

# Living Hope

St. Mark's  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

---

# 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

## LIVING HOPE IN THE ONLY SAVIOR

May 3, 2026

---

### **Settle in with Jesus and his family. Welcome home.**

**Make yourself at home.** Find any open spot to sit and settle in. Our worship service is designed to praise God and enrich your faith. We make it easy-to-follow with everything printed for you in this bulletin. Feel free to stay after the service to get to know some of the people you worshiped with today. St. Mark's is a place you can call home, and we look forward to seeing you next time!

**Bring the kids.** Our congregation enjoys the worshipping family and our services include a children's message. Parents, you can help your kids follow along today with the Kids' Questions sheet. A quiet room to help a restless child is in the lobby (to the right as you exit the main worship space).

**There's no obligation.** Visitors, while our members regularly give offerings as an expression of thanks to God, you're not expected to give an offering. You are our guests; it's your choice. We're glad you joined us today!

**Restrooms** are at the back of the lobby—women's on the right and men's on the left.

**Questions?** If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, feel free to speak with our pastor after the service and visit us online at [stmarkslutheran.com](http://stmarkslutheran.com).

# Across the Lands

Blue hymnal 549



1 You're the Word of God the Fa - ther from be - fore the  
2 Yet you left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and  
3 With a shout you rose vic - to - rious, wrest - ing vic - t'ry



world be - gan. Ev - 'ry star and ev - 'ry plan - et has been  
save the lost, and ex - changed the joy of heav - en for the  
from the grave, and as - cend - ed in - to heav - en, lead - ing



fash - ioned by your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -  
an - guish of a cross. With a prayer you fed the  
cap - tives in your way. Now you stand be - fore the



geth - er by the pow - er of your voice. Let the skies de -  
hun - gry, with a word you calmed the sea, yet how si - lent -  
Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for your own; from each tribe and



clare your glo - ry, let the land and seas re - joice!  
ly you suf - fered that the guilt - y may go free!  
tongue and na - tion you are lead - ing sin - ners home!

## Refrain



You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, you're the Lord of ev - 'ry



man, and your cry of love rings out a - cross the lands.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963. Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953  
Text and tune: © 2002 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711071

## **Welcomed into the Family of God**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

### **And also with you!**

There is one way to live forever. One way to be filled with joy and rest in God eternally. Only one way to be welcomed home in the family of God now and forever. It's Jesus. Jesus, who took our sins away as our Substitute and Savior. Let's acknowledge those sins with honesty so we can praise Jesus all the more for being the only way.

**Perfect and gracious Lord, I acknowledge my brokenness and sins. From birth, I have so often disobeyed you and failed to follow your good design for my life. I deserved your punishment and for you to leave me. But you never gave up on me. Thank you for Jesus who rescued me!**

Because he will never stop loving you, God sent his Son, Jesus, to be the Savior of the world. He perfectly lived the life you should have lived. He died facing your sins' punishment in your place. And he came back to life in victory so that, by believing in him, you will live forever! He is the way to heaven. By trusting in him, you are welcomed home in the family of God!

**Amen!**

## **Prayer**

God, you form the minds of your 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.

**Amen.**

## God's Word

## John 14:1-11

<sup>1</sup>“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place where I am going.”

<sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

<sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

<sup>9</sup>Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. <sup>11</sup>Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.”

## God's Word

## Acts 4:8-12

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup>If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup>then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but

whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. <sup>11</sup>Jesus is

“the stone you builders rejected,  
which has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

## Children's Message

### My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

*Blue hymnal 563*



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus'  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me  
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I



blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no  
his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
in the rag - ing flood; when ev - 'ry earth - ly  
then in him be found, clothed in his right - eous -



oth - er claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
prop gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore his throne.



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt. Tune: John Stainer, 1840-1901, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— <sup>5</sup>you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,  
a chosen and precious cornerstone,  
and the one who trusts in him  
will never be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,”

<sup>8</sup>and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**The Chosen One(s)**

## **The Nicene Creed**

*8:00 a.m. Service*

**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 truly 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.**

## **Youth Confirmation**

*10:45 a.m. Service*

Daniel Burke

**Juliana** Castagnola

Adam Naves

## **Prayer & the Lord's Prayer**

*The Lord's Prayer follows the prayer spoken by the pastor.*

**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.**

## **The Lord's Supper**

*The Bible teaches that receiving the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and other Christians, united by a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask those who have made that public confession of faith by being a member St. Mark's or another WELS or ELS church come forward for Communion. Guests, please speak with our pastor to learn more, and we look forward to communing with you in the future.*

## **Words of Institution**

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."

