

# Saint Mark's Lutheran Church



**Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 26, 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.**

GATHERING SONG

ELW 367

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.  
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623  
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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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.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he 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:** **Acts 7:55-60**

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM:

**Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**

*The psalm will be read responsively by the congregation*

- <sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.
- <sup>2</sup> **Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**
- <sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,  
for you are my crag and my stronghold;  
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.
- <sup>4</sup> **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**
- <sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.
- <sup>15</sup> **My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.**
- <sup>16</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love.”

## SECOND READING:

**1 Peter 2:2-10**

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—<sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup> This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,”

<sup>8</sup> and

“A stone that makes them stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were  
destined to do.

<sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation,  
God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence  
of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God’s people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

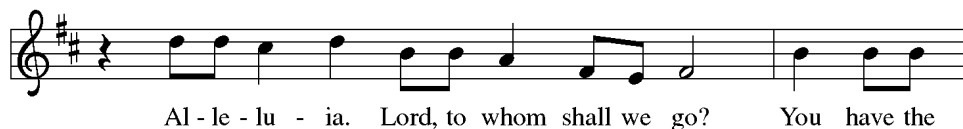
Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 142

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



## GOSPEL:

**John 14:1-14**

The holy gospel according to...

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDRENS SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Chris Becker

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 820

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

O Savior, Precious Savior



1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;  
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,  
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;  
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,



O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:  
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:  
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.  
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;



we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,



we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.  
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.  
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.  
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879  
 Music: ANGEL'S STORY, Arthur H. Mann, 1850–1929

## 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.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, 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 Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

## SENDING SONG

### 639 Since Jesus Came Into My Heart

*But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, . . . — Galatians 5:22*

Rufus H. McDaniel

McDANIEL  
Charles H. Gabriel

1 What a won-der-ful change in my life has been wrought Since Je-sus came  
2 I have ceased from my wan-dering and go-ing a-stray, Since Je-sus came  
3 I shall go there to dwell in that Cit-y, I know, Since Je-sus came

1 in-to my heart! I have light in my soul for which long I have sought,  
2 in-to my heart! And my sins, which were man-y, are all washed a-way,  
3 in-to my heart! And I'm hap-py, so hap-py, as on-ward I go,

Since Je-sus came in-to my heart! Since Je-sus came in-to my

heart, Since Je-sus came in-to my heart, Floods of joy o'er my

soul like the sea bil-lows roll, Since Je-sus came in-to my heart.

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TESTIMONY, WITNESS AND EVANGELISM

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

### 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

Tami Little (friend of Karen Slininger), Sandy Kutz, Carolyn Horsch, Tim Post (Stephanie Kruegers brother), Marc Slininger, Mary Ohmann, Cami Zeien (friend of Besters & Otte's), Cyndi Christopher (Jill Ballards sister), Dennis Kuhn, Carolyn Chester, Don Otte, Sarah and Jim Otto, Jerry & Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's parents).

*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.

#### Events this Week:

Bible Study - Tuesday 9:30 am  
Quilting - Tuesday 10:30 am  
Food Shelf - Tuesday 8:00 am - 9:30 am  
Saturday - WELCA Event 9:00 am  
Worship - Sundays 10:00 am

## Announcements

### Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study

Join us on Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30 as we study the book of Acts. We will learn how the disciples spread the good news of Jesus death and resurrection. The book explains how Christianity offered hope and salvation and set itself apart from the other religions of its time and today. There are take home study guides available on Wednesday or you can purchase a book online; Acts Bible Study Guide plus Streaming Video The Revolution of Faith by Randy Frazee.

**Started Wednesday April 15<sup>th</sup> and concludes May 20<sup>th</sup>**

### Community Events

#### Community 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.

#### Community Sale Fundraiser

The fundraiser is for the Randolph Music Dept. trip 3/27.  
The sale is Saturday, May 16, 2026 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
at the Randolph High School.

You can bring your donated items on the following days:

Monday May 11th, 3:00 - 7:00 pm  
Tuesday May 12th, 3:00 - 7:00 pm  
Wednesday May 13th, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm  
Thursday May 14th, 3:00 - 7:00 pm

No large furniture or items. If you can't carry it in by yourself, they can't take it.

Any donations not sold will be donated to the Epilepsy Foundation or brought to a donation center.  
There are flyers in the narthex on the table.

**SATURDAY**  
**May**  
**09**  
**9 AM - 11 AM**

# Paint Party!

## Tree of Hearts



Hosted by WELCA of  
St. Mark's Church  
\*\*Free to attend for  
the Women + friend of  
St. Marks Church

Lunch will  
be  
provided

Limited seating:  
You MUST Sign up by  
Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>  
to reserve your seat

Questions?  
Call Dorry at  
612-309-2066

**LOCATION:**  
**St. Mark's Church**  
**WELCA**  
28595 Randolph Blvd  
Randolph, MN

**Beginner**  
**Friendly!**

Artist: Janet Gray  
brushedbydesigncreations@gmail.com  
Facebook.com/brushedbydesigncreations  
www.brushedbydesigncreations.com



**SIGN UP**  
**HERE**

[https://brushedbydesigncreations.com/  
product/0509treeofhearts/](https://brushedbydesigncreations.com/product/0509treeofhearts/)

## Saint Mark's Lutheran Contact & Staff

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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
Trustee	Robert Nivala Dean Taylor Luke Dubbels

## Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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**Facebook:** St. Mark's Lutheran Church

**Instagram:** stmarksrandolph

**WELCA Facebook:** St. Mark's Randolph MN WELCA