



# Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

8:00 a.m.

## Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church & School

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Mark's. We especially welcome 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.

### ❖ ASSISTANCE FOR YOUNG FAMILIES:

- A **nursery** is located in the back of the church lobby.
- A **privacy room**, especially reserved for nursing mothers, is located on the east side of the church entryway.

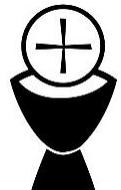


### ❖ HEARING AND READING ASSISTANCE:

- **Personal hearing assistance devices** are available on the entryway wall near the sanctuary's west entrance door. The sanctuary is also *looped* for those who have hearing aids that can pick up the signal.
- We also have **large print service booklets** that you can pick up on the shelf under the Information Center bulletin board in the church lobby



- ❖ **PARTICIPATION IN THE LORD'S SUPPER:** St. Mark's celebrates the Lord's Supper on the first, third, and fifth Sundays of the month. The Bible teaches us that the Lord's Supper is a statement of God's grace and forgiveness to us, *and* a statement of our "oneness" or complete unity of faith with one another (1 Corinthians 10:16-17). *For this reason, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have previously expressed their oneness with us through membership at St. Mark's or membership in another congregation in our church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).* If you haven't had the opportunity to fully learn what we believe and teach at St. Mark's but you would like to join us for the Lord's Supper in the future, please speak to the pastor after today's service or at another time. He would be happy to meet with you and to work toward a common confession of faith with you so that you can join us for the Lord's Supper in the near future.



# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Worship Focus:** If Jesus is indeed risen (and he is!), then that means big things not just for our future but for our present as well. When God calls us to faith in Jesus, we're connected to him like a branch to a vine, and when you're connected to a powerfully-risen Savior that means your heart is powerfully risen to live a new life of love. This week and next we'll celebrate that new fruit-filled life of love and the connection that makes it possible. He is risen! And so are we.

## PRELUDE

### **O Worship the King**

*Arr: Phillip Keveren*

## OPENING HYMN

### **The Love of Christ, Who Died for Me**

*Christian Worship Supplement #749*

1. **The love of Christ, who died for me Is more than mind can know,  
His mercy measureless and free To meet the debt I owe.  
He came my sinful cause to plead, He laid his glories by,  
For me a homeless life to lead, A shameful death to die.**
2. **My sins I only see in part, My self-regarding ways;  
The secret places of my heart Lie bare before his gaze.  
For me the price of sin he paid; My sins beyond recall  
Are all alike on Jesus laid, he died to bear them all.**
3. **O living Lord of life, for whom The heavens held their breath,  
To see, triumphant from the tomb, A love that conquers death,  
Possess my heart that it may be Your kingdom without end,  
O Christ who died for love of me And lives to be my friend.**

*PLEASE STAND*

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

**Congregation:** And also with you.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C: 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.**

## ABSOLUTION

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.**

## LORD, HAVE MERCY

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

**C: Amen.**

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise...

# O LORD, OUR LORD *(no musical introduction)*



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



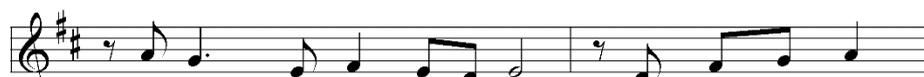
you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,



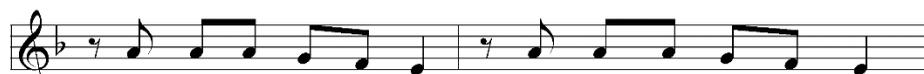
but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.



O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,



you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;

*continued...*

you washed us from our sins in your own blood.      You are the

King of glo - ry;      you are the Lord!      O Lord, our Lord,

how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

*BE SEATED*

**THE WORD**

**FIRST LESSON**

**Acts 16:11-15**

*Lydia is connected to Christ through baptism, and her faith produces the fruit of service.*

<sup>11</sup> From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. <sup>12</sup> From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.