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us, and grant us your peace. Amen.**

## Distribution of the Lord's Supper

*The ushers will direct those receiving Communion up the center aisle, returning down the outer aisle. You may receive a wafer in your hand from the Communion assistant. Those who require a gluten-free wafer may take one from the assistant's smaller tray. Tinted cups in the center of the wine trays contain grape juice. Your empty cup can be placed on the backside of the rail. When at the rail, you may kneel or stand. If you need Communion in the pew, please let an usher or the pastor know.*

## You Are the Way; through You Alone

*Blue hymnal 514*



- 1 You are the way; thro' you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
- 2 You are the truth; your Word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
- 3 You are the life; the emp - ty tomb pro-claims your con-qu'ring arm,
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re-vealed his heart and will and mind.  
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.  
and those who put their trust in you nor death nor hell shall harm.  
that truth to keep, that life to win whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

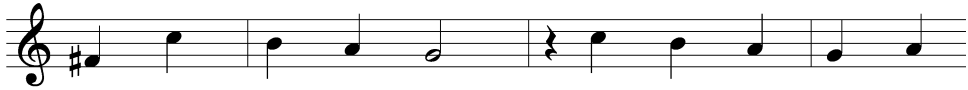
Text: George W. Doane, 1799–1859, alt.  
Tune: The CL Psalmes of David, Edinburgh, 1615  
Text and tune: Public domain

# I Come, O Savior, to Your Table

Blue hymnal 670 sts. 1, 2, 5, 8



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to your ta - ble, for weak and  
2 O grant that I in man - ner wor - thy may eat and  
5 Your ho - ly heart has one ob - ses - sion, one bless - ed  
8 By faith I call your ho - ly ta - ble the tes - ta -



wea - ry is my soul; O Je - sus, you a -  
drink and be re - stored, and, dwell - ing on your  
thing it burns to do— to cleanse the sin - ner  
ment of your deep love, for by your gift I



lone are a - ble to sat - is - fy and make me whole.  
bound - less mer - cy, look on - ly un - to you, O Lord.  
from trans - gres - sion; so I, a sin - ner, come to you.  
now am a - ble to know the heart of God a - bove.



*Refrain*

Lord, may your bod - y and your blood be for my soul the high - est good.

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 8); tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (st. 5): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963  
Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, Leipzig, 1756  
Text (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 8): © 1941 Concordia Publishing House; (st. 5): © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission:  
OneLicense no. 711071  
Tune: Public domain

## Blessing

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.

**Amen!**

# To God Be the Glory

Blue hymnal 627



1 To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done!  
2 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,



So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son,



who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin  
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be



and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
our joy and our won - der when Je - sus we see.



*Refrain*  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the peo - ple re - joice!



O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son



and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done!

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915, abr., alt. Tune: William H. Doane, 1832–1915. Text and tune: Public domain.

## TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

### **Serving at Worship**

Worship Leader: Pastor Kurt Wetzel

Musical Accompanist: Marty Puckett

Violin/Cello: Vince Beiderbecke

Audio/Visual: Curtis Roth

*To connect to our website and  
the auto giving option:*



## THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today	8:00 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	LWMS Misson Box Offering Worship Service with Holy Communion Sunday School Bible Study Worship Service With Holy Communion & Confirmation
Monday		Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Board of Child Discipleship Meeting
Wednesday	8:20 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	School Chapel Service Adult Choir
Thursday	9:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Joy of Living Women's Bible Study Starting Point Class
Next Sunday	8:00 & 10:45 9:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service Sunday School Bible Study

<i><b>Birthdays</b></i>		<i><b>Anniversaries</b></i>
Matthew Lervold	<i>May 3</i>	
	<i>May 4</i>	Josh & Cierra Castagnola
Kathy Edwards	<i>May 6</i>	
Taylor Klunker	<i>May 7</i>	
Judy Thomas	<i>May 9</i>	

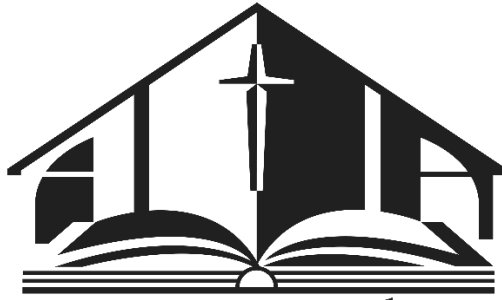
## **Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.



St. Mark's  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

7869 Kingswood Drive  
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

(916) 961-7891  
stmarkslutheran.com

**Pastor Kurt Wetzel**  
(208) 996-2202  
kwetzel@stmarkslutheran.com