



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, April 19, 2026
11:00 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Plain text indicates a part of the liturgy led by a worship leader; **bold text** indicates a congregational response.

Hymn numbers refer to their corresponding pages in the back of the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal.

Please leave your offering in the plate at the front of the nave, near the pulpit. If you would like to give online, please use the QR code to the right.



Welcome

Prayer Requests

Prelude

Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers

David Lasky

Children's Sermon

We stand as we are able.

Opening Dialog

P O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory?

C Christ is risen, and you are overthrown.

P Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen.

C Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice.

P Christ is risen, and life reigns.

C Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave.

P For Christ, being risen from the dead,
is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

C To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages!

The service continues with the hymn on the next page.

Our Opening Dialog comes from the Paschal Sermon of St. John Chrysostom.

Standing is the posture of the resurrection. We stand when we sing hymns and for other parts of the service as an expression of resurrection joy. It is a way of proclaiming that Jesus is powerfully alive! Colossians 3:14-18



The Hymn of Praise, Worthy Is Christ, is sometimes referred to as the Easter song of triumph and is adapted from Revelation 5:9-13 and 19:4-9.

Song of Praise

Worthy Is Christ

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



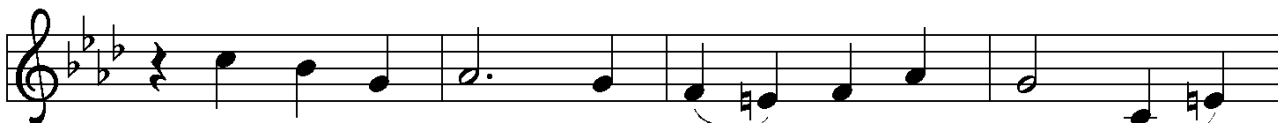
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Prayer of the Day is tied to the overall theme of the scripture lessons or, sometimes, to the theme of day if it is a special occasion in the church calendar.

The tradition of reading sacred scripture in worship is a tie to our roots in Judaism. 1 Timothy 4:13 reminds us of the importance of this practice.

During the Sundays of Easter, the first lesson is from the Acts of the Apostles.

A psalm is spoken or sung in response to the first reading.

The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

L A reading from Acts.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-13

*We chant the Psalm responsively, with the congregation singing the **bold** verses.*

¹I love the LORD, who has ¹heard my voice,
and listened to my ¹supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ¹ear to me**
whenev- ¹er I called.

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave ¹came upon me;
I came to ¹grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name ¹of the LORD:**
“O LORD, I pray you, ¹save my life.”

¹²How shall I re- ¹pay the LORD
for all the good things God has ¹done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup ¹of salvation**
and call on the name ¹of the LORD.

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23

L A reading from First Peter.

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the

precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation

The cantor sings the first alleluia; all join for the remainder of the acclamation.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluias*

Our hearts burn within us while you open to us the scriptures.

The Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 24th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” ¹⁹He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” ²⁵Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their

The Gospel Acclamation is the congregation's response to the announcement and reading of the Holy Gospel. It gives special focus to the Gospel, the principal and climactic biblical reading in the liturgy.

The Liturgy of the Word culminates in the reading of the gospel and the sermon by which Christ comes among his people and speaks to us in our own context. Because of this we stand to listen to the good news of our Lord.

companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn on the next page.

This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

Hymn

Touch That Soothes and Heals



1. Touch that soothes and heals the hurt-ing, hands that break a loaf of bread;
2. Feed the hun - gry, clothe the na - ked, vis - it ones in need of care,
3. Love and serve with - out dis-tinc-tion all earth's peo - ple, first and least.
4. Hands that beck - on lit - tle chil-dren, bind a wound, pre-pare a meal,



steps that walk be - side the wea - ry, bear - ing bur - dens in their stead:
give the home-less warmth and shel - ter: Christ will find a wel - come there.
Know with - in each act of kind-ness hope and whole-ness are in - creased.
feet that rush to share good tid - ings, Christ a - ris - en, still re - veal.



"See my hands and feet," said Je - sus, love a - ris-en from the grave.



"Be my hands and feet," said Je - sus, "live as ones I died to save."

The Nicene Creed (which begins, "We believe...") has been used in worship since the 5th century

The Creed

P Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

C **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
 he came down from heaven,
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
 and became truly human.
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
 he suffered death and was buried.
 On the third day he rose again in
 accordance with the scriptures;
 he ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
 and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 who has spoken through the prophets.
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,
 and the life of the world to come. Amen**

We join our hearts in prayer as we pray for the Church, for the well-being of creation, for peace and justice, for those in need. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

The Prayers



Each petition concludes:

P Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

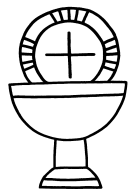
THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

Much more than a pleasant greeting—we do this to proclaim God’s promise of peace. 2 Corinthians 13:11

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

We greet one another, saying “Peace be with you.”



