St. Mark's
Lutheran Church



First Sunday of Advent

November 29th, 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.

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.

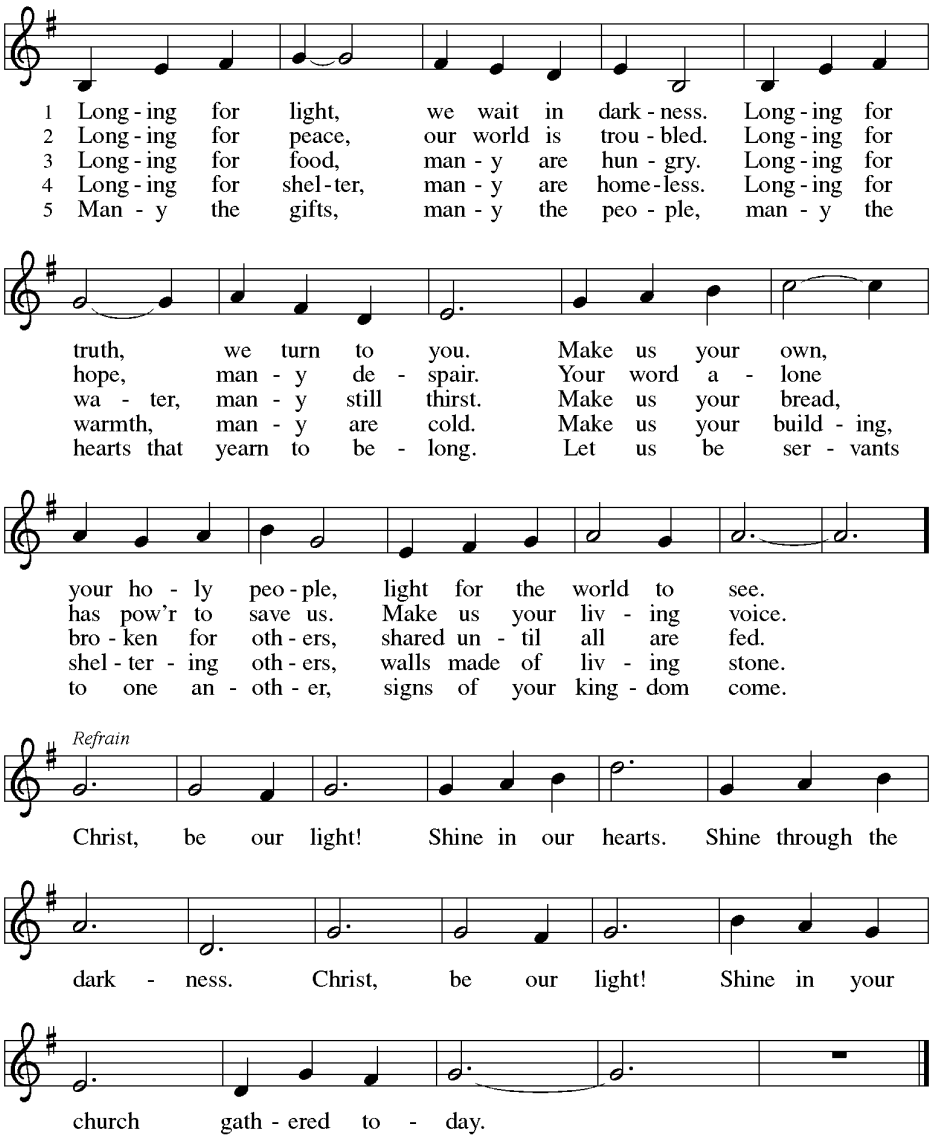
Most merciful God
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold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

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.

Please sing only verse 1

Christ, Be Our Light



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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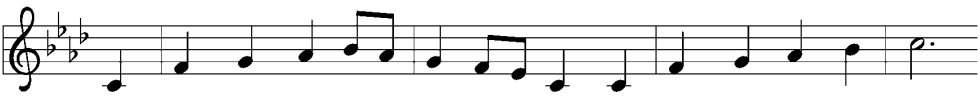
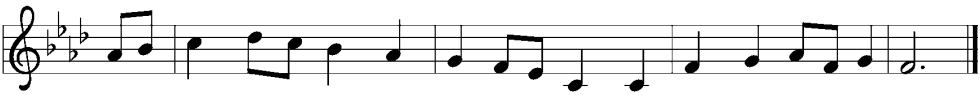
The King Shall Come



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925
Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816

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.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father 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 64:1-9**

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
8 Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: **Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

[1] Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- on the cherubim.
[2] **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and come to help us.
[3] Restore us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
[4] **O LORD God of hosts,**
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?
[5] You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
[6] **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
[7] Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
[17] **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
[18] And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
[19] **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING: **1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

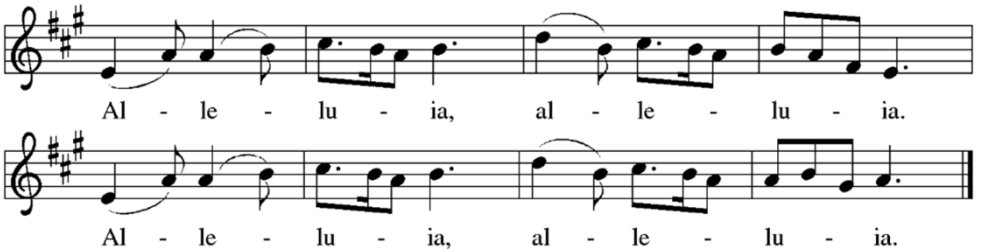
[3] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[4] I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind[6] just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you[7] so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **ELW 174**

Celtic Alleluia



The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL **Mark 13:24-37**

The holy gospel according to Mark
Glory to you, O Lord.

