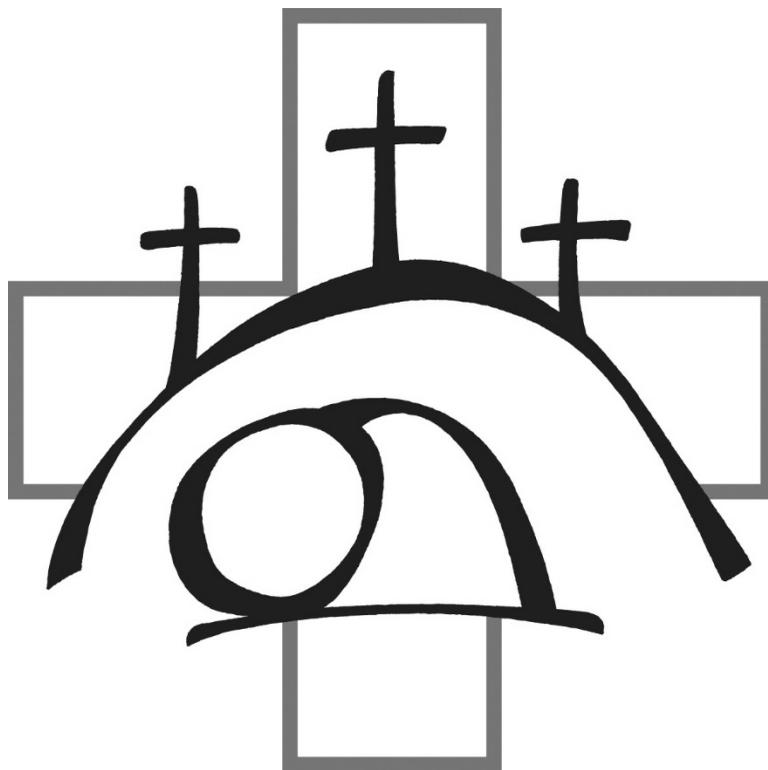


CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

January 10, 2021



**GLORIFY HIM ...
GROW IN HIM ...
GO WITH HIS GOSPEL**

1st Sunday after the Epiphany of our Lord

January 10, 2021

A place to call home: St. Mark's Lutheran Church & School

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, welcome home. We especially welcome to our house of worship our guests who have joined us today. We pray you will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness to us through Jesus.

We say with the Psalmist, whether here on campus or viewing online, *"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'"* (Psalm 122:1).

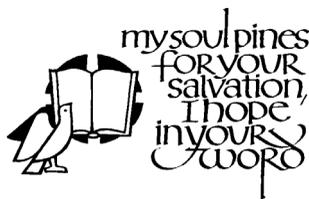
May the Lord continue to help us grow in His grace and knowledge as we hear, speak, and sing His holy Word.

Some items to keep in mind as we gather for worship in this place:

We do have LARGE PRINT copies of the Bulletin; you will find them on the table with the Bulletins;

Personal hearing assistance devices are available on the entryway wall near the west entrance. The sanctuary is also 'looped' for those who have hearing aids that can pick up the signal.

Holy Communion is offered on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays. We ask that only WELS & ELS members partake of the Sacrament. Our Pastors are willing to speak to why this is the case, please contact one of them.



Explore our website. You will find information on Worship, Bible Study, Devotions, Children's Sunday School, and More.

Follow us to stay connected: Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/stmarksch; follow us on Instagram: Instagram.com/stmarkslutheran; Subscribe to our videos on Vimeo: vimeo.com/channels/stmarksch.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Worship Focus: How has the Gospel changed your life? Can you remember a time you have been without the Gospel? Do we get complacent with the Gospel, its message no longer exhilarates us? We may lose our love for the Gospel, but the problem is not with the Gospel. Keep fueling up with the Gospel, and help others get fueled up on it too. Let us worship the Lord!

PRELUDE

Serenade
Joseph Haydn

OPENING HYMN

Short introduction by the accompanist

Peace Came to Earth

Christian Worship Supplement # 707

**Peace came to earth at last that chosen night
When angels clove the sky with song and light
And God embodied love and sheathed his might—
Who could but gasp: Immanuel! Who could but sing: Immanuel!**

**And who could be the same for having held
The infant in their arms and later felt
The wounded hands and side, all doubts dispelled—
Who could but sigh: Immanuel! Who could but shout: Immanuel!**

**You show the Father none has ever seen,
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain,
In bread and wine you visit us again—
Who could but see: Immanuel! Who could but thrill: Immanuel!**

**How else could I have known you, O my God!
How else could I have loved you, O my God!
How else could I embrace you, O my God!
Who could but pray: Immanuel! Who could but praise: Immanuel!**

INVOCATION

Minister: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: Amen. Let all within me praise the Lord.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: Amen.**
- M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

HYMN

Short introduction by the accompanist

When Peace Like a River
Christian Worship Supplement # 760

**When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

Refrain

*It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

**My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain***

**And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul. *Refrain***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children and make us heirs with him of everlasting life;

C: **through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 49:1-6

It was clear in the Old Testament times that Jesus would be the Savior for all people.

Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the Lord called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name. ²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver. ³He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor." ⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the Lord's hand, and my reward is with my God." ⁵And now the Lord says—he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the Lord and my God has been my strength—⁶he says: "It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

HYMN

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Short introduction by the accompanist

Christian Worship # 353

**Praise the one who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the one who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms and feeding thousands With the Father's word of peace.**

**Let us praise the Word incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the one who makes us one.**

SECOND LESSON

Acts 16:25-34

In the midst of a trying situation came an opportunity to witness. The Gospel changes people ... in a good way.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. ²⁷ The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household." ³² Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. ³³ At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. ³⁴ The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

RESPONSIVE SENTENCES ... Psalm 119 and James 1

M: Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end.

C: Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart.

M: Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.

C: Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain.

M: Turn my eyes away from worthless things;

C: Preserve my life according to your word.

M: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for human anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

C: Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

Our Worship centers on the Gospel Reading for the day.

GOSPEL

Mark 1:4-11

Jesus has 'appeared among us.' He is clearly identified as the One appointed to be the Messiah.

And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

⁷ And this was his message: "After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize

you with the Holy Spirit.”⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Short introduction by the accompanist

To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord

Christian Worship # 89

**To Jordan’s river came our Lord, The Christ, whom heav’nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light, The Lord of glory, pow’r, and might.**

(women) **The Savior came to be baptized—The Son of God in flesh disguised—
To stand beneath the Father’s will And all his promises fulfill.**

**As Jesus in the Jordan stood And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav’nly dove, Descended on him from above.**

**Then from God’s throne with thund’rous sound Came God’s own voice with words
profound: “This is my Son,” was his decree, “The one I love, who pleases me.”**

(men) **The Father’s word, the Spirit’s flight Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God’s own choice, from Adam’s fall To save the world and free us all.**

**Now rise, faint hearts: be resolute! This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan’s stream, Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.**

SERMON

Based on Acts 16:25-34

“Believe And Be Saved”

APOSTLES’ CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

OUR THANK OFFERING

Thank you for continuing to support our ministry. Your thank offering can be received in the following ways: placed in the basket on the table, mail your thank offering to the church, or give online through our website under the “Resources” tab. The QR Code to the giving link is at the end of the bulletin.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M:** Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.
- C:** **We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**
- M:** You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.
- C:** **We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**
- M:** Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.
- C:** **Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**
- M:** Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful

vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HYMN

Short introduction by the accompanist

All Christians Who Have Been Baptized

Christian Worship Supplement # 736

**All Christians who have been baptized, Who know the God of heaven,
And in whose daily life is prized The name of Christ once given:
Consider now what God has done, The gifts he gives to ev'ryone
Baptized into Christ Jesus!**

**You were before your day of birth, Indeed, from your conception,
Condemned and lost with all the earth, None good, without exception.
For like your parents' flesh and blood, Turned inward from the highest good,
You constantly denied him.**

**But all of that was washed away— Immersed and drowned forever.
The water of your baptism day Restored again whatever
Old Adam and his sin destroyed And all our sinful selves employed
According to our nature.**

**In Baptism we now put on Christ— Our shame is fully covered
With all that he once sacrificed And freely for us suffered.
For here the flood of his own blood Now makes us holy, right, and good
Before our heav'nly Father.**

**O Christian, firmly hold this gift And give God thanks forever!
It gives the power to uplift In all that you endeavor.
When nothing else revives your soul, Your baptism stands and makes you whole
And then in death completes you.**

**So use it well! You are made new— In Christ a new creation!
As faithful Christians live and do Within your own vocation,
Until that day when you possess His glorious robe of righteousness
Bestowed on you forever!**

PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen. Be still my soul.**

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN

Short introduction by the accompanist

How Firm a Foundation

Christian Worship Supplement # 768

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace all-sufficient shall be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.**

**“Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love,
And then, when gray hair shall their temples adorn,
Like lambs they shall still on my shoulders be borne.”**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

With the Saints in Glory Shining

Edward Broughton

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For Reflection based on Today’s Scripture Readings ...

In what ways was Jesus going to be a ‘light’ for the world? In what ways can you be a ‘light’ reflecting the light of Jesus? See Matthew 5.

What price was Paul willing to pay as an ambassador for Jesus? How about you? Where did Paul direct this man and his family? See Titus 3:1-11

What was special about John the Baptist? How would Jesus receive a vote of confidence? Note: Jesus came out of the water and onto the shore, not from under the water ... Implication of this is what? See John 7:25-44.

TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jon Kolander

Musical Accompanist: Marty Puckett

Violin/Cello: Vince Beiderbecke

Percussion: Don Black

Altar Flowers: Flowers beautifying the altar have been placed by David and Cheryl Skultety in celebration of their wedding anniversary. Happy Anniversary!

