The Beginning of the End



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

23RD SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

THE BEGINNING OF THE END: FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

November 1, 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).

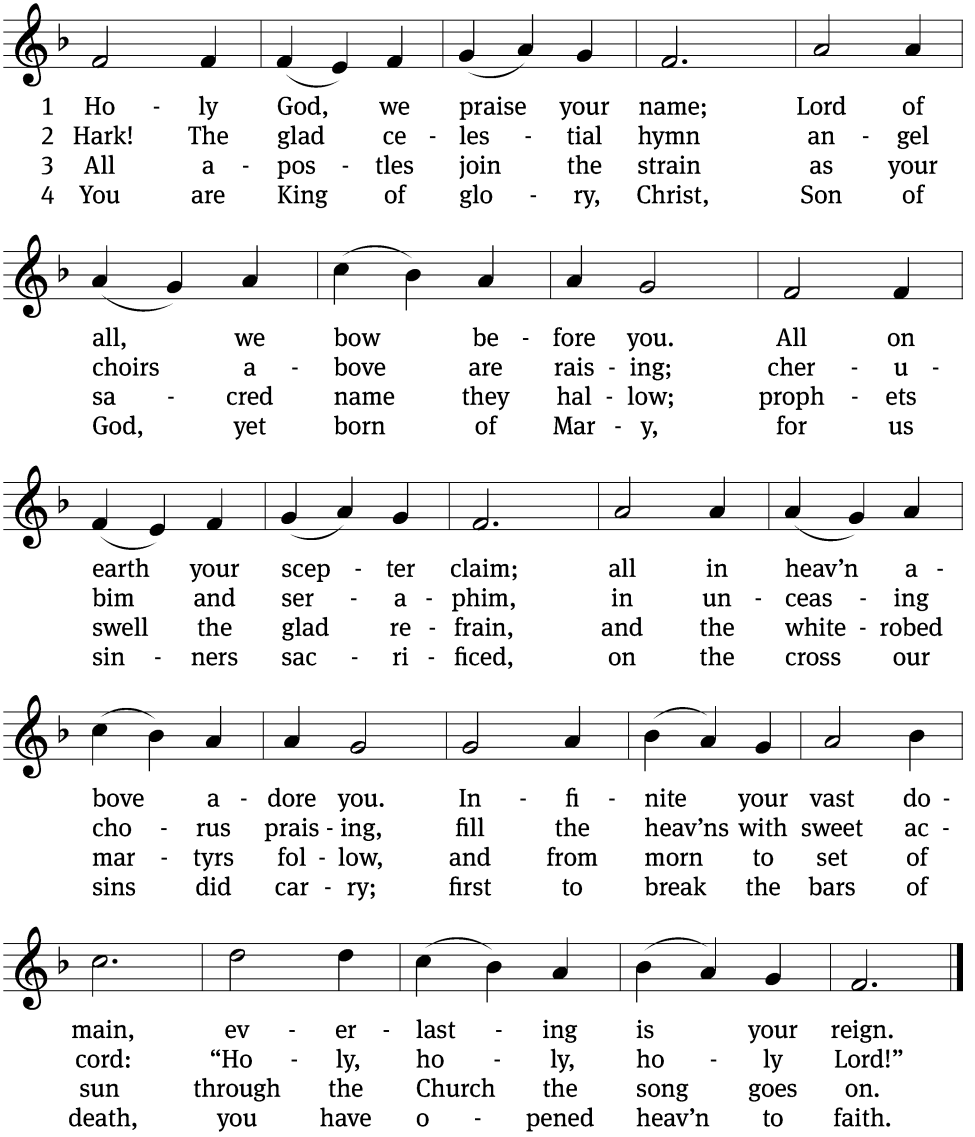
There's no obligation. Visitors, while our members regularly give offerings as an expression of thanks to God, you're not expected to give an offering. You are our guests; it's your choice. We're glad you joined us today!

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.

