



*God's love, Our service.*

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Sunday, January 26, 2025

### Third Sunday after Epiphany

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#### INTRODUCTION

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

#### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The January Noisy Offering collection will go to the MLM Sack Lunch program, chosen by Parish Ed.



#### Upcoming Commemorations

##### **Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries**

These three early Christian men were missionary companions of the apostle Paul. Timothy became bishop of Ephesus, Titus bishop of Crete, and Silas was imprisoned with Paul at Philippi until they were delivered by an earthquake.

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
our creator,  
our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**you speak blessing and compassion into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act  
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice;  
we give in to scarcity and fear;  
we assume the worst about one another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults  
and release us from their grasp.**

**Show us your lovingkindness.**

**Restore our hearts and repair your world,  
that we may live in Christ's ways.**

**Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by name. You are mine.”

In ✝ Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
live anew as beloved children of God.

**Amen.**

## **PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 886, vs. 1 & 2**

### **Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!
- 2 My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of your name.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

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### **Greeting page 98**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**KYRIE** Pg. 98

**HYMN OF PRAISE** page 101

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Blessed Lord God,

**you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

**CARILLON RINGERS** "Morning Glory" Arranged by Brenda E. Austin

### **First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

*The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the LORD is your strength."*

<sup>1</sup> All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup> So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup> And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

## **Psalm: Psalm 19**

*The teaching of the LORD revives the soul. (Ps. 19:7)*

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God,  
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> **One day tells its tale to another,  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

<sup>3</sup> Although they have no words or language,  
and their voices are not heard,

<sup>4</sup> **their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,  
where God has pitched a tent for the sun.**

- <sup>5</sup> It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- <sup>6</sup> **It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again;  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**
- <sup>7</sup> The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;  
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.
- <sup>8</sup> **The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;  
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**
- <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;  
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- <sup>10</sup> **More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,  
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**
- <sup>11</sup> By them also is your servant enlightened,  
and in keeping them there is great reward.
- <sup>12</sup> **Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**
- <sup>13</sup> Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get do  
minion over me;  
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.
- <sup>14</sup> **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in  
your sight,  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.**

### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a**

*The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.*

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, "Because I am not

an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body.<sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?<sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.<sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be?<sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body.<sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”<sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,<sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect;<sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member,<sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another.<sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.<sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues.<sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?<sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?<sup>31a</sup> But strive for the greater gifts.

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** page 102

*Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the 4th Chapter.*

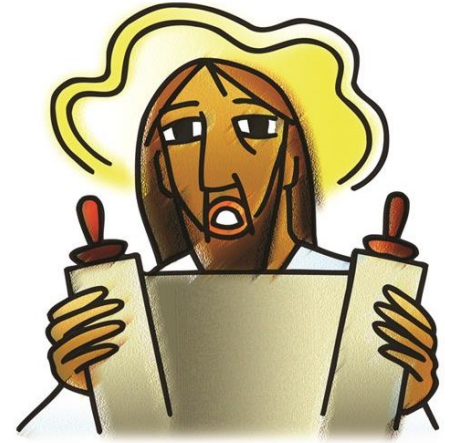
**Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Luke 4:14-21**

*Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.*

<sup>14</sup> Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.<sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:



<sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

## **CHILDREN’S SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

### **SERMON** Pastor Kris Dietzen

### **HYMN OF THE DAY** ELW 715

#### **Christ, Be Our Light**

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

#### *Refrain*

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow’r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

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## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all who share scripture: for parents, grandparents, and godparents; teachers and mentors; deacons, pastors, bishops, and scholars. Inspire passion for the stories of faith. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work, we lift our voices in awe of quarks and atoms, vast stars and solar systems. Guide us to speak on behalf of your handiwork. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

As Jesus proclaimed life and freedom in his community, energize communities and nations to eliminate poverty, engage in prison ministry and transformative justice, and envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**



As your word and presence revive the soul, accompany all experiencing depression, anxiety, or eating disorders; be a source of strength for all affected by memory loss and their caregivers; draw near to all undergoing medical treatment or surgery (*especially*). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

As we are made one body in baptism, strengthen all who serve. Renew and inspire all who use their gifts in this congregation, community, and the world. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

As our faith is strengthened by saints who have gone before us, we remember leaders of the early church, *especially Timothy, Titus, Silas, Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe*, and beloved friends and family who have died (*especially*). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

**And also with you**

Let us share God's peace with one another.