Our gifts are received and dedicated to our Lord’s service. These offerings support the ministries of this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

Offertory Anthem

Day of Arising

Nancy Raabe, arr. Carl Schalk

Day of arising,
 Christ on the roadway,
 unknown companion walks with his own.
 When they invite him,
 as fades the first day,
 and bread is broken, Christ is made known.

When we are walking,
 doubtful and dreading,
 blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,
 yet Christ walks with us,
 ever awaiting
 our invitation: Stay, do not part.

Lo, I am with you,
 Jesus has spoken.
 This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:
 when the church gathers,
 when bread is broken,
 there Christ is with us in bread and wine.

Christ, our companion,
 hope for the journey,
 bread of compassion, open our eyes.
 Grant us your vision,
 set all hearts burning
 that all creation with you may rise.

- Susan Palo Cherwien

We stand as we are able and sing the offertory.

As our gifts of offerings and tithes are brought forward we sing a canticle of thanksgiving for God's generous goodness.

Our prayer is modeled after the Jewish prayer of thanksgiving and dedicates the giver to a stewardship of all life.

The Thanksgiving Dialogue begins the part of our worship called the Great Thanksgiving.

Offertory

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. Merciful God,

C accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

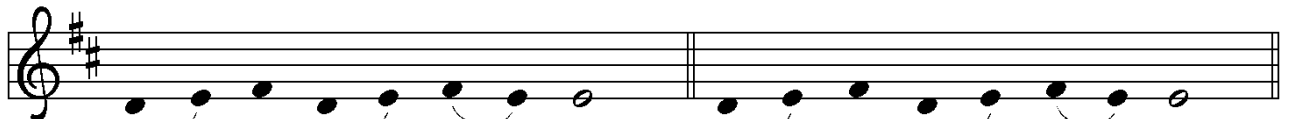
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,

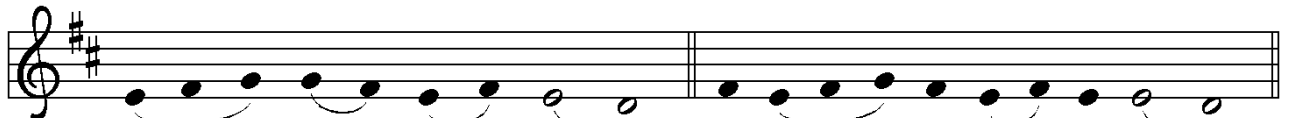
that goodness and mercy may follow us

and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, amen.

Thanksgiving Dialogue



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The dialogue and the Proper Preface are ancient parts of the worship which proclaim our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal.

The Sanctus ("holy") echoes the angels' cry in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus entered Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility.

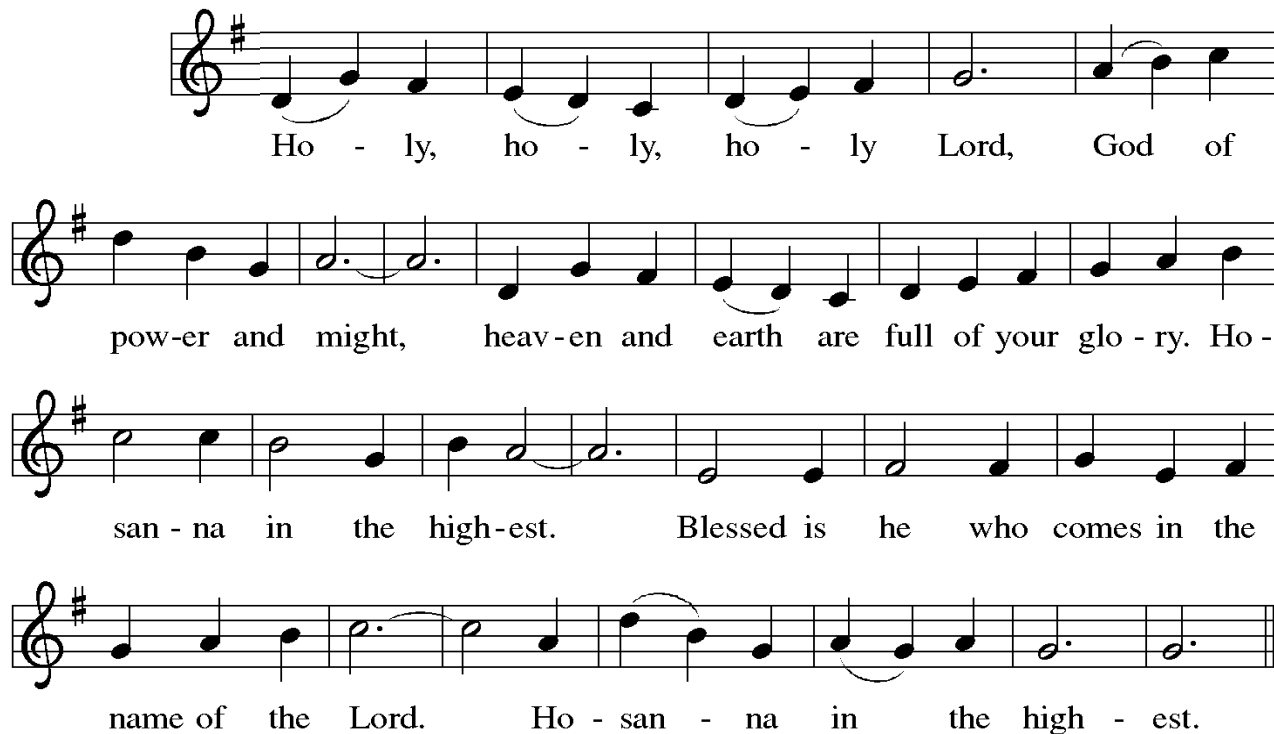
The Eucharistic Prayer recalls God's saving acts throughout history and, particularly, the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture.

