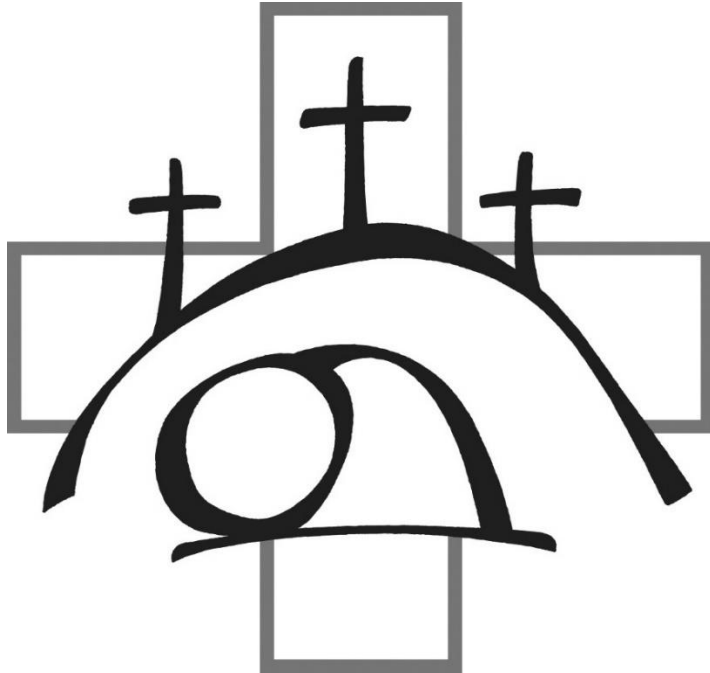


CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Worship Bulletin for March 17, 2024



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

We are St. Mark's Church & School

A WELS†NorCal Ministry ... Other Locations

Foundation – Folsom, Hope – Penryn, Christ – Lodi, St. John – Vacaville

WELS (Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod) is a National Church Body with locations throughout the United States and with partnerships in over 40 Countries

5th Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

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:

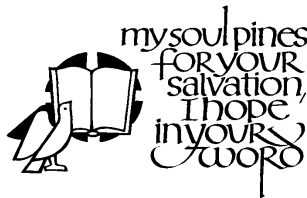
Members & our Guests ... Please pick up and fill out a **Connection Card** which can be found in the Entryway; before you leave place it in the box on the wall or in the basket labeled "Filled out Connection Cards." Thank you!

We do have **LARGE PRINT** copies of the Service; they can be found at the entrance to the Sanctuary.

*Hymns from 'Christian Worship' Red (1993) / 'Christian Worship' Blue (2021) /
'Christian Worship Supplement' (blue soft cover)*

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. Since Holy Communion is a confession of faith, we ask that at this time only members partake of the Sacrament. If you are not a member and would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please reach out to our Pastor.



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: Think of how many ways people have come up with as an alternative to God's way of salvation, even if 'they' are not purposely coming up with the alternative? Though there are many 'ways' such have one thing for sure in common, and that is one has to earn their way. God knows we cannot do that, thus the implementing of His Way --- which is through Jesus, and Jesus alone. We recall again how Jesus has made our salvation a reality ... God's way.

PRELUDE

Ah, Holy Jesus
Arr. by Mary McDonald

Greeting & Invocation

Minister: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Congregation: Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

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

C: Amen.

HYMN

Musical Introduction

Lamb of God

Christian Worship Supplement # 748

**Your only Son, no sin to hide, But you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod And to become the Lamb of God.**

Refrain O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!

Oh, wash me in his precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

**Your gift of love they crucified. They laughed and scorned him as he died:
The humble King they named a fraud And sacrificed the Lamb of God. *Refrain***

**I was so lost; I should have died, But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod And to be called a lamb of God. *Refrain***

M: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name...

C: who forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

All: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.

For faithless worrying and selfish pride,

For sins of habit and sins of choice,

For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,

You should cast me away from your presence forever.

O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: All your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

M: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name...

C: as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

HYMN

Musical Introduction

Father, God of Grace, You Knew Us

Christian Worship Supplement # 753

Praise the Father, great Creator. Praise the Son, who took our place.

Praise the Spirit, Sanctifier, God of free and faithful grace!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

HYMN

Musical Introduction

Father, God of Grace, You Knew Us

Christian Worship Supplement # 753

Lord, your changeless Word has fed us, Spanning time, transcending space.

Water, bread, and wine sustained us When the darkness hid your face.

Keep us with you, faithful Shepherd, By your saving means of grace!

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:1-7

God reminds us that there is no other like Him, One who delivers His people from harm.

But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. ²When you

pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. ³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I give Egypt for your ransom, Cush and Seba in your stead. ⁴Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your children from the east and gather you from the west. ⁶I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not hold them back.' Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of the earth—⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HYMN

Musical Introduction

Speak, O Lord

Christian Worship Supplement # 735

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us All your purposes for your glory.**

**Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail, Let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises, And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, as your Church is built And you fill the earth with your glory.**

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 5:7-9

Since salvation could come no other way, Jesus completed the task which included His death.

