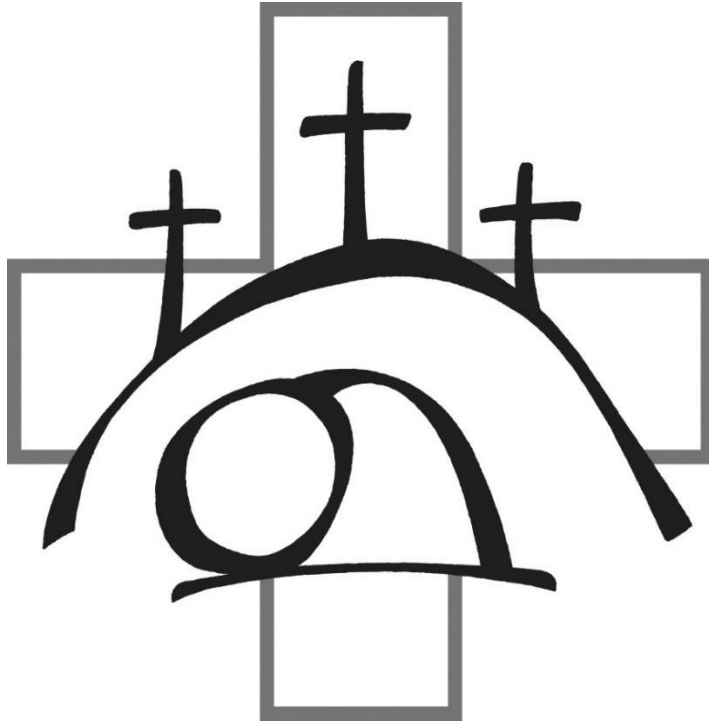


# CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Worship Bulletin for April 21, 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*

# 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

April 21, 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:

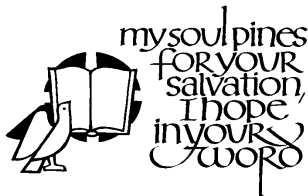
Members & our Guests ... Please pick up and fill out a **Connection Card** which can be found in the Entryway; before you leave place it in the box on the wall or in the basket labeled "Filled out Connection Cards." Thank you!

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 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 5<sup>th</sup> 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](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:** Jesus does not hide the fact the earthly (visible) church(es) will be subject to error as people seek to follow and teach their own ideas about God, this has taken place throughout history. Instead of being turned off to the church(es), the Lord provides other options for us to pursue with the goal of getting not only ourselves but countless others into His heaven. Continue, then, to listen to the voice of Jesus as He speaks to us through His Word. Give thanks for churches that do remain faithful to the Word of God.

## PRELUDE

**Jesus, Name of Wonderous Love**

*by Kevin Hildebrand*

### *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*

**Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won**

*Christian Worship Red # 145*

**Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won! Death no longer can appall me.  
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! From the grave Christ will recall me.  
Brighter scenes will then commence; This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! To him the throne High o'er heav'n and earth is given.  
I shall go where he is gone, Live and reign with him in heaven.  
God is faithful; doubtings, hence! This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! For me he died; Hence will I, to Jesus living,  
Pure in heart and act abide, Praise to him and glory giving.  
All I need God will dispense; This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! I know full well Nothing me from him shall sever,  
Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell Part me now from Christ forever.  
God will be a sure defense; This shall be my confidence.**

**Jesus lives! And now is death But the gate to life immortal;  
This shall calm my trembling breath When I pass its gloomy portal.  
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense: "Jesus is my confidence!"**

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. Therefore 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.**



he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths 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; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **Refrain**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen. **Refrain**

## A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

1 John 4:1-6

*Jesus encourages us to examine the various 'voices' vying to get our attention so we will not be deceived by them.*

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. <sup>2</sup>This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, <sup>3</sup>but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. <sup>4</sup>You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world. <sup>5</sup>They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them. <sup>6</sup>We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit<sup>[a]</sup> of truth and the spirit of falsehood.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

**SONG** by Choir & Congregation

*Musical Introduction*

**My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

*Stephen P Johnson, © CPH*

**Men** My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.  
In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.

**Women** He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways.  
And leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

**Men** When I walk through the shades of death, His presence is my stay.  
One word of his supporting breath drives all my fears away.

