



December 11, 2022
Worship Bulletin

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

Holy God, your prophets have long spoken of the one who would come to save us. Now the promise is fulfilled; now your kingdom has come near. Send us as messengers of your way, to go and tell all the world of the wonders we have seen and the good news we have heard; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT WREATH LITURGY

As we light these three Advent candles, we pray for hope, peace, and joy.

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say Rejoice.”

The world says, “Worry,”

and we say, “Rejoice.”

The news says, “Fear,”

and we say, “Rejoice.”

The world says, “Be happy,” and the church says, “Be faithful.”

Come now, O child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of joy.

† HYMN

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Hymnal #107

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace. You made a way for us in the wilderness, and still, in our foolishness, we go astray. We hide our eyes from your presence. We do not listen to your word. We are lifeless when we ought to dance and speechless when we ought to sing. Forgive us, O Lord. Speak peace to our fearful hearts, strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees as we seek to follow in your holy way. (Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

†GLORIA PATRI

Hymnal #581

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:2-11

SERMON

“Finding Joy”

Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Westminster Confession of Faith, Shorter Catechism Question One

Q. What is our chief end?

A. Our chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy God forever.

† THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #606

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

† CHARGE AND BLESSING

† BENEDICTION

PEACE ON EARTH

SEE BULLETIN

POSTLUDE

† You are invited to stand, as you are able

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 11	Christmas Cantata
December 13	Go Getters Luncheon, 12 pm
December 15	Chair Exercise, 10 am
December 15	Blue Christmas Service, 7 pm
December 16	Advent Bible Study, 9 am
December 16	Ugly Christmas Sweater Party, 6:30 pm
December 18	Youth Christmas Party, 4-6 pm
December 24	Christmas Eve Services, 5 pm & 7 pm
December 24	Burgess Christmas Eve Open House, 6 pm
December 25	Come as You Are Sunday Worship, 10 am

The Winter Rose
By Joseph Martin with Narration by Pamela Martin
Presented by St. Mark Presbyterian Chancel Choir
And Musical Guests

The Winter Rose

Narration: While the world lies frozen beneath the chilling breath of winter, a spotless Rose blooms. Against the harsh surroundings, its beauty unfolds, one petal at a time. The Winter Rose is born so that the Garden might be restored.

When Will He Come?

Advent Cry

Narration: The Holy One of Israel says: The rain and the snow come down from heaven; they water the earth, causing it to bud and flourish. In the cold of winter, you will be like a well-watered garden. Your Redeemer, the Rose of Sharon, will come to Zion. Blessed are all who wait for Him.

Every Valley

Narration: Every valley will be lifted high and every mountain made low. Spring will drive winter away and the Garden will rejoice. Like the Rose, it will burst into bloom and the glory of the Lord, the Splendor of God, will be revealed.

Carole of Remembrance

Narration: In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan. Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone, long, long ago.

The Rose Tree Carol

Narration: Wisemen follow the Light, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, but the Child they seek is more precious and more fragrant than these. He is the Winter Rose, God's gift to the world.

Look to the Rose

Lo, How a Rose

Narration: Lo, the winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Once more, the Winter Rose blooms in the fertile soil of our souls. The Spirit is poured upon us from on high, its fragrance filling our hearts. The Garden has been restored. Be joyful; the season for singing has come!

Musicians:

Madison Moore, Flute

Katy Boykin, Clarinet

Nichole Fallon, Violin

Theresa Montenleone, Violin

Jeehye Lee, Piano

Soloists: Amy Shelton, Carolyn McBee, Patty Livesay

Narrators: Dave Burgess, Marilyn (MP) Panco

WELCOME TO ST. MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

We are pleased to have you join us this morning. Your presence enriches both us and this experience of worship together. It is our prayer this will be a time of challenge and encouragement. Wherever you may be on your faith journey, there is a place for you to participate in our life together here at St. Mark.

To Our Guests. We hope you enjoy your visit today. Whether this is your first visit, or you have been coming to St. Mark and are considering joining the church and you would like to know more about St. Mark, we would be happy to talk with you. For more information, please contact the church office, 636-394-2233.

Please wear your NAMETAG at church. Don't have one? Stop by the church office where you will find a form to fill out in the "Name Badge" mailbox.

Listening devices are also available and may be picked up from the sound technician in the booth at the back of the sanctuary.

October/November/December These Days devotional booklets are in the lobby at the 'Mark' entrance.

Please be aware that, as St. Mark works to increase safety and security, all doors to the building are locked Sunday morning once worship has begun. Those who arrive late should approach the 'Mark' door and will be admitted by a member of the Security Team.

