



ST. MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 5, 2023
Worship Service 9:30 am**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

200 South Main Street

Washington, Illinois 61571

Senior Interim Pastor

phone: 309-444-4618

Visitation Pastor

Rev. Kendra Nolde

office@stmarkswashington.org

Rev. Dick Hanson

Epiphany 5

9:30 a.m.

February 5, 2023

The time of gathering music provides us with an opportunity to visit with God. Please take these moments to prepare your hearts for worship. Thank you for joining us for worship today, and please, remember to fill in the welcome pad.

- 9:30 am Worship Service (live streamed and broadcast to our YouTube page.)
- 10:30 am Fellowship Hour in the John Bates-FLC
- Nursery Available, 5 yrs. and younger, located adjacent to the Gathering Space.
- Nursing Nook is a private room for nursing mothers available on the upper level
- Your offering may be placed inside the boxes at the entrances.
- Communion is in the pew or at the altar (disposables can be placed inside the plastic bags clipped on the pews' book holders)
- During this season of Epiphany we emphasize hymns and songs from the global church; one of the themes of Epiphany is that Christ came for the nations, all peoples.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves.

We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thus says our God: “The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.” God’s mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

OPENING SONG

“Gather Us In”

Hymn #532

GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: *“Glory to God, Glory in the Highest”* (Peru) Hymn #164

[A leader sings the words in parentheses]

(Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

(To God be glory forever!)

To God be glory forever!

(Alleluia! Amen!)

Alleluia! Amen!

(Alleluia! Amen!) Alleluia! Amen!

Alleluia! Amen!

(Alleluia! Amen!) Alleluia! Amen!

Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Shannon Boynton
Director of Children's and Family Ministries

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL VERSE: “Listen, God is Calling” (Tanzania) Hymn #513
(verses 1 & 3)

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. ¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jeremy Lafary

HYMN OF THE DAY “*Mighty to Save*” (Morgan / Fielding)

Ev'ryone needs compassion, a love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me.

Ev'ryone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior
The Hope of nations.

Savior, He can move the mountains.
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.
Forever, author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave.

Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.
Jesus, Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.

Savior, He can move the mountains,
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save.
Forever, author of salvation.
He rose and conquered the grave, Jesus conquered the grave.

Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King.
Jesus, shine Your light and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King!

THE 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 THE CHURCH Merciful God, **Receive our prayer.**

Congregation may be seated.

GIVING THANKS

Your gifts, tithes, and offerings support the Member Care ministry of St. Mark's—the ministry of our Parish Nurse, Mary Hills, Visitation Pastor, Pastor Dick Hanson, and their teams of co-workers in the gospel. People are visited in the hospital, brought communion in their homes, transported to appointments, and receive special birthday phone calls. Thank you for your lives of generosity!

OFFERING MUSIC:

"We Are Called"

St. Mark's Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen.

Please stand as you are able

THE 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 God thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS: “*Holy, Holy, Holy*” (*Santo, Santo, Santo—Argentina*) Hymn #473

[Sung first in Spanish by leader, then in English by congregation]

Santo, santo, santo.

Mi corazón te adora.

Mi corazón te sabe decir:

Santo eres Señor.

Holy, holy, holy,

my heart, my heart adores you.

My heart is glad to say the words:

You are holy, God.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Congregation may be seated.

COMMUNION IN THE PEW AND AT THE ALTAR

If you need a communion packet, raise your hand and an usher will bring it to you.

*St. Mark’s welcomes all baptized persons to the Lord’s Table who believe our Lord is truly present in the sacrament. **Children** who have not been confirmed or received instruction in Holy Communion are invited forward for a blessing. **Adults** who are not baptized and others who choose not to receive the sacrament are invited to come forward for a blessing. **Please indicate that you desire a blessing by crossing your arms across your chest.** The ushers will direct you from your row toward the aisle. Come forward to the serving stations. If you desire to commune, extend your hand to the pastor, who will give you a wafer. Then, move to the communion assistant next to the pastor where you will be offered a tray with wine (dark colored) or grape juice (light colored) and in disposable cups which can be thrown away in receptacles.*

COMMUNION SONGS:

“What Feast of Love” (English ballad)

Hymn #487

“The Peace of the Lord/La paz del Senor”

Hymn #646

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor’s rod ✝ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**



SENDING SONG:

“This Little Light of Mine”

Hymn #677

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **All: Thanks be to God!**

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Sundays and Seasons v.20230104.1415