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Blue hymnal 953 sts. 1–4



Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr.; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.
Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Welcomed into the Family of God

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

One day, we will all stand before our Creator. But between now and then, God already invites us to come and worship in his presence. This is an astounding privilege for each of us, because we have all fallen short of the perfection required to stand in his presence. Yet when we have Christ, we can all come as his children, knowing he hears us and forgives us for Jesus' sake.

Holy and all-powerful God, thank you for hearing and receiving me. I acknowledge that my sins are grievous and separated me from you. I deserved your just punishment. And I praise you for saving me. I trust in Jesus as I come before you, seeking your forgiveness.

Because of God's great love and Jesus' sacrifice in our place at the cross, you are forgiven! The Lord has removed your sins, cleansed you and made you holy in his sight, and he calls you his child. Welcome home as a member of God's family!

Amen!

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Blue hymnal 953 st. 5



Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version, Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr.; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.
Tune: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer

Almighty God, you have knit your people together into one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow the example of your blessed saints in lives of faith and willing service and with them at last inherit the inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who love you; 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 Matthew 5:1–12

1 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and
sat down. His disciples came to him, 2 and he began to teach them.

He said:

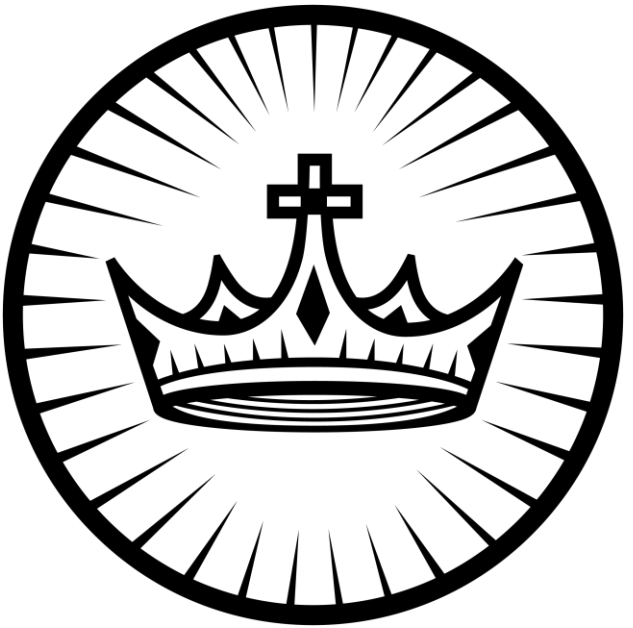
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
5 Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.
6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
7 Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.
8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.
9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.
10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely
say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad,
because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.

God's Word 1 John 3:1-3

[1]See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. [2]Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. [3]All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Children's Message



There Is a Higher Throne

Blue hymnal 885



Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980.
Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980
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Message from God's Word Revelation 7:9–17

9After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no
one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language,
standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing
white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10And
they cried out in a loud voice:

"Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb."

11All the angels were standing around the throne and around the
elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces
before the throne and worshiped God, 12saying:

"Amen!
Praise and glory
and wisdom and thanks and honor
and power and strength
be to our God for ever and ever.
Amen!"

13Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are
they, and where did they come from?"

14I answered, "Sir, you know."

And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great
tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the
blood of the Lamb. 15Therefore,

"they are before the throne of God
and serve him day and night in his temple;
and he who sits on the throne
will shelter them with his presence.
16'Never again will they hunger;
never again will they thirst.
The sun will not beat down on them,'

nor any scorching heat.
17For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their shepherd;
'he will lead them to springs of living water.'
'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'"

You'll Never Cry Again

Statement of 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 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.

