

“You will be my witnesses in
Jerusalem, and in all Judea and
Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ASCENSION

JESUS RULES ON HIS HEAVENLY THRONE

May 17, 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 worshiping 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.

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

Blue hymnal 472 sts. 1-4



1 A hymn of glo - ry let us sing! New songs through-
2 The ho - ly ap - os - tol - ic band up - on the
3 To them the shin - ing an - gels cry, "Why stand and
4 "You see him now, as - cend - ing high up to the



out the world shall ring: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Mount of Ol - ives stand, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by a road be - fore un - trod, as - cends un -
and with his fol - low - ers they see their Lord as -
"This is the Sav - ior," thus they say. "This is his
"Here - af - ter Je - sus you shall see re - turn - ing



to the throne of God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
cend in maj - es - ty. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
glo - rious tri - umph day." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
in great maj - es - ty." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: The Venerable Bede, 673-735, abr.; tr. composite
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623
Text and tune: Public domain

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!

Jesus Christ came to this world to rescue us from sin and death. With his saving work complete, he returned to the Father in heaven to rule over everything for our ultimate good. He intercedes for us at the throne as the one with nail-pierced hands and proof of our forgiveness. When we confess our sins, we can trust in him with confidence.

Holy, good, and loving Father, I confess my sins. In countless ways I have disobeyed you and failed to live as your child. My sins are rebellion against you, hurt others, and deserved your unending punishment. Thank you for pardoning me. I praise you for sending Jesus, my Savior, who is now seated at your right hand. I trust in him as I ask for your forgiveness.

While we were still powerless, Christ died for sinners. His perfect life is offered in your place. His death and resurrection have removed your sin and guilt forever. This is the good news Jesus wants the world to know: You are forgiven. You are loved. You are welcomed home in the family of God. By trusting in Jesus, all is well!

Amen!

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

Blue hymnal 472 sts. 5-6

5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, and be our
6 O ris - en Christ, as - cend - ed Lord, all praise to
fu - ture great re - ward. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
you let earth ac - cord. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Then, throned with you for - ev - er, we shall praise your
You are, while end - less a - ges run, with Fa - ther
name e - ter - nal - ly. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
and with Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Prayer

Lord Jesus, King of glory, with your work on earth complete, you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Even though you have left this earth, still be with us, and send us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Heaven Crowned Him Christ the King

Adult Choir

Heaven crowned him Christ the King.

Heaven crowned him Christ the King.

Lift him high, let praises fly as we worship Christ the King.

He is Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first born of the dead,

The Prince, the Ruler of the kings of all the earth.

He is Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

Before his throne we'll shout, Hallelujah, amen!

It is Christ whom God has exalted with a name above all names,

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow.

So let us bow before him everywhere in heaven and earth.

Let every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him.

Lift him high, let praises fly as we worship Christ the King.

And crown him Christ the King!

Pepper Choplin ©2018 Lorenz Pub. Co.

God's Word

Acts 1:1-11

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

³After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

God's Word

Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, ¹⁶I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Children's Message

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *Blue hymnal 624 sts. 1-2, 4-5*



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is your
reign - ing and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
fend you; sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall
dore him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear now to his
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen how all that's
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new what the Al -
prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



tem - ple draw near, join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
might - y can do as with his love he be - friends you.
peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneueren Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt

Text and tune: Public domain

Message from God's Word

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴[Jesus] said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

⁴⁵Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

⁵⁰When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵²Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

Job Well Done

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 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.

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.