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PRAYER LIST

Prayer requests are left on the prayer list for three weeks. To add or remove names, please call the office 309-444-4618 or send an email to office@stmarkswashington.org

PRAY FOR	REQUESTED BY	PRAYER/PRAISE
Baby Cienna	Jackie French	Healing
Baby Ambrose Brasser	Marsha Rigg	Health
Joyce Calvert	Pastor Hanson	Health
Dave Seibert	Julie Seibert	Health
Joan Flowers	Pastor Kendra	Health
Nick Gregory	Melissa Hoover	Health
Reed Fry	Joe & Carol Madden	Health
Bob Page	Laurie Mathes	Health
Joanne Hofford	Donald Hofford	Health
Judy Hester	Gary Hester	Health

Annual Congregation Meeting Today!



10:30 am during Fellowship

Please stay after the service today for our annual meeting in the FLC. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

Nurse's Corner

Mary Hills, our Parish Nurse, will give Blood Pressure Checks on Sunday, February 19, 2023



HEARTS FOR HOMEBOUND VALENTINE MINISTRY

Make or buy Valentine cards for our homebound members. Place completed Valentines (and any treats you want to share) in the decorated bags in the Gathering Space on **February 5th and 12th**. For a personal touch, a list of homebound members names are available at the kiosk in the Gathering Space.



Help share God's love with St. Mark's homebound members!



**Grieving the death
of a spouse?**

*Or do you
know someone who is?*

Your life has changed forever. The daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear.

**Find help at a
Loss of a Spouse
seminar.**

GRIEF SHARE[®]

**LOSS OF A
SPOUSE**

Join us for this encouraging seminar.

**Tuesday, February 7th
6:00-8:00 pm**

Mary Hills & Lori Reed will co-lead this seminar

Register online at griefshare.org
under the "Find a Group" tab
or call the Parish Nurse at 309-444-4618

Meeting

WORSHIP TEAM MEETING

Sunday, February 12, 2023

10:30 am

KINDRED SPIRIT SISTERS

Kep's
313 Muller Rd, Washington
11:30 am

Please call Kathleen Peters, 309-444-2360 or Sue Madden, 309-444-3096
to reserve your spot!

*Kindred Spirit Sisters meet on the second Sunday of the month.
Widowed and single women welcome.*

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Loaves & Fish
Saturday, February 25, 2023
9:30 am – 1:30 pm

For our February Mission outing, we will be heading to Peoria to serve at the Loaves & Fish program at the First United Methodist Church. This program has been serving the Peoria area since 1994. Each Saturday, the Loaves & Fish program provides a free meal, medical clinic, and food pantry service to people in need.

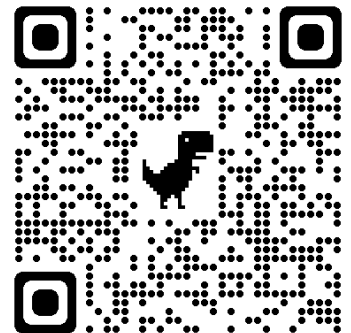
An Alive Worship Service is a part of this program as well; where those receiving assistance are told of the love that Jesus has for them. For more information about the Loaves & Fish program please visit their website at <http://fumcpeoria.org/loaves-and-fish>.

Lunch is provided to volunteers. Volunteers must be age 16 and over.

If you would like to volunteer, you may sign up directly on the Loaves & Fish website

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4dafae2da1f58-peoria2#/>

or use the QR code



Please call, text, 309-431-9229 or email, cindy_shuckford08@hotmail.com.
so we can coordinate ride sharing and such. If you have any questions, please contact me!

LUTHERAN WOMEN OF GREATER PEORIA

Friday, February 10, 2023

Redeemer Lutheran

6801 N. Allen Road, Peoria

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

On Friday, February 10th, we welcome ladies of all ages to Redeemer Lutheran, 6801 N. Allen Road, Peoria. Redeemer will host the General Membership Meeting for Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria. We will begin promptly at 9 a.m. with a serenade by a local Barbershop Quartet. A hot breakfast will be provided. We will hear from an employee of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois followed by a meeting highlighting our events planned for 2023. The meeting concludes at 11 a.m.

Please RSVP by February 3, 2023, (check and see if you can still make a reservation) to Lisa Mack 309-360-2669 so that we can plan accordingly.

