

# Saint Mark's Lutheran Church



**Third Sunday in Lent**  
**March 8, 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 658

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of  
2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to  
3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our  
4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -  
feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -  
chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you  
mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.  
head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.  
turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.  
way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.  
Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

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.

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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:**

**Exodus**

**17:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup> I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup> He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM:**

**Psalm 95**

*The psalm will be read responsively by the congregation*

- <sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- <sup>2</sup> **Let us come before God’s presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**
- <sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, are a great God,  
and a great ruler above all gods.
- <sup>4</sup> **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are also yours.**
- <sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, for you made it,  
and your hands have molded the dry land.
- <sup>6</sup> **Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**
- <sup>7</sup> For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s  
pasture and the sheep of God’s hand.  
Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!
- <sup>8</sup> **“Harden not your hearts,  
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**
- <sup>9</sup> There your ancestors tested me,  
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.
- <sup>10</sup> **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,  
‘The heart of this people goes astray;  
they do not know my ways.’**
- <sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore in my anger,  
‘They shall never come to my rest.’”

**SECOND READING:**

**Romans 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and

hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 142

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



## GOSPEL:

**John 4:5-42**

The holy gospel according to...

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup> Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” <sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)

<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ <sup>18</sup> for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or,

“Why are you speaking with her?”<sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people,<sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?”<sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.”<sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.”<sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?”<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work.”<sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting.<sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together.<sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’<sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.”<sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days.<sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word.<sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## CHILDRENS SERMON

### SERMON

Pastor Lue Moua

## HYMN OF THE DAY

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

### Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Song by Frances J. Crosby

Pass me not, O gentle Savior  
Hear my humble cry  
While on others Thou art calling  
Do not pass me by

*Refrain:*

*Savior, Savior*

*Hear my humble cry*

*While on others Thou art calling*

*Do not pass me by*

Let me at Thy throne of mercy  
Find a sweet relief  
Kneeling there in deep contrition  
Help my unbelief

*Sing Refrain:*

Trusting only in Thy merit  
Would I seek Thy face  
Heal my wounded, broken spirit  
Save me by Thy grace

*Sing Refrain:*

Thou the spring of all my comfort  
More than life to me  
Whom have I on earth beside Thee?  
Whom in Heav'n but Thee?

*Sing Refrain:*

## 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: ...Hear us, O God,

The congregation responds: **Your mercy is great.**

*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 our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through 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

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.**

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end - less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good - ness prove.  
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.  
 Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**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**

Joy Bester, Cami Zeien (friend of Besters & Otte's), Marc Slininger, Mary Ohmann, Dan & Samantha Doar (friends of Shelby Kuhn), Cyndi Christopher (Jill Ballards sister), Dennis Kuhn, Carolyn Chester, Tim Mulvihill, Don Otte, Sarah and Jim Otto, Jerry & Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's parents), Nicole Anderson.

*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 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Soup Supper - Wednesday 5:45 pm

Lenten Service - Wednesday 6:30 pm

Confirmation - Wednesday 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Church School - Sunday 9:00 am - 9:45 am

Worship - Sundays 10:00 am

## Announcements

**Soup Suppers Wednesdays at 5:45  
Until March 25th.**

**Wednesday Lenten Services at 6:30 pm**

### **First Communion Save the Date**

This is for 5th graders and their families.  
Pastor will be baking bread with the 5th graders on  
Wednesday, April 1st from 6-7:30 pm.

First Communion will be on Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm

### **Joy in your Journey**

Embracing each moment with gratitude allows us to discover  
happiness in unexpected places. By focusing on the positive  
aspects of our experiences, we cultivate a mindset that finds  
meaning and fulfillment along the way.

Saturday, May 9, 2026 from 9 am - 12 Noon  
St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Brushed by Design Painting Party hosted by St. Mark's WELCA

Materials, Mimosas and lunch provided by WELCA

Please RSVP: Dorry @ 612-309-2066

Event flyers are located in the Narthex  
and sent with the weekly bulletin email!

## Saint Mark's Lutheran Contact & Staff

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Secretary	Keri Lorenzen
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## Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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