24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power
and glory. 27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the
four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender
and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when
you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very
gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these
things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words
will not pass away.
32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven
nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know
when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he
leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and
commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep awake, for
you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or
at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, 36 or else he may find you asleep
when he comes suddenly. 37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep
awake."
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

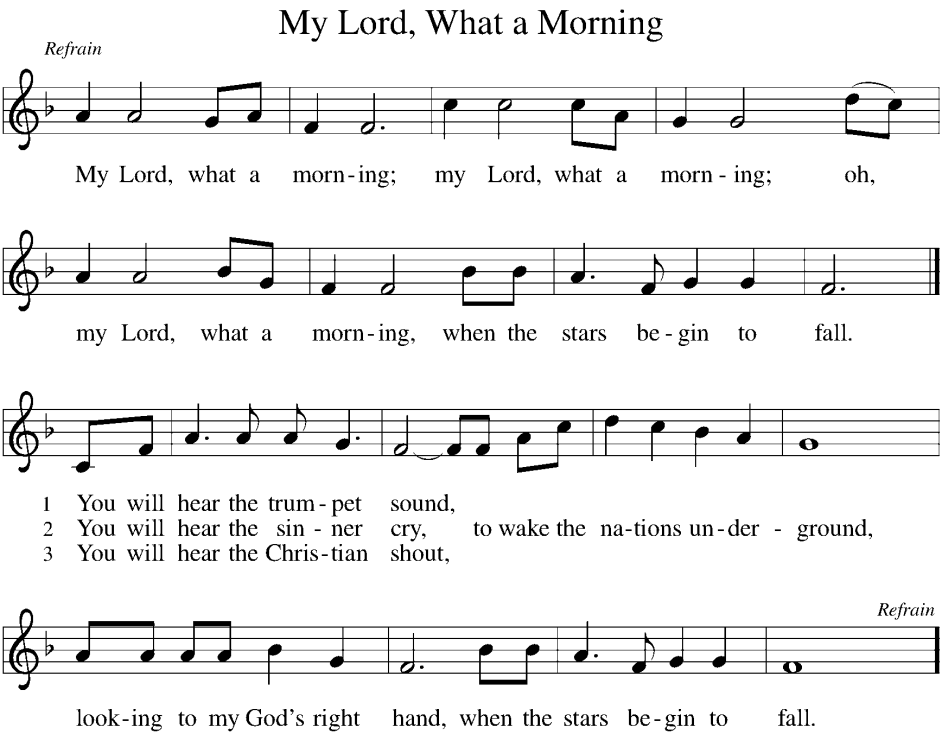
Please be seated.

CHILDRENS SERMON

SERMON Pastor Lloyd Menke

HYMN OF THE DAY **ELW 438**

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



Text: African American spiritual
Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

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: **Receive 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.

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and 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.

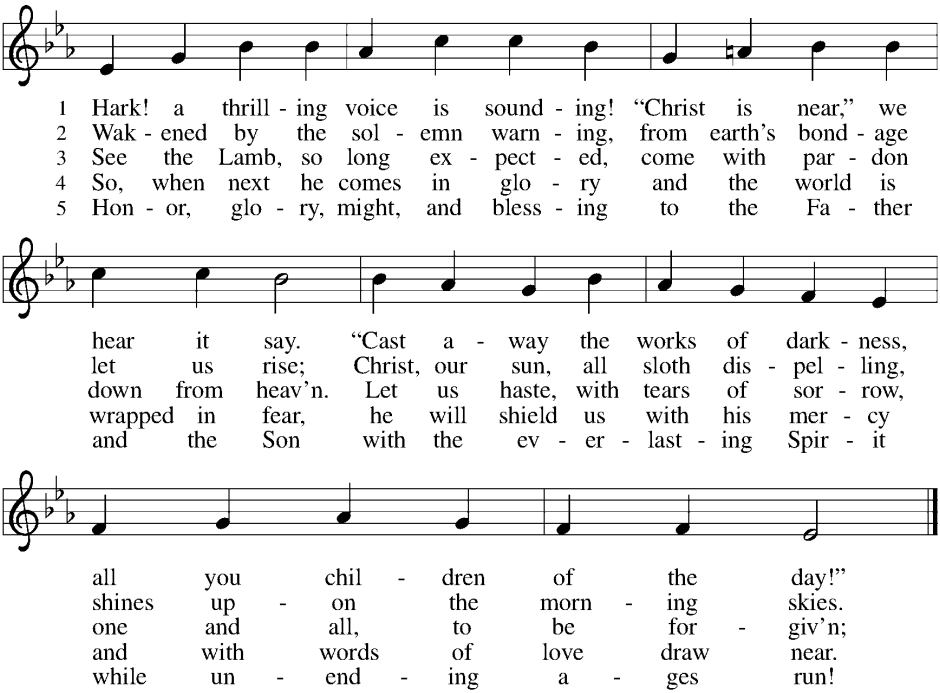


BLESSING

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!



Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878
Music: MERTON , William H. Monk, 1823–1889

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, Andy Otte, Bob Neil, and Will Burleigh.

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:

Monday- Blood Drive 1:00pm-7:00pm
Tuesday Bible Study 9:30am
Quilting - Tuesday 10:30am
Food Shelf - Tuesday 8:00am-9:30am
Confirmation 6:30pm-7:30pm
Church School 9:00am-9:45am
Worship Service - 10:00 am

Announcements

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday November 30th from 1:00pm-7:00pm
Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Randolph to schedule an appointment.

Food Shelf Volunteer Needed

The Food Shelf is looking for a shelf stocker and someone to volunteers to help on the 4th Tuesday of every month for the St. Mark's week. The stocker will stock every week. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Beth Bester 651-246-9301

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.

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 randolphmnfoodshelf@gmail.com

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

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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