St. Mark's
Lutheran Church



25th Sunday
After Pentecost

November 15th , 2026

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

We welcome all to worship here: *those who are strong in faith and those who are seeking, those who are hurting, and those who give comfort; all who are drawn to worship and faith. We represent a variety of backgrounds, political positions, races and ethnicities. We recognize that we are not of one mind or persuasion on many significant issues, and yet we gather in Christ to worship God together.*

Children are welcome *in this worship service, and encouraged to participate in any way they are able to. Teach the children sitting around you how to use their hymnals, bulletins, and to sing and speak loudly! We value the noise made by children!*

If you have questions or need assistance*, please ask. If you have concerns, please let us know. We are glad that you are here with us today.*

Visitors*, we are especially glad to see you. Please come again!!*

God's Blessing,

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

— The ***BOLD*** *is read by the* ***Congregation****—*

The Small Church with a ***Big*** *Heart*



ORDER OF WORSHIP
THE GATHERING

WELCOME
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
Please stand as you are able.
In the name of the Father,
and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
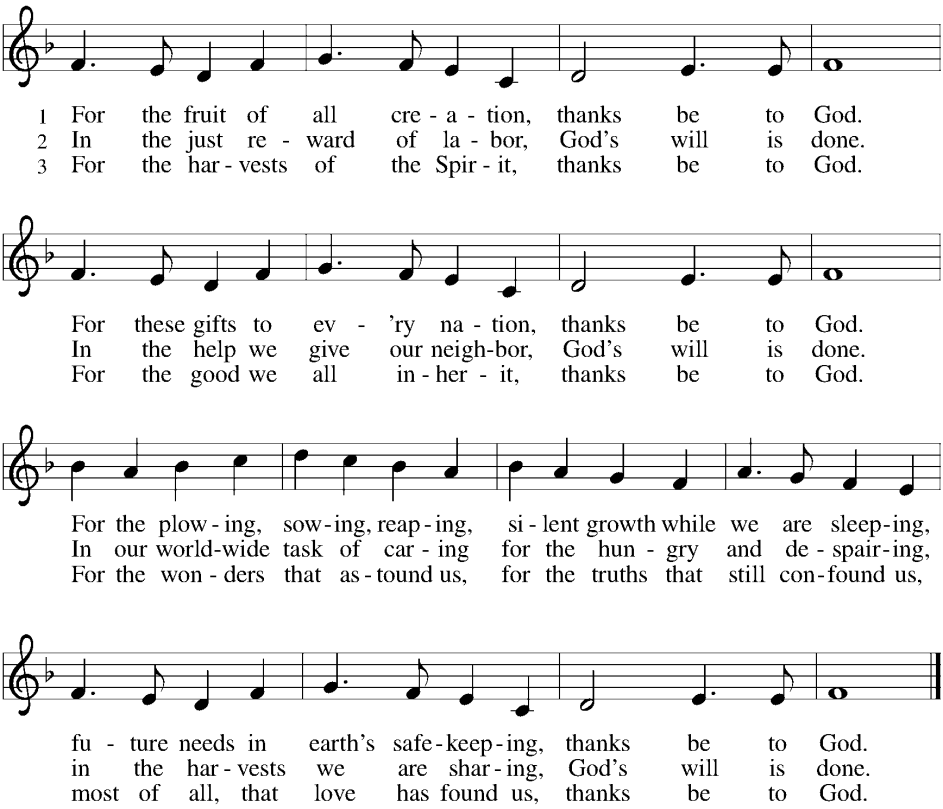
God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
A moment of silence for reflection.

Most merciful God
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

For the Fruit of All Creation



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
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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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD,
for the day of the LORD is at hand!
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.

12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

14 The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, word of life
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: **Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12**

[1] Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
[2] **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**
from age to age you are God.
[3] You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
[4] **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**
[5] you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
[6] **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
[7] For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
[8] **Our iniquities you have set before you,**
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
[9] When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
[10] **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**
[11] Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?
[12] **So teach us to number our days**
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING: **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

[1] Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not
need to have anything written to you. [2] For you yourselves know very well
that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. [3] When they say,
"There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon
them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no
escape! [4] But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to
surprise you like a thief; [5] for you are all children of light and children of the
day; we are not of the night or of darkness. [6] So, then, let us not fall asleep
as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, [7] for those who sleep sleep
at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. [8] But since we belong
to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and
for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9] For God has destined us not for wrath
but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10] who died for us,
so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. [11] Therefore
encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.
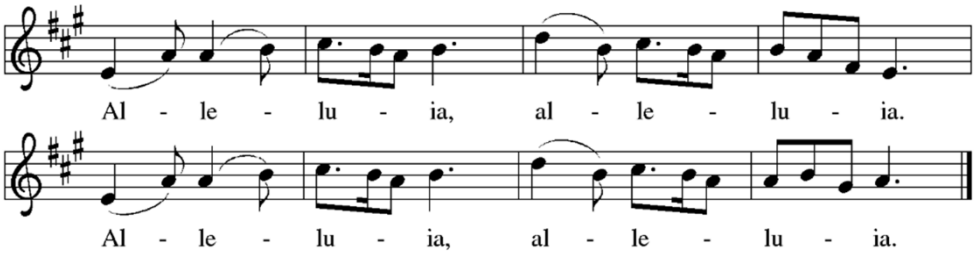
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **ELW 174**