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 22, 2023

12:00 pm & 7:00 pm



This year St. Mark's will offer Ash Wednesday Worship at 12:00 pm for anyone who doesn't like to drive at night, anyone who would like to come on their lunch hour from work and anyone else interested in the noon service!

WASHINGTON HELPS ITS PEOPLE

WHIP is accepting donations of canned soup for February. Donations may be left in the vestibule off of South Main Street (east entrance) or in Beckwith Hall.



ST. MARK'S

Fellowship Events



Sunday, February 26

2:00-4:00 pm

Plaza Lanes in Washington

\$5.00 per person / max. of \$10.00 per family

Price includes bowling and shoe rental.

Sign up at stmarkswashington.org or at the kiosk to reserve your lane!



BEAT

PASTOR HANSON

DONATE TO THE CHURCH MOUSE!

Please consider the Church Mouse, located at 600 W. Main St. in Peoria for donations (accepted Monday through Saturday 10:00 am – 3:00 p.m. Questions? please call (309) 673-2363. Proceeds from Church Mouse are split between Lutheran Social Services of IL and Lutheran Hillside Village.



*There is a time for everything and a season for every activity...a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away...
Ecclesiastes 3:1,6*



St. Mark's Women of the ELCA Board is looking for a Member at Large. You do not need to be a member of a WELCA circle in order to serve on the

Board. This member will coordinate two projects during the year – Rachel's Day (collection of baby items in April) and Lutheran Social Services of Illinois Christmas gifts for area children in need. You will have help to organize and complete these projects. Please contact the Church office at 309-444-4618 if you are interested or have questions. Thank you for prayerfully considering this important role!

Welcome to our new Executive Director of Operations, Perry Denker!

Perry started at St. Mark's this past Wednesday, February 1. He comes to us having most recently worked as an Office Administrator at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Peoria. He brings a wealth of experience in administration, managing, and leading teams. We are grateful that he had an opportunity to meet with Pastor Scott Bacon during Pastor Scott's visit. Feel free to stop in and introduce yourself; you can even ask him about his recent Biblical Studies on the Dead Sea Scrolls!



Serving at St. Mark's Today 9:30 am

USHERS	Steve Barton, Pat Wagner, Beth Funcannon, Dee Mertens
DEACONS	Pastor Jeremy, Cindy Calvert, Diana Lindahl, Dee Mertens
FELLOWSHIP	Doug and Cindy Marshall
NURSERY	Abby Swanson and Hailey Shuckford
AUDIO/VISUAL	Barry Moore, Pam Marcoline-Griffith, Joe Gleason
READER	Shannon Boynton
ACOLYTES	Karli Roedell and Corrine Berg
ASSISTING	Kevin Eack



*The altar flowers are sponsored today by
Cindy Marshall in thanksgiving to God for
the blessing of her husband, Doug Marshall,
in honor of his birthday on February 1.*

Serving next Sunday, February 12, 2023

Ushers	Steve Barton, Bret Shuckford, Kevin & Annette Wagner
Deacons	Case Pudik, Dee Mertens, Pam Marcoline-Griffith, Mike Griffith
Fellowship	Sam Waddell and Gina Williams
Nursery	Marsha Rigg and Janice Braskich
A/V	Joey Devitt, Allison Osborn, Colin Earle
Reader	Angela Rose
Acolytes	Hailey Shuckford and Harper Nightingale

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, February 5

- 9:30 am: Blended Worship
- 10:30 am: Annual Congregational Meeting
- 10:30 am: Fellowship Hour
- 10:45 am: Sunday School

Monday, February 6

- 9:30 am: Staff Meeting
- 6:00 pm Young Life at Burton Street House

Tuesday, February 7

- 4:30 pm: Music Planning Meeting
- 6:00 pm: Grief Share

Wednesday, February 8

- 10:00 am: The Way Bible Study
- 6:30 pm: Confirmation and Cross Trainers

Thursday, February 9

- 6:00 pm: Young Life at Burton Street House

Friday, February 10

- 1:30 pm: Youth leave for The Quake event in Wisconsin

Saturday, February 11

- Youth at The Quake in Wisconsin

Sunday, February 12

- 8:30 am: Choir rehearsal
- 9:30 am: Blended Worship, Installation of Council
- 10:30 am: Fellowship Hour
- 10:30 am: Worship Team Meeting
- 10:45 am: Sunday School
- 11:30 am Kindred Spirit Sisters
- Youth return from Wisconsin