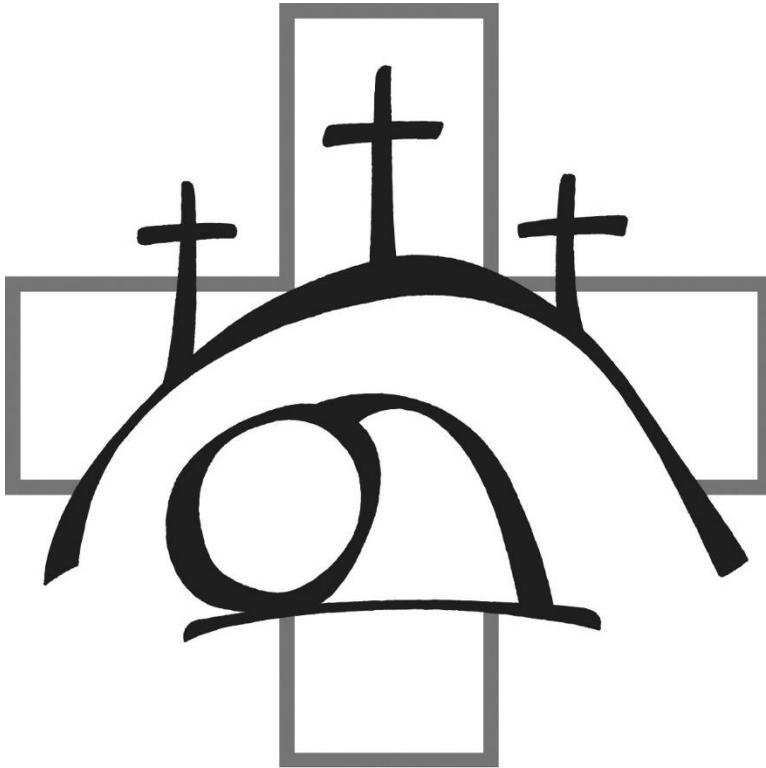


# CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

April 25, 2021



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

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – The Good Shepherd

April 25, 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).

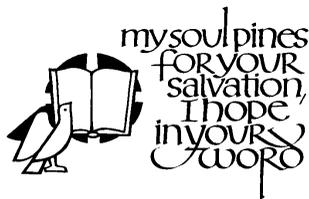
May the Lord continue to help us grow in His grace and knowledge as we hear, speak, and sing His holy Word.

## **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 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> 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](https://facebook.com/stmarksch); Follow us on Instagram: [Instagram.com/stmarkslutheran](https://Instagram.com/stmarkslutheran); Subscribe to our videos on Vimeo: [vimeo.com/channels/stmarksch](https://vimeo.com/channels/stmarksch).

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Worship Focus:** What comes to mind with the word ‘sheep’? Would this animal be a fitting description of yourself? Why or why not? The Bible refers to us as sheep; we will talk about why in this Service. It also talks shepherds, and one particular Shepherd is to be our focus not just today but every day; again, we will see why this is to be the case as we get into our worship. God help us hear, and follow, the voice of the true Shepherd – He does exist. Enjoy your worship of the Lamb!

## PRELUDE

## The King of Love My Shepherd Is

*Arr. Katie Stevens*

## RESPONSIVE SENTENCES ... Psalm 100

Minister: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**Congregation: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

M: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his;

**C: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

M: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

**C: give thanks to him and praise his name.**

M: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;

**C: his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

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: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**C: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

## OPENING HYMN

*Musical Introduction*

## Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia

*Christian Worship # 150*

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!  
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!  
See the place where he was laid; Alleluia!  
Praise him for the ransom paid. Alleluia!**

**For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!  
Sinless in the sinners' stead. Alleluia!**

**“Christ is ris’n,” today we cry; Alleluia!  
Now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!**

**Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!  
God and sinners reconciled. Alleluia!  
While, in strange and awful strife, Alleluia!  
Met together death and life. Alleluia!**

**Christ, who once for sinners bled, Alleluia!  
Now the firstborn from the dead, Alleluia!  
Throned in endless might and pow’r, Alleluia!  
Lives and reigns forevermore. Alleluia!**

M: We worship this day in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: How is it that we can be in the presence of God in this place of worship and elsewhere?