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Celtic Alleluia



GOSPEL **Matthew 25:14-30**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

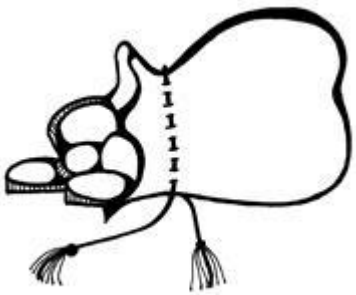
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey,
summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave
five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability.
Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents
went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same
way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one
who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and
hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came
and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five
talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you
handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His
master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been
trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter
into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came
forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have
made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you
in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one
who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew
that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering
where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent
in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You
wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow
and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my

money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.
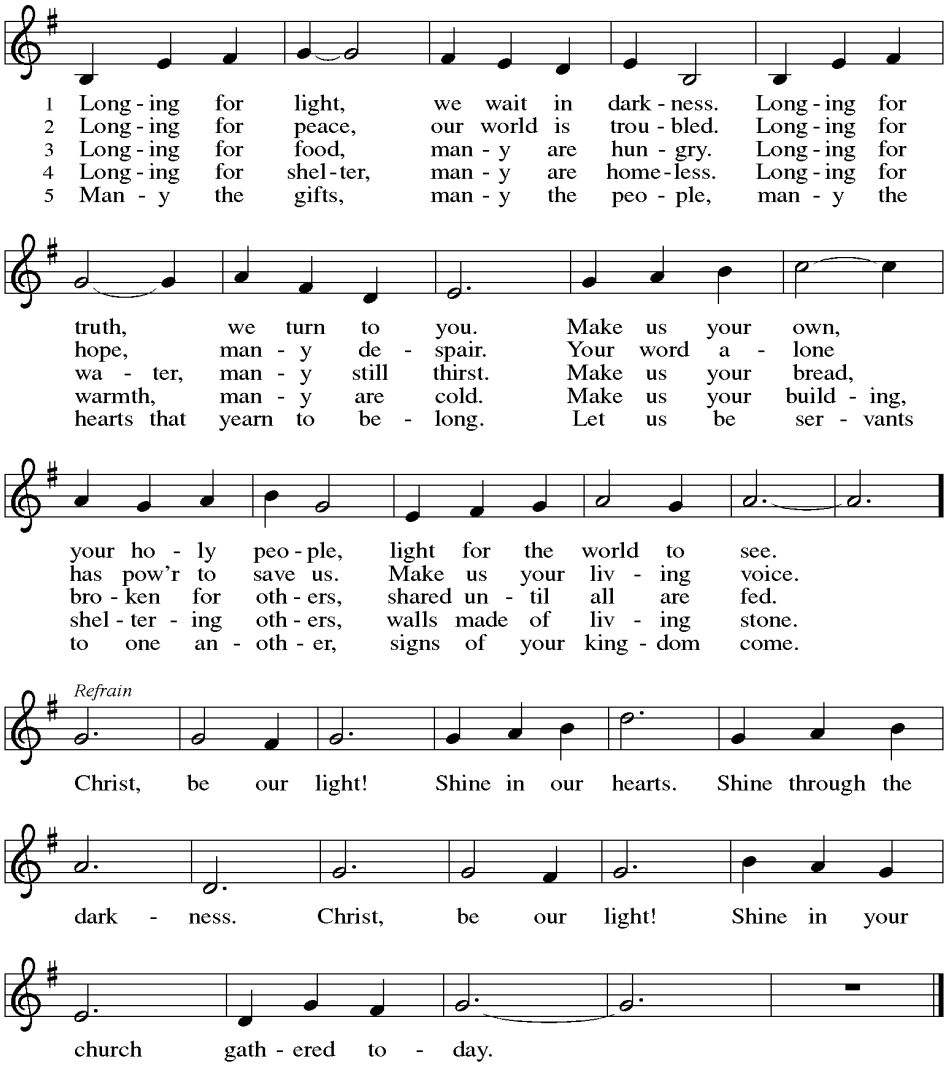


CHILDRENS SERMON

SERMON Pastor Lloyd Menke

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW 715**

The assembly stands to proclaim the word

Christ, Be Our Light



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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APOSTLES' CREED

Gathered together, let us confess our faith…

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: ...God in your mercy,
The congregation responds: **Hear our prayer**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.
The assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.
Please be seated.

OFFERING

You can send your offering through the mail to :

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church
PO Box 206
Randolph MN 55065

or download the Vanco Mobile app on your mobile phone or go to our website and click on the give button on the top.

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

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 our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed…
...Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Lord's banquet is before you, taste and see that God is good.

