

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church
Midweek Lenten Service
Holden Evening Prayer

# 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.

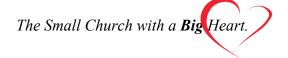
Children are welcome in this worship service, and encouraged to participate in any way they are able to. Teach the children sitting around you how to use their hymnals, bulletins, and to sing and speak loudly! We value the noise made by children!

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**—



# **LENTEN THEME:** Seeking God's Light

#### WELCOME

Please stand as your are able.



#### **EVERING PRAYER**



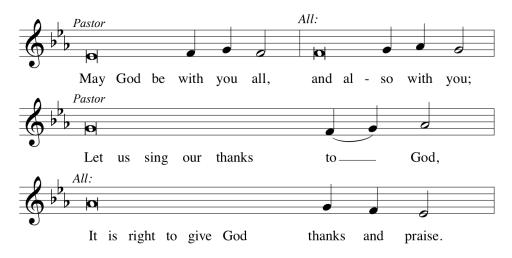
end

on

less

day. \_

#### **EVENING THANKSGIVING**



# **OPENING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Creator of the universe, from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.





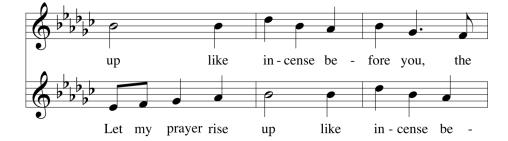
# PSALM 141 Lisa will lead Group 1; Pastor will lead Group 2



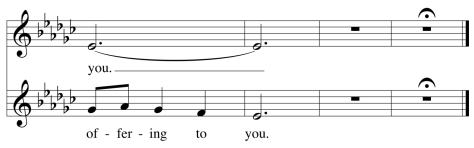












Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

# Silence for mediation

May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives.

#### Amen.

Please be seated.

#### READING

[see insert]

Word of God, Word of Life **Thanks be to God.** 

### REFLECTION

Pastor Lue Moua

The light shines in the darkness....

...and all the darkness has not overcome it.

#### The Annunciation

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."

Please stand as you are able.



#### THE MAGNIFICAT



#### LITANY AND PRAYERS



- 3. For peace be-tween na-tions, for peace be-tween peo-ples:
- 4. For us who are gath-ered to wor-ship and praise you:
- 5. For all of your ser-vants who live out your gos-pel:
- 6. For all those who gov ern, that jus-tice might guide them:
- 7. For all those who la bor in ser-vice to oth ers:
- 8. Grant weath-er that nour ish es all of cre a tion:
- 9. Keep watch on our loved ones and keep us from dan-ger:



Great and merciful God, source and group of all goodness and life, give to your people the peace that passes all understanding, and the will to live your gospel of mercy and justice, through

\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Amen.

God, remember us in your love, and teach us to pray:

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.

#### FINAL BLESSING



Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Go in peace.

Depart in silence

13

#### A NOTE ABOUT OFFERING DURING LENT

We will not collect offering during the service. You are invited to leave your offering in the offering plates by the sanctuary entrance doors.

Offerings during Wednesday Lenten Services will go towards the Hampton-Randolph Fire Department.



# What is Lent? from the ELCA Blogs

Lent is the forty-day season (excluding Sundays) of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter.

The term "Lent" originally comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "lencten" which means "spring." This is the time, in the Northern Hemisphere, when the days are lengthening. The season began as period of fasting leading up to the Vigil of Easter. Catechumens, those preparing for baptism at Easter, would fast and spend days in intense preparation. For those that were already baptized, Lent was a period to be renewed in their faith by studying the Bible, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

Although it was originally only a two-day period of preparation, Lent became a three-week preparatory period in the middle of the fourth century. By the end of the fifth century, there was a desire to exclude Sundays from Lent since Sundays are always celebrated as feasts of the Resurrection. Thus Lent begins not on Sunday, but on Ash Wednesday.

The current practice of forty days of Lent recall Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness after his Baptism (Matthew 4:2, Luke 4:1-2) as well as Moses' forty-day fast on Mount Sinai (Exodus 34:28).



**Thank you** for worshipping with us at Saint Mark's Lutheran Church. We welcome and appreciate your presence. May the Lord keep your heart and mind in Christ Jesus as we journey together through Lent.

Lenten Theme: Seeking God's Light Soup Suppers: 6:00pm Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

#### March 1

Let there be light Genesis 1:1-14

#### March 8

The Lord make his face shine upon you

Numbers 6:22-27

#### March 15

I am the light of the world *John 8:12* 

#### March 22

Walk as children of light *Ephesians 5:6-9* 

#### March 29

For the Lord God will be their light *Revelation 22:1-5* 

15