During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with fervent cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered ⁹and, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

HYMN

Musical Introduction ... Song on page 6

We Are Singing

Christian Worship Supplement # 732

Women sing the Verses, All sing the Refrains

*(Refrain) We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light,
We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.*

*The Lord is the strength of our lives; Of whom shall we be afraid?
Though foes may be near to destroy; The Lord will be our light. **Refrain***

*One thing have we asked of the Lord, Yes, this is the thing we seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord, To live with God forever. **Refrain***

*When burdens are heavy to bear, Our shelter is God alone.
Our feet are lifted high, Yes high upon a rock. **Refrain***

*We walk in the strength of the Lord; God's love is ever sure.
We shout that the world may hear; We sing a joyful song. **Refrain***

Our Worship centers on the Gospel Reading for the day.

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

John 12:20-33

In order for us 'to live,' Jesus needed to die.

Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." ²² Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. ²³ Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. ²⁷ "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!" Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." ²⁹ The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. ³⁰ Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹ Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

Musical Introduction

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

Christian Worship Supplement# 746

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

FOCUS ON THE SCRIPTURES

Based on Hebrews 5:7-9

“Jesus Is Your Source Of Salvation”

A CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH – THE 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.

OUR THANK OFFERING

Thank you for continuing to support our ministry. Your thank offering can be received in the following ways: placed in the box on the wall as you enter the Sanctuary, mail your thank offering to the church, give online through our website under the “Resources” tab, or give by texting 916.915.9552. The QR Code to the web giving link is at the end of the bulletin.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we praise you for reconciling us to yourself through the sufferings and death of your dear Son. Through him we have confidence to enter into your presence and to bring you our prayers and petitions. Out of the infinite bounty of your goodness, grant us a rich measure of your Spirit.

C: Let the love of Christ fill your Church, so that it may flourish in all good works. Help us show love and compassion for all who are in need.

M: Bestow on the nations of the earth the knowledge of your mercy, that they may turn to you, the only God, and find salvation in you.

C: Strengthen our faith so that we unflinchingly come to you in prayer for all our bodily needs.

M: Give a special measure of your power to those who are sorrowful or mourning, to those who are in pain or sickness, to those who may be in temptation or peril, that they may receive your blessed aid.

C: Help us patiently endure any chastening and afflictions you permit to come into our lives, knowing that you are using them in love to prepare us for that joyful communion with you, which is ours for all eternity.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Accept our prayers and intercessions, and provide for all our needs not because we are worthy but for the sake of Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

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: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

**C: By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.**

M: Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

And we also pray ...

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.

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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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."
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

The Ushers will direct Communicants by way of the center aisle, returning by way of the outer aisle. Either pick up a Wafer from the table by the Baptism Font or receive a Wafer in your hand from the Communion Assistant. Note: Tinted cups in the center of the Trays are filled with Grape Juice. Your empty Cup can be placed on the backside of the Rail. If seated on the east side, approach the Rail from left to right; if on the west side, right to left. When at the Rail, you may kneel or stand. If you need Communion in the Pew, please let an Usher or the Pastor know of this.

As a reminder: Since Holy Communion is a confession of faith, we ask that at this time only members and those who spoke with the Pastor ahead of time partake of the Sacrament. In the future, if you would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please reach out to our Pastor following the Service / during the week.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Musical Introduction

Draw Near

Christian Worship Supplement # 740

***Refrain Draw near, draw near! Take the body of your Lord.
Draw near, draw near! Drink the blood for you outpoured!***

**Draw near and take the body of your Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.
Saved by his body and his holy blood,
With souls refreshed we give our thanks to God. *Refrain***

**Christ our Redeemer, God's eternal Son,
Has by his cross and blood the vict'ry won.
He gave his life for greatest and for least,
Himself the off'ring and himself the Priest.**
*Refrain Draw near, draw near! Take the body of your Lord.
Draw near, draw near! Drink the blood for you outpoured!*

**Let us approach with faithful hearts sincere
And take the pledges of salvation here.
Christ, who in this life all the saints defends,
Gives all believers life that never ends.** *Refrain*

**With heav'nly bread he makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.
Lord of the nations, to whom all must bow,
In this great feast of love be with us now.** *Refrain*

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 hold firmly 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.

HYMN

Musical Introduction

There Is a Redeemer

Christian Worship Supplement # 747

**There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.**
*Refrain Thank, you, O my Father, for giving us your Son
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.*

**Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Hope for sinners slain.** *Refrain*

**When I stand in glory, I will see his face;
There I'll serve my King forever In that holy place.** *Refrain*

POSTLUDE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meditation

By Lloyd Larson

TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jonathan Kolander

Musical Accompanist: Marty Puckett

Violin: Vince Beiderbecke Percussion: Don Black

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

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

1st: Since God 'created' us, He is also able to do what for us? What stands in the way of our honoring God as we ought? Read all of Isaiah 43.

2nd: Why would Jesus need to offer up prayers? Is there a lesson for us in how God the Father answered His Son's prayer? How can we keep from viewing trials as only negative? Read James 1:2-18.

3rd: How does one 'lose' life? What all comes with Jesus' death on the cross on Calvary's Hill? Read Matthew 11:27-30.

To connect to our website and the auto giving option:



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	Grief Share #1 – Luther Room
Wednesday	8:20 a.m.	School Chapel Service
	5:30 p.m.	Lenton Supper
	6:30 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	JOL Women's Bible Study
Next Sunday	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
	<i>March 23</i>	Fran & Dave Schmidt



Founded on the Word. Focused on the Cross.

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Principal: Darren Vogt