**Women** His hand, in sight of all my foes, will still my table spread.  
My cup with blessings overflows; His oil anoints my head.

**Choir**            *The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days.  
Oh, may his house be my abode and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come.  
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.*

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

**A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE**

**John 10:11-18**

*Jesus is the true Shepherd as He laid down His life for ours. Continue, then, to hear His voice.*

“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.”

**M:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to You, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Musical Introduction*

**Oh, Love, How Deep**

*Christian Worship Red # 371*

**Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, Beyond all thought and fantasy,  
That God, the Son of God, should take Our mortal form for mortals' sake!**

**He sent no angel to our race, Of higher or of lower place,  
But wore the robe of human frame, And to this world himself he came.**

**For us baptized, for us he bore His holy fast and hungered sore;  
For us temptation sharp he knew, For us the tempter overthrew.**

**For us he prayed, for us he taught; For us his daily works he wrought,  
By words and signs and actions thus Still seeking not himself but us.**

**For us, by wickedness betrayed, For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
He bore the shameful cross and death; For us he gave his dying breath.**

**For us he rose from death again; For us he went on high to reign;  
For us he sent his Spirit here To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.**

**All glory to our Lord and God For love so deep, so high, so broad,  
The Trinity whom we adore Forever and forevermore.**

**“Jesus Knows YOU”**

**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 (Pulpit) 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*

### **I Come, O Savior; to Your Table**

*Christian Worship Red # 310*

**I come, O Savior, to your table, For weak and weary is my soul;**

**O Jesus, you alone are able To satisfy and make me whole.**

*Refrain Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!*

**Oh, grant that I in manner worthy May now trust solely in your Word,  
And, conscious of the sins before me, Look only unto you, O Lord. Refrain**

**Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,  
Yet you your lamb will banish never, Nor will your faithfulness depart. Refrain**

**By faith I call your holy table The testament of your deep love,  
For by your gift I now am able To know the heart of God above. Refrain**

**What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain**

**This feast is manna, wealth abounding Unto the poor, to weak ones pow'r,  
To angels joy, to hell confounding, And life for me in death's dark hour. Refrain**

**Your body, giv'n for me, O Savior, Your blood, which you for me have shed—  
These are my life and strength forever; By them my hungry soul is fed. Refrain**

**With you, Lord, I am now united; I live in you and you in me.  
No sorrow fills my soul; delighted, It finds its peace on Calvary. Refrain**

**Who can condemn me now? For surely The Lord is near, who justifies.  
No hell I fear, and thus securely With Jesus I to heaven rise. Refrain**

**Though death may threaten with disaster, It cannot rob me of my cheer,  
For he who is of death the master With help and strength is always near. Refrain**

**My heart has now become your dwelling, O blessed, holy Trinity.  
With angels I, your praises telling, Shall live in joy eternally. 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*

## **Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening**

*Christian Worship Red # 283*

**Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning, As a servant to his lord.  
Let me show respect and honor To your holy, precious Word,  
That each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you.  
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure And my heart's most precious treasure.**

**As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let your words in me take root.  
May your Spirit e'er be near me That I bear abundant fruit.  
May I daily sing your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise,  
Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **This Joyful Eastertide**

*by John Behnke*

# TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

## Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jonathan Kolander

Musical Accompanist: Lisa Thiesfeldt

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

1<sup>st</sup>: What is the warning Jesus provides here in this section? What are some ways to help a church stay on track with God's Word? Read Romans 16:17-18 and John 8:31-32.

2<sup>nd</sup>: How can one tell (test) who is representing Christ and the Bible correctly? Why does a Biblical worldview make a difference? Read Acts 17:10-15.

3<sup>rd</sup>: What do you like about the picture of Jesus being the 'good Shepherd'? What are some of the things (voices even) Jesus protects us from? Read Galatians 1.

*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	6:30 p.m.	Worship Service (Office Building Chapel)
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	GriefShare #6
Wednesday	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	JOL Women's Bible Study
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Men's Conference (in the MPC)
Next Sunday	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
David Lewis	<i>Apr 21</i>	
Michael Gunter	<i>Apr 22</i>	
Wesley LeMay	<i>Apr 23</i>	
Penny Beaushaw	<i>Apr 24</i>	
Vince Beiderbecke		
Alexander Wallace		