Z L C F F Y J W F T

Arise and Shine
Joy
Revival
Unfailing God
Grace

Kindness
Good News
Christ
Abundance
Jesus

Mercy
Hope
Cross
Love