The Proper Preface

The presiding minister continues: "It is indeed right ..."

The proper preface concludes: "we praise your name and join their unending hymn."

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
C **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.
C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

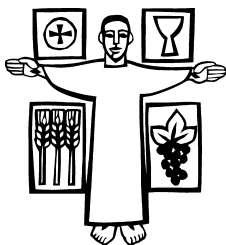
P With Saint Mark and your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
C **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer brings the Great Thanksgiving to a conclusion. Prayed here, this familiar and beloved prayer becomes the table-prayer of the congregation. Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:5-15

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C **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

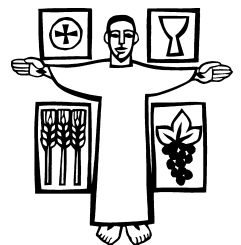
We are seated.



COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD
WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We come forward by way of the center aisle to receive communion at the altar rail. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



Our Communion Song recalls the Emmaus story (Luke 24:13-35) as well as 1 Cor. 10:16-17.

Once we have all received the sacrament and returned to our seats, we celebrate the personal encounter with the risen Christ through blessing, prayer, and singing.

Communion Song

The Disciples Knew the Lord Jesus

All sing the refrain; the choir sings the verses, and all repeat the refrain after each verse.



The dis - ci - ples knew the Lord Je - sus in the break - ing of the bread.

Choir: The bread which we break, alleluia,
is the communion of the body of Christ

Choir: One body are we, alleluia,
for though many we share one bread

Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. Gracious God,

C **through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.**

**Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus, amen.**

Blessing of Easter

P God the Father, who raised Christ Jesus from the dead, continually show us loving kindness.

C **Amen**

P God the Son, victor over sin and death, grant us a share in the joy of his resurrection.

C **Amen**

P God the Spirit, giver of light and peace, renew our hearts in love.

C **Amen**

P May almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, continue to bless us, now and forever.

C **Amen**

Hymn

Rise, O Church. Like Christ Arisen

1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en, from this meal of love and grace;
 2 Rise, trans-formed, and choose to fol - low af - ter Christ, though wound-ed, whole;
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture God has called us to re - ceive;
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion; cour-age be our dai - ly breath;

may we through such love en - vi - sion whose we are, and whose, our praise.
 bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed to re - lease and to con - sole.
 pre - sent by God's lov - ing nur - ture, Spir - it - ed then let us live.
 mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion from this day and un - to death.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia; God, the won - der of our days.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia; Christ, our pre - sent, past, and goal.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia; Spir - it, grace by whom we live.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia; Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

*We are dis-
 missed
 from worship
 knowing that
 our service
 does not end.
 Rather, having
 been in the
 presence of the
 risen Lord, we
 leave so that
 our service may
 truly begin.*

Dismissal

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P Go in peace loving the risen Lord and loving your neighbor. Alleluia, alleluia.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen

Robert Powell

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, April 19 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, April 20	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, April 21		
Wednesday, April 22	6:30PM	Choir rehearsal (Nave)
Thursday, April 23		
Friday, April 24	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Saturday, April 25	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, April 36 <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Greeter	Betty Burrows	Laura Bolton
Lector	Eric Mills	Jen Armentrout
Communion Assistant	Teresa Stowasser & Patti Mills	Eric Mills & Nan Keenan
Coffee Hour		

Attendance Last Sunday	41
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)	\$1185
Budget (Pledges/Loose)	\$3173



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Loving God, Loving Our Neighbor

Ministers and Staff

Ministers: Congregation of St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Secretary / Financial Administrator: Kathy Bryant
Organist / Choir Director: Jacob Gordon
Pastor: James Armentrout

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