<sup>13</sup> On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.

<sup>14</sup> One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message. <sup>15</sup> When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. “If you consider me a believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my house.” And she persuaded us.

## HYMN

## We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

*Christian Worship Supplement #756*

1. **We walk by faith and not by sight; No gracious words we hear  
From him who spoke as none e'er spoke, But we believe him near.**
2. **We may not touch his hands and side Nor follow where he trod,  
But in his promise we rejoice And cry, "My Lord and God!"**
3. **Help then, O Lord, our unbelief, And may our faith abound  
To call on you when you are near And seek where you are found.**
4. **For you, O resurrected Lord, Are found in means divine:  
Beneath the water and the Word, Beneath the bread and wine.**
5. **Lord, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light,  
We may behold you as you are With full and endless sight.**

## SECOND LESSON

**1 John 3:18-24**

*Christ lives, and he lives in us. And if so, we do what God commands: believe and love.*

<sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

<sup>19</sup> This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup> If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. <sup>24</sup> The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

*PLEASE STAND*

## GOSPEL

**John 15:1-8**

*Being connected to our risen Lord, the vine, means we bear fruit.*

<sup>1</sup> "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. <sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. <sup>3</sup> You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

*continued...*

<sup>5</sup>“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

*BE SEATED*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Your Kingdom, O God**  
*Christian Worship Supplement #755*

- 1. Your kingdom, O God, is my glorious treasure,  
My pearl of incomparable worth.  
Its value exceeds every standard of measure,  
Surpassing the wealth of the earth.  
Lord, give me your grace and the power of the Spirit  
To value this treasure aright  
That, never allured by the world, I inherit  
Your kingdom of glory and light.**
- 2. Your kingdom, O God, is alive with the power  
Your Word and your Spirit bestow.  
Like yeast, they affect the whole measure of flour,  
Enabling your kingdom to grow.  
Empower me, Lord, as I live your commission,  
Though humble my service may be,  
And bring every planting to perfect fruition,  
A mustard seed grown to a tree.**
- 3. Your kingdom, O God, is a field for the growing  
Of seeds that your mercy has sown,  
But still in our midst is the enemy sowing  
The weeds that imperil your own.  
Sustain me, O Lord, till your day of returning  
And harvest me homeward at last,  
To shine in the homeland that quiets all yearning,  
Where sorrow and danger are past.**

## SERMON

Based on 1 John 3:18-24

### How Do We Persuade Our Hearts? Remember...

*PLEASE STAND after the sermon*

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

## 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

*(The presiding minister will speak the Prayer of the Church.)*

### 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.**

*PLEASE STAND*

## THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *(no musical introduction)*



C: **Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.**



**The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.**


  
 You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.


  
 I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -


  
 va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.


  
 The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my  $\text{✠}$  blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**



**O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD** *(no musical introduction)*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

**BE SEATED**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT**

*The ushers will direct communicants in a continuous flow distribution of the sacrament. Communicants will exit the pews to the outside and return to their seats via the center aisle. When approaching each table, communicants may pause as they take and eat or drink. Please follow the direction of the ushers.*



## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

**Take and Eat**  
*Christian Worship Supplement #741*

*Refrain:*

**Take and eat, take and eat, this is my body given up for you.  
Take and drink, take and drink, this is my blood given up for you.**

1. **I am the Word that spoke and light was made; I am the seed that died to be reborn;  
I am the bread that comes from heav'n above; I am the vine that fills your cup with  
joy.**

*Refrain*

2. **I am the way that leads the exile home; I am the truth that sets the captive free;  
I am the life that raises up the dead; I am your peace, true peace my gift to you.**

*Refrain*

3. **I am the Lamb that takes away your sin; I am the gate that guards you night and day.  
You are my flock: you know the Shepherd's voice; You are my own: your ransom is  
my blood.**