**C: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4)**

M: This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.

**C: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.**

P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**C: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.**

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**All: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

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

M: Further words of comfort from our Lord to help with our focus through this life, from Psalm 23. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures,

**C: he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.**

M: He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

**C: your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

M: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life.

**C: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

M: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

**C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

M: We pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore;

**C: for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **HYMN**

*Musical Introduction*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks**

*Christian Worship # 154*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth;**

**He is the King of creation.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.**

*Praise the LORD, O my soul; and forget not all His benefits (Ps 103)*

## **A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE**

**Acts 20:28-32**

*Jesus has paid for us with His blood. Let us be alert for those trying to tear us from Jesus.*

<sup>28</sup> Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. <sup>30</sup> Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. <sup>31</sup> So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears. <sup>32</sup> “Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

## **HYMN**

*Musical Introduction*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks**

*Christian Worship # 154*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.**

**Spread the good news o’er all the earth:**

**Jesus has died and has risen.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name ...**

**We have been crucified with Christ;**

**Now we shall live forever.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.**

## **A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE**

**1 Peter 5:1-4**

*Jesus is to be the focus for both shepherds and sheep.*

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ’s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: <sup>2</sup> Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; <sup>3</sup> not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. <sup>4</sup> And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

*Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name;  
make known among the nations what he has done. (Ps 105)*

## HYMN

*Musical Introduction*

## Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks

*Christian Worship # 154*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.  
God has proclaimed his gracious gift:  
Life eternal for all who believe.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name ...**

**Come, let us praise the living God;  
Joyfully sing to our Savior.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, give praise to his name.**

*Our Worship centers on the Gospel Reading for the day.*

## A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

**John 10:11-18**

*Jesus is the Good Shepherd who has laid down His own life for us sheep.*

<sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup>The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Musical Introduction*

## The King of Love My Shephard Is

*Christian Worship # 375*

**The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness fails me never;  
I nothing lack if I am his, And he is mine forever.**

*(duet) Where streams of living water flow, My Savior gently leads me;  
And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feeds me.*

**Confused and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid And home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill With you, dear Lord, beside me;  
Your rod and staff my comfort still, Your cross before to guide me.**

*(duet) You spread a table in my sight, A banquet here bestowing;  
Your oil of welcome, my delight; My cup is overflowing!*

**And so through all the length of days Your goodness fails me never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever!**

## **FOCUS ON THE SCRIPTURES**

**Based on John 10:11-18**

**“Jesus Knows Who You Are”**

## **A CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE 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: O Lord God, our strength, our song, and our salvation, you fulfilled your promises by the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, from the dead.

**C: Thanks be to God! You give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

M: In your compassion you sent Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down his life to rescue the lost.

**C: Drive out all doubt and gloom that we may delight in your glorious triumph.**

M: Lift our eyes heavenward to see him who lives to make intercession for the saints, and grant us confidence in the greatness of his power. Keep before us the vision of your redeemed people standing before your throne and singing the song of victory:

**C: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive wisdom and power and honor and glory and praise.**

M: Make us instruments of your peace as we bring the good news of hope and new life to those around us. Guide us in the use of all that you have entrusted to us: our time, our talents, and our treasures.

**C: Risen Lord, live in us that we may live for you.**

M: Merciful Lord Jesus, grant healing to the sick, and strengthen the faith of the suffering and the dying. Assure them of your abiding presence, and comfort them with the hope of eternal life.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

M: Gracious Father, you have restored to us the joy of your salvation. With happy hearts, we come before you and say:

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

## 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

*Musical Introduction*

## **You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shephard**

*Christian Worship Supplement # 746*

*(duet) You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.*

*You, Lord, are both prince and slave.*

*You, peacemaker and swordbringer*

*Of the way you took and gave.*

*You, the everlasting instant;*

*You, whom we both scorn and crave.*

*(duet) Clothed in light upon the mountain,*

*Stripped of might upon the cross.*

*Shining in eternal glory,*

*Beggared by a soldier's toss.*

*You, the everlasting instant;*

*You, who are both gift and cost.*

**(all) You, who walk each day beside us,**

**Sit in power at God's side.**

**You, who preach a way that's narrow,**

**Have a love that reaches wide.**

**You, the everlasting instant;**

**You, who are our pilgrim guide.**

*(duet) Worthy is our earthly Jesus!*

*Worthy is our cosmic Christ!*

*Worthy your defeat and vict'ry!*

*Worthy still your peace and strife!*

*You, the everlasting instant;*

*You, who are our death and life.*

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy

Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

M: 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**

*Musical Introduction*

## **From All that Dwell below the Skies**

*Christian Worship # 250*

**From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let the Redeemer's name be sung Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Eternal are your mercies, Lord; Eternal is your glorious Word.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Your praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and set no more.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **From All That Dwell Below the Skies**

*Thomas Gieschen*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **For Reflection based on Today's Scripture Readings ...**

What is meant by the words 'keep watch'? Why is this important to do not just for pastors but also for all Christians? Why is this especially important for pastors to heed? What is implied with the word 'shepherd'? Note whose we are, and how this has been made possible. What does God want to see happen inside each one of us? How can this take place? What responsibility do you have when it comes to others? See 1 John 4.

'Elders' in this context is another term for 'pastors' (overseers). What is to be motivation for a pastor to carry out his God-given role? With what kind of attitude is a pastor to carry out his calling? Is there fear or comfort with Jesus beign referred to as the 'Chief Shepherd'? See 1 Timothy 3.

What separates Jesus from 'earthly' shepherds (pastors)? How can Jesus call Himself the Good Shepherd, isn't that arrogance on His part? How can we be assured of God the Father's love? How will these words help you in the week ahead? See Psalm 23.

# TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

## Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jonathan Kolander

Musical Accompanist: Rosemarie Boushek

Vocalists: Jenny Kolander, Hannah Ripley

## Children's Sunday School—Study at Home Sunday School

*The Parable of the Rich Man and Poor Lazarus: Luke 16:19-31*

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

## Adult & Teen Bible Studies

- **Biblical principles related to managing our God-given resources:** 9:30-10:15 am (in person & online)
- **Teen Class:** via Zoom at 7:00 pm.

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- **Order of Service:** "The common Service" from *Christian Worship*, Texts revised from *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941. Music from *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941, revised by James Engel.
- **Scripture Quotations:** From the *Holy Bible, New International Version* (NIV 2011), copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984; 2011 by Biblica, Inc.

*To connect to the auto giving option:*



*To online Connect Card:*

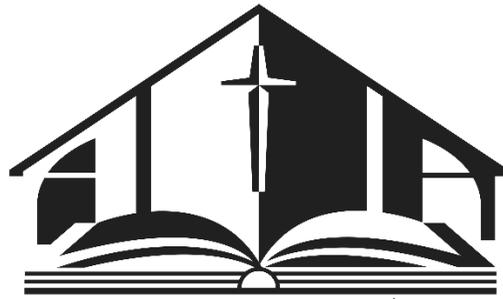


# THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

## Weekly Calendar

Today	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service (Outdoor)
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Teen Bible Study
	8:20 a.m.	School Chapel Service
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Joy of Living Women's Bible Study
Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Food Truck Friday
Next Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Confirmation and Exam Prep
		Communion
		Mission Box Offering
	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service (Confirmation – SMLS)
	2:00 p.m.	Jesus Cares Worship
7:00 p.m.	Teen Bible Study	

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
Jacob Rausch	<i>Apr 28</i>	
Judy Bace	<i>Apr 29</i>	
David Skultety		



# 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](http://www.StMarksLutheran.com)  
St. Mark's Guest Wi-Fi Password: stmarks7869

Sunday Services at 8:00 am (Indoor & Live streamed) & 10:45 a.m. (Indoor\*)

\*(4<sup>th</sup> Sundays – Outdoor, Sept-May)

Children's Sunday School Study from Home

Sunday Bible Discussion 9:30-10:15 (Indoor & Live streamed)

Monday Evening Service at 7:00 PM starts up again on May 3

Wednesday School Chapel Service at 8:20 a.m.

Jonathan Kolander	Pastor
Brock Groth	Pastor
Darren Vogt	Principal, Grades 6-8
Hannah Ripley	Grades 3-5
Rosemarie Boushek	Grades 1-2
Judy Thrans	Jr.K/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**