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

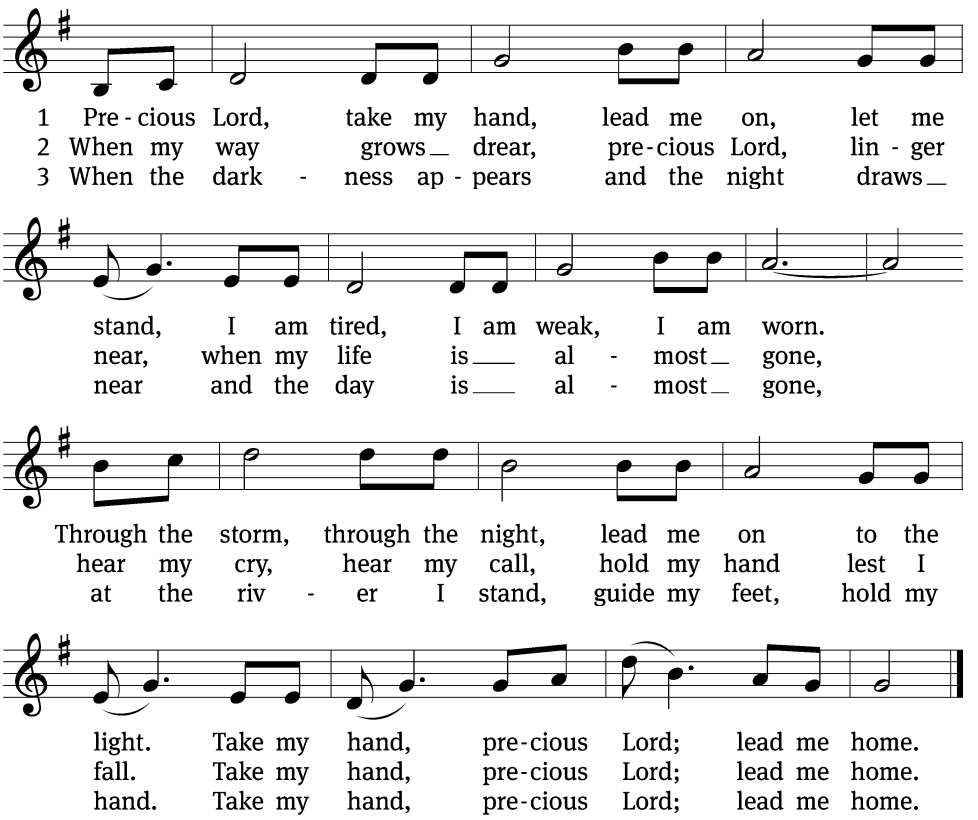
Blue hymnal 839



Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778, alt.
Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872
Text and tune: Public domain

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Blue hymnal 835



Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
Tune: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
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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!

Jesus, Still Lead On

Blue hymnal 842 sts. 1, 3–4



Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760, adapt.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
Tune: Adam Drese, 1620–1701
Text and tune: Public domain

TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

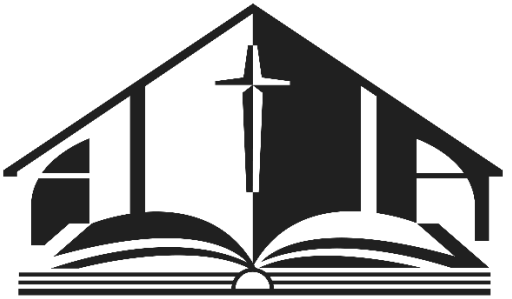
Serving at Worship

Worship Leader: Pastor Kurt Wetzel
Musical Accompanist: Marty Puckett
Violin/cello: Vince Beiderbecke
Audio/Visual: Curtis Roth
Altar Flowers: Flowers today are given by Erin Donoho in honor of her mom, Heather's, birthday.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today		LWMS Misson Box Offering
	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Teen Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	4:00 p.m.	Join Reformation Service
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	School – Early Dismissal
Wednesday		No School Through Friday (Teachers' Conference)
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Joy of Living (JOL) Women's Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Starting Point # 9
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	GriefShare – Surviving the Holidays
Next Sunday	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Teen Bible Study
	9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study

Birthdays		***Anniversaries***
Heather Donoho	*Nov 1*	Jason & Danielle Covey
Peachy Galvez	*Nov 3*	
Alexander Hioco		
James Ringstrom		
Jim Wilson		
Joyce Roth	*Nov 4*	
Phil Swan		
Darren Wolcott	*Nov 5*	



7869 Kingswood Drive
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

(916) 961-7891
stmarkslutheran.com

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