Children's Sunday School—Study at Home Sunday School

Samson's Strength: Judges 13-15

Here's the online link if you need: <https://online.npb.net/ss-at-home>

Adult & Teen Bible Studies

- **How to Interpret & Study the Bible:** 9:15-9:50 am (online only)
- **Teen Class:** via Zoom at 7:00 pm.

To connect to the auto giving option:



To online Connect Card:

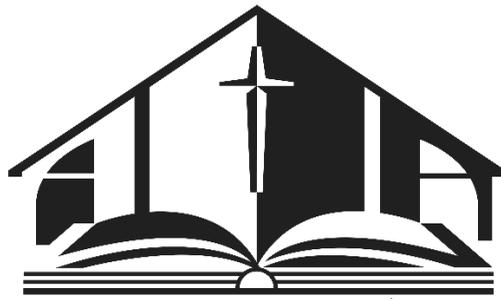


THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Weekly Calendar

Today	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Streamed)
	9:15 a.m.	Bible Study (Online)
	10:30 a.m.	Outdoor Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	JOL Women's Bible Study
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Confirmation Meeting (Non-SMLS)
Next Sunday		Holy Communion
	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Streamed)
	9:15 a.m.	Bible Study (Online)
	10:30 a.m.	Outdoor Worship Service
	5:00 p.m.	20's/30's Bible Study

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
Toby Beine	<i>Jan 10</i>	
Katelynn Hopping		
Steve Loe	<i>Jan 11</i>	
Cherish Allan	<i>Jan 11</i>	
William Sedykh		
Jaylynn Brown	<i>Jan 14</i>	Phil & Toni Wright
Marty Puckett		
Heather Groth	<i>Jan 15</i>	
Alexis Victoria		



St. Mark's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Founded on the Word. Focused on the Cross.

7869 Kingswood Drive
Citrus Heights, California 95610

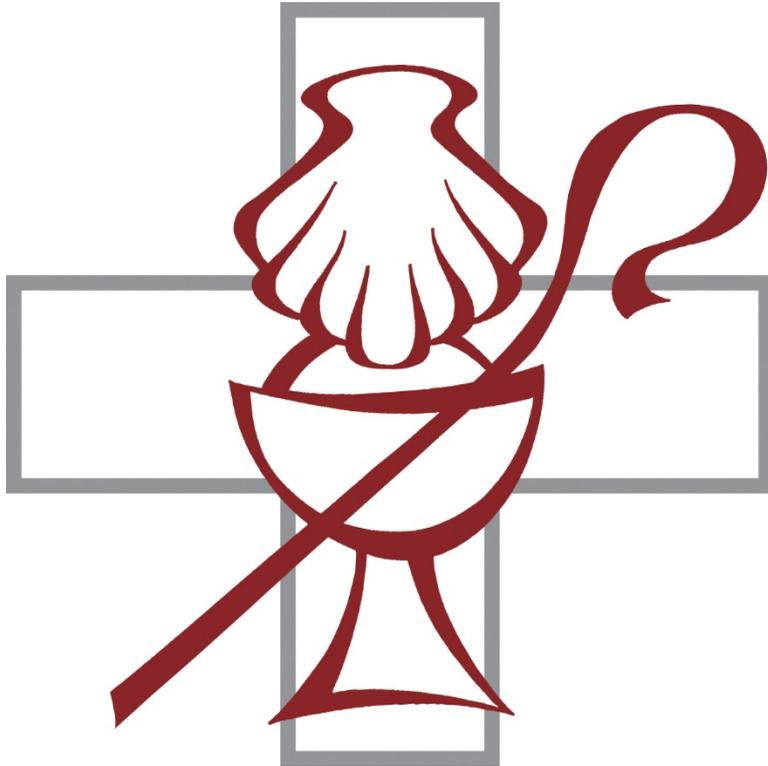
Phone: (916) 961-7891 Fax: (916) 961-5034

Website: www.StMarksLutheran.com
St. Mark's Guest Wi-Fi Password: stmarks7869

Sunday Services at 8:00 am (Live streamed) & 10:30 a.m. (outdoor)
Children's Sunday School Study from Home
Sunday Bible Discussion 9:15-9:50 (online)
Monday Evening Service on hold until further notice
Wednesday School Chapel Service at 8:30 a.m.

Jonathan Kolander	Pastor
Brock Groth	Pastor
Darren Vogt	Principal, Grades 6-8
Hannah Stegman	Grades 3-5
Rosemarie Boushek	Grades 1-2
Judy Thrans	Kindergarten
Greg Thiesfeldt	Associate Teacher, Grades 3-8
Lisa Thiesfeldt	Associate Teacher, Grades 3-8
Ruth Vogt	Art
Dena Oswald	Ext. School Day Care

Glorify God • Grow in Grace • Go with the Gospel



Go and make disciples ... baptizing ... teaching