## **OFFERING/ NOISY OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** pg. 182

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, .....

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, Holy** pg. 108

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## LORD'S PRAYER

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.  
Come, eat this meal of gladness.



## COMMUNION

**COMMUNION SONG** pg. 112

## COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 496

### One Bread, One Body

#### *Refrain*

One bread, one body, one Lord of all;  
one cup of blessing which we bless,  
and we, though many throughout the  
earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,  
woman or man, no more. *Refrain*

2 Many the gifts, many the works,  
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain*

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,  
gathered to one for all. *Refrain*

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939  
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ELW 779

**Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound**

and grace will lead me home.

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.

4 The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

5 When we've been there ten thousand  
years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

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The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Nourishing God,  
at this table you have refreshed us  
with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,  
and send us out to embody your good news  
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,  
**Amen.**

**SENDING**

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**BLESSING**

The Spirit of the triune God

✝ bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

**Amen.**

## **RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 551, vs. 1 & 2**

### **The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve**

- 1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;  
we go in Jesus' name  
to bring glad tidings to the poor,  
God's favor to proclaim.
- 2 We go to comfort those who mourn  
and set the burdened free;  
where hope is dim, to share a dream  
and help the blind to see.
- 3 We go to be the hands of Christ,  
to scatter joy like seed

and, all our days, to cherish life,  
to do the loving deed.

- 4 Then let us go to serve in peace,  
the gospel to proclaim.  
God's Spirit has empowered us;  
we go in Jesus' name.

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## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.638-9331 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

### **St. Mark's members:**

Donna & Ron Frenzl,  
Donna Nichols,  
Pete Cagle,  
Linda Cagle,  
Janet Nichols,  
Chuck Vandenberg,  
Susan & Bill Roberts,  
George McElroy,  
Janet Schmidt,

### **Family & friends:**

Karis , granddaughter of Jim & Mary Weeg,  
Family of Craig Aldag, uncle of Ali & Chuck Luin,  
Great uncle of Ethan Luin & Zoey Biggins (Luke & Cody)  
Eric Ohman, family friend of Joni & Steve Benz,  
Family of Scott Toth, associate of Chris McMullin,  
Marilou Osborne, cousin of Joni Benz,  
Jim Severson, friend of Joe VanKempen,  
Carol, stepmom of Tom Bryer,  
Brad, son of Jim & Mary Weeg,  
Liz Zybko, friend of Pam Wilson,  
Jules Rudigier, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,  
Tony Berg, son of Arlyn & Jan Berg,  
El Haddad, Semaan, and Nassar families & friends in  
Lebanon, extended family & friends of Fetsch family,  
Marlin Weidler, friend of St. Mark's,  
Donna Trester, Mother of Linda Cagle,  
Peggy, cousin of Jane Scherrer,  
Kerry O'Rourke, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,  
Fran Besser, friend of Joni & Steve Benz,  
Mindy Gustus, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,  
Everett, friend of sister-in-law of Janet Anderson,  
Jessica Parker, great-niece of Jane Stresewki,  
Tammy Strampe, Daughter-in-law of Barbara  
Strampe,  
Bob Bergene, friend of Clarence Linsey,  
Doug & Kathy Thee, cousins of Barbara Strampe,  
Sheryl Thompson, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Scott Miller, son-in-law of Jane & Mike Scherrer,  
Harry Cagle, brother of Pete Cagle,  
Janice, sister of Jenny Wheeler,

Dr. Owens, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Mike and Susan Becker, friends of St. Mark's,  
Elizabeth Applebaum, friend of Kathy Hinkle  
Stan, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Chris, brother of Pete Cagle,  
Joetta Eagle & family, friends of Linda Bayer,  
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,  
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,  
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,  
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,  
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,  
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,  
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Good-  
heart,  
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,  
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Good-  
heart,  
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,  
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,  
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,  
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,  
All People affected by natural disasters

### **Those in the Military:**

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thomp-  
son,