Beautiful Savior

Blue hymnal 522



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands, robed in
3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light, bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love thee,
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er,
spark - ling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er,
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,



tru - ly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
Je - sus is pur - er, he makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels in the sky.
praise, ad - o - ra - tion now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677, abr.; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness *Blue hymnal 663 sts. 1, 3, 5, 7*



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness; leave be -
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure nei - ther
 5 Hu - man rea - son, though it pon - ders, can - not
 7 Je - sus, sun of life, my splen - dor, Je - sus,



hind all gloom and sad - ness. Come in - to the day-light's
 cost nor pain will mea - sure, but the price - less gifts of
 fath - om these great won - ders, that Christ's bod - y must be
 friend of friends most ten - der, Je - sus, joy of my de -



splen - dor; there with joy your prais - es ren - der
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
 bound - less since the souls it feeds are count - less,
 sir - ing, fount of life, my soul in - spir - ing:



un - to him whose grace un - bound - ed has this won - drous
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, naught would buy the
 and that he his blood is giv - ing with the wine we
 at your feet I cry, my mak - er, let me be a



sup - per found - ed. He, though reign - ing high and
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
 are re - ceiv - ing. These great mys - ter - ies un -
 fit par - tak - er of this bless - ed food from



ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 riv - en, and his blood, for you once giv - en.
 sound - ed are by God a - lone ex - pound - ed.
 heav - en for our good, your glo - ry, giv - en.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 1, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (sts. 3, 5): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662. Text and 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!

Crown Him with Many Crowns

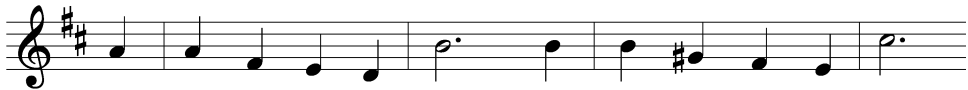
Blue hymnal 511



- 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
- 4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n, en - throned in worlds a - bove;



hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
crown him the King to whom is giv'n the won - drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
No an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing who died and rose on high,
Crown him with man - y crowns as thrones be - fore him fall;



and hail him as thy match-less King thro' all e - ter - ni - ty.
but down-ward bends his won-d'ring eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died e - ter - nal life to bring and lives that death may die.
crown him, ye kings, with man - y crowns for he is King of all.

Text (sts. 1-2, 4): Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, abr., alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

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

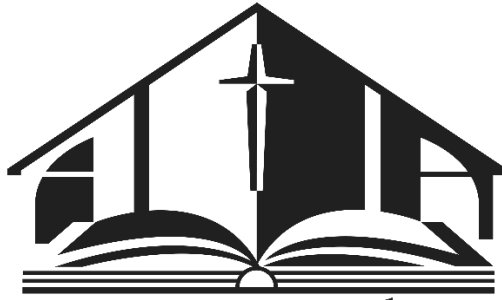
Audio/Visual: Mike Rostad

Altar Flowers: Flowers today are given by the Rostads in gratitude for Mike's successful knee surgery.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

| | | |
|-------------|--------------|---|
| Today | 8:00 & 10:45 | Worship Service with Holy Communion |
| | 9:15 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Bible Study |
| | 12:00 p.m. | School Soiree Meeting (in Luther Room) |
| Monday | 6:00 p.m. | Women's Bible Study |
| Tuesday | 7:00 p.m. | Board of Elders Meeting |
| Wednesday | 8:20 a.m. | School Chapel Service |
| | 12:00 p.m. | 8 th Grade Luncheon & ½ Skip Day |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Adult Choir |
| Thursday | 9:30 a.m. | Joy of Living Women's Bible Study |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Starting Point Class |
| Saturday | 6:30 p.m. | Piano Recital for Mr. Puckett's Students |
| Next Sunday | 8:00 & 10:45 | Worship Service |
| | 9:15 a.m. | Sunday School |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Bible Study |

| <i>Birthdays</i> | | <i>Anniversaries</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | <i>May 18</i> | Kathy Gaines-Le & Quan Le |
| Remen Mushi | <i>May 19</i> | Andrew & Wendy Marotte |
| Hannah Wetzel | <i>May 20</i> | |
| Kaitlyn Loughlean | <i>May 21</i> | David & Louann Hahn |
| Sebatian Malcolm | | |
| | <i>May 22</i> | Todd & Kelli Robson |



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