*Refrain*

4. **I am the cornerstone that God has laid, A chosen stone and precious in his eyes.  
You are God's dwelling place; on me you rest Like living stones, a temple for God's  
praise.**

*Refrain*

5. **I am the Light that came into the world; I am the Light that darkness cannot hide;  
I am the Morning Star that never sets. Lift up your face; in you my light will shine.**

*Refrain*

6. **I am the First and Last, the living One; I am the Lord who died that you might live;  
I am the Bridegroom, this my wedding song. You are my bride; come to the marriage  
feast.**

*Refrain*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(as needed)

## Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

Christian Worship #452

1. **Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow his example pure,  
Flee the world which would deceive us And to sin our souls allure.  
Ever in his footsteps treading, Body here, yet soul above,  
Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.  
Faithful Lord, abide with me. Savior, lead; I follow thee.**
2. **Let us suffer here with Jesus, To his image e'er conform;  
Heaven's glory soon will please us, Sunshine follow on the storm.  
Though we sow in tears of sorrow, We shall reap in heav'nly joy,  
And the fears that now annoy Shall be laughter on the morrow.  
Christ, I suffer here with thee; There, oh, share thy joy with me.**
3. **Let us also die with Jesus. His death from the second death,  
From our soul's destruction, frees us, Quickens us with life's glad breath.  
Let us mortify, while living, Flesh and blood and die to sin,  
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here I die to thee, There to live eternally.**
4. **Let us gladly live with Jesus; Since he's risen from the dead,  
Death and grave must soon release us. Jesus, thou art now our head.  
We are truly thine own members; Where thou livest, there live we.  
Take and own us constantly, Faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.  
Jesus, here I live to thee, Also there eternally.**

## COMMUNION BLESSING



PLEASE STAND

## THANK THE LORD *(musical introduction)*



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## 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.

BE SEATED

## CLOSING HYMN

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing

*Christian Worship #332*

1. **Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing—You are my own.**
2. **Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.**
3. **Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.**
4. **I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POSTLUDE

## An Exultant Alleluiah

*Lani Smith*

*Content requiring a copyright license is reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-711071. All rights reserved.*

**Scripture Quotations:** From the *Holy Bible, New International Version* (NIV 2011), copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.

# TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

## Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Brock Groth

Accompanist: Marty Puckett

Violin/Cello: Vince Beiderbecke

Percussion: Don Black

Altar Flowers: Flowers beautifying the altar have been placed by the parents of the 2021 St. Mark's confirmands.

## 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.

*To connect to the auto giving option:*



*To online Connect Card:*



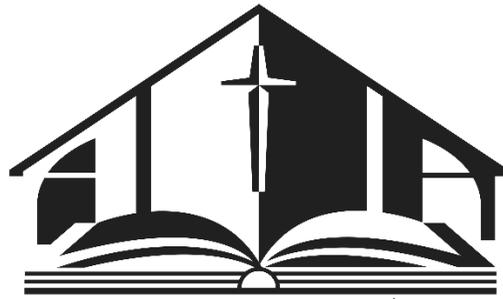
# THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

## Weekly Calendar

Today		Communion Mission Box Offering
	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service (Exam & Confirmation)
	7:00 p.m.	Teen Bible Study
Monday	5:30 p.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Worship Service
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Buildings & Grounds Meeting
Wednesday	8:20 a.m.	School Chapel Service
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Joy of Living Women's Bible Study
	4:30 p.m.	Board of Stewardship Meeting
Next Sunday		*****Mother's Day*****
	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Class
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
Ari Egle	<i>May 3</i>	
Matthew Lervold		
	<i>May 4</i>	Joshua & Cierra Castagnola
Kathy Edwards	<i>May 6</i>	
Taylor Kluenker	<i>May 7</i>	
Marilyn Zalunardo	<i>May 8</i>	

If you remain in me  
and I in you  
you will bear much fruit



# 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 on hold until further notice

Wednesday School Chapel Service at 8:20 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	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**