DISTRIBUTION

For those communing at the altar:

Pastor will direct one side of the sanctuary at a time to come to the altar. You will form a single file line in the middle aisle. You will receive bread from the pastor and wine/grape juice from the communion assistant. Once you receive communion and wine, please return to your pew.

If you have limited mobility, please let the pastor know and pastor will come to your seat with communion and wine.

If you need gluten-free options, please let the pastor know.

For those communing online:

After communion at the altar is completed, Pastor will commune those who are joining us virtually. Please take out your bread. Pastor will say, "The body of Christ given for you," and you may eat the bread.

Please take out your wine or juice. Pastor will say, "The blood of Christ shed for you," and you may drink the wine/juice. After everyone has received communion, Pastor will conclude communion by saying:

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

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
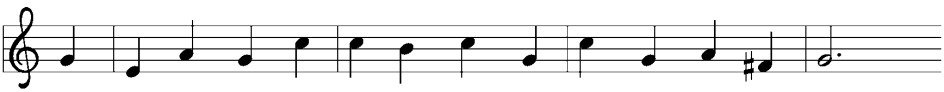
Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING
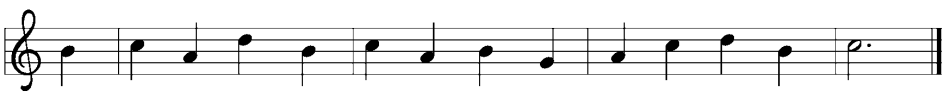
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG ELW 632

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: St. Anne, William Croft, 1678–1727

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace, Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Thank You!

It is a pleasure to have you worship with us today. We sincerely pray that the service was inspiring, and comforting. If you find occasion to worship with us again, please know that we appreciate your presence. If you are looking for a home church, please let the pastor know by phone, email, or text. Wherever you go, may God be at your side and bring you peace and joy.



Prayer Requests

Levi Stein (deployment to Kosovo), Carolyn Horsch, Don Otte, Kate Moorhouse (Marie Otte's niece), Marc Slininger, Tami Little (Karen Slininger's friend), Mary Ohmann, Sarah & Jim Otto, Tim Post (Stephanie Krueger's brother), Cami Zeien (friend of Besters & Ottes), Cyndi Christopher (Jill Ballards sister), Jerry & Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's parents), Margaret Hayes.

When requested, we will be keeping loved ones on the prayer request list for a month. If you would like them to stay on longer please let Shelby know.

Please keep all our seniors in your prayers, especially:

Robert & Margaret Hayes, Carolyn Horsch, Clarice Krenik, Leatrice Taylor, and Carolyn Weidner.

Pray for those who have lost loved ones recently.

Events this Week:

Tuesday Bible Study 9:30am-10:30am
Quilting - Tuesday 10:30am
Food Shelf - Tuesday 4:30pm-6:00pm
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30pm-7:30pm
Confirmation - Wednesday 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Church School - Sunday 9:00 am - 9:45 am
Worship Service - 10:00 am

Announcements

Informational Meeting with Pastor Aaron of LCMC

Would you like more information on LCMC? We are having Pastor Aaron Deutsch – Director of the Augustana District, join us to share information on the Augustana District and answer questions you may have, on *Tuesday November 17th at 6:30pm.*

Ol' Country Bazaar

Saturday November 28th
from 9:00am-2:00pm
Join us for a day filled with unique handmade crafts, delicious baked goods, and tasty treats from the kitchen.
Bring the family and enjoy a special visit from Santa, who will be stopping by to greet children and guests throughout the day.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday November 30th from 1:00pm-7:00pm

Second Vote for Disaffiliation

There will be a Special Meeting for our next vote to continue the process of disaffiliation from the ELCA on *Sunday January 10th,* following our 10:00am Worship Service.

ST. MARK'S
WOMEN'S
OL' COUNTRY BAZAAR

sponsored by WELCA

Saturday

NOVEMBER

28

2026

9am - 2pm

ST. MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
28595 Randolph Blvd
Randolph, MN 55065
507-263-9182
Facebook: St. Mark's
Randolph MN WELCA

CRAFTS

BAKE SALE

SANTA
— 11am - 1pm —

LUNCHEON
— Chicken Wild Rice Soup —
— Sloppy Joes, Hot Dogs —
— Cinnamon Rolls, Caramel Rolls —
— Chips, Cookies, Beverages —

FELLOWSHIP

The proceeds of this event goes directly to St. Mark's WELCA for mission work locally and abroad.


Forged In Faith
YOUTH GROUP
SQUASH
FUNDRAISER
3 Squash Bundle
$10
5 Squash Bundle
$15
7 Squash Bundle
$20
All Bundles Come With a Mini Recipe Booklet!

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Vice President	Tyler Otte
Secretary	Keri Lorenzen
Treasurer	Christine Otte
Financial Secretary	Dixie Schaffer
Deacons	Stephanie Krueger Lucinda Preston Lindsay Bester
Trustees	Robert Nivala Dean Taylor Luke Dubbels

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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