

# Saint Mark's Lutheran Church



**Baptism of Our Lord**

**January 11, 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**

**ELW 310**

**WELCOME  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS**

*Please stand as you are able.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the <sup>†</sup> Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*A moment of silence for reflection*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of <sup>†</sup> Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

**Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph - et, priest, and king su - preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;  
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,  
God in flesh made man - i - fest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.  
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702

**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.

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING:

**Isaiah 42:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
<sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;  
<sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
<sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.  
  
<sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:  
<sup>6</sup> I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
<sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM:

**Psalm 148**

*The psalm will be read responsively by the congregation*

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
    aspire to the LORD glory and strength.  
<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;**  
    **worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**  
<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
    the God of glory thunders;  
    the LORD is upon the mighty waters.  
<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;**  
    **the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**  
<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;  
    the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
<sup>6</sup> **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,**  
    **and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**  
<sup>7</sup> The voice of the LORD  
    bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  
<sup>9</sup> The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"  
<sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.  
<sup>11</sup> O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

## SECOND READING:

## Acts 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,<sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him.<sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.<sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:<sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.<sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,<sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,<sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.<sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.<sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

ELW 142

## GOSPEL:

Matthew 3:13-17

The holy gospel according to...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDRENS SERMON

## SERMON

Pastor Lue Moua

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 815

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the brightness of God. I want to  
3 I'm looking for . . . the coming of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je sus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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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. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: ...Merciful God,  
The congregation responds: **Receive our prayer.**

*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.*

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## 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.



## BLESSING

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

Amen.

## SENDING SONG

# Shine, Jesus, Shine

671

*Refrain*

Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa-ther's glo - ry;

blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.

Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;

send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the  
 2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -

dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,  
 play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,

set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
 mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

*Refrain*

Shine on me, shine on me; Shine on me, shine on me;

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**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

Cami Zeien (friend of Besters & Otte's) Dan Harris, Marc Slininger, Cyndi Christopher (Jill Ballards sister), Candace Volkert, Keith Bester, Dennis Kuhn, Carolyn Chester, Austin Burlage, Tim Mulvihill, Bob Neil, Don Otte, Sandra Nicolai, Sarah and Jim Otto, Mary Ohmann, Kou Thao (Nou Moua's Dad), Jerry & Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's parents), Nicole Anderson, and her family.

*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 Dixie know.*

## Please keep all our seniors in your prayers, especially:

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

## Pray for those who have lost loved ones recently, especially:

The family and friends of Joe Ries, Jr. (Chicky Otte's brother)

## Events this Week:

Bible Study - Tuesday 9:30 am

Quilting - Tuesday 10:30 am

Food Shelf - Tuesday 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Confirmation - Wednesday 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Adult Bible Study - Wednesday 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

No Church School next Sunday

Worship - Sundays 10:00 am

Annual Meeting - Sunday 11:00 am

## Announcements

### Adult Bible Study Starting January 14, 2026

Join us Wednesday nights 6:30-7:30 for 4 weeks starting January 14th to learn the power of simple prayer. Do you struggle to find the right words to pray? Do you feel you are not qualified to pray? Do you simply not have the time to pray? Max Lucado provides a thoughtful and scriptural perspective on prayer in his study guide "Before Amen Bible Study Guide: The Power of a Simple Prayer." You do not need to purchase the study guide to attend but it does provide day to day devotions that dig deeper into the topic.

### Annual Meeting

St. Mark's Lutheran Church will hold their annual meeting on January 18, 2026 after the worship service.

We will be voting on placing a columbarium (a receptacle where cremated ashes are retained) on St. Mark's property, located northwest of the pavilion.

There will be a potluck meal after the meeting, please join us. Bring a dish to share if you would like.

## Community Events

### Community Food Shelf

Here at Saint Mark's Lutheran, we try our best to serve our neighbors. One of the many ways we help is by providing food to our local communities. Saint Mark's Lutheran would like to thank you for your generosity in supporting our food shelf.

If you know anyone that could benefit from receiving some extra food please let them know we're here to help.

1st Tuesday 8:00 am to 9:30 am

2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

All cash donations are used to buy healthy perishable food.

### College Student Food Shelf Invite

The Food Shelf is inviting any College Student to come and get some supplies from the food shelf.

We want to help with your expenses during these years.

Please come when the Food Shelf is open or  
at 9 am before Church on Sunday or  
contact Beth Bester at (651) 246-9301

## Saint Mark's Lutheran Contact & Staff

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