Flowers for the Sanctuary were donated are donated by Jayne & Phil Baggett, "In memory of our parents."

JOIN US ON
CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 PM
FAMILY WORSHIP



7:00 PM
CANDLELIGHT

WAYS TO GIVE

If you would like to make a monetary donation to St. Mark, we have several convenient and easy ways to do this:

In-person: An offering plate is available in the Narthex after the worship service.

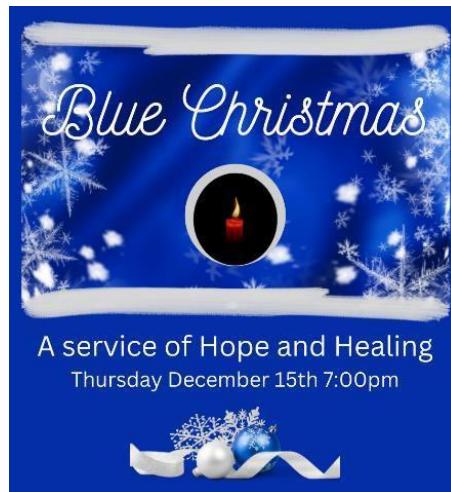
Mail: Please make check out to St. Mark Presbyterian Church and send to:

St. Mark Presbyterian Church
601 Claymont Drive
Ballwin, MO 63011

Online: To donate, use the **QR Code** here to be directed to our giving page on discoverstmark.org, **OR** go to:



[Donate – St. Mark Presbyterian Church \(discoverstmark.org\)](http://discoverstmark.org)



Blue Christmas service provides a quiet and contemplative worship space as an alternative to the more traditional Christmas gatherings. This service is in honor of those who are experiencing

grief and struggling with loss and is a holiday tradition in the U.S. dating back to 1990.

Join us here at St. Mark Presbyterian Church for a service of hope and healing where you will have an opportunity to honor your loved one as you are invited to light a candle in their name. As you depart, you will be handed a small keepsake in remembrance of the service.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor MP mpanco@discoverstmark.org.

The service will be led by Pastor MP and is sponsored by the St. Mark Stephen's Ministry Team

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING



Christmas Joy Offering helps Menaul Students to Succeed

Samual, a 2022 graduate of the Menaul School — a Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)-related, grades 6–12 college preparatory school in Albuquerque, New Mexico — has known and seen obstacles, both literal and figurative, that separated him and others throughout his life. Now, he credits his experience at Menaul as being instrumental in breaking down life's many barriers.

His education at Menaul was made possible, in part, by gifts to the PC(USA)'s Christmas Joy Offering, which helps provide scholarships to students. A Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the annual offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Menaul's student body is currently represented by 21 different countries.

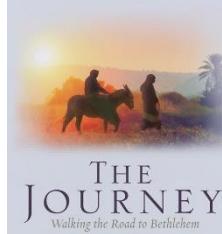
"When I first came to Menaul, I was able to explore the ideas I wanted to explore, learn what I wanted to learn and just be myself. And that's what Menaul has done for all of us. We can just be ourselves here," Samual said.

Our gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering take down walls, break barriers, and build potential and future leaders of the Church. Please give what you can; for when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. Use the designated envelope in your packet or simply make a memo on your check made out to St. Mark Presbyterian.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

FRIDAY ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

ADAM HAMILTON



December 2nd, 9th, and 16th.

Join us Friday mornings from 9:00-10:00 am online or in person room 102 as we journey with Adam Hamilton through the Advent season.

In *The Journey*, Adam Hamilton travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in a fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. As he did with Jesus' crucifixion in *24 Hours That Changed the World*, Hamilton once again approaches a world-changing event with thoughtfulness.

Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road.

Contact Pastor MP to be added to the Friday morning Bible Study group email and to receive your Zoom link. mpanco@discoverstmark.org



St. Mark will begin a 16-week journey through the Gospel of Mark on Sunday, January 1, 2023. We will cover a new chapter each week in worship and our adult education. This is a fantastic opportunity to read through the earliest gospel with others and to explore Jesus' teachings, miracles, and mission. We encourage everyone to commit to allowing time for personal reading and devotion. The program will conclude on Easter Sunday as we hear from Mark 16. We are excited to have everyone "On Your Mark" in 2023.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH



If you are a 6th – 12th grader, you are invited to join us for fun, faith, fellowship and FOOD on Wednesdays at 6 pm! If you have any questions, contact Pastor MP at mpanco@discoverstmark.org.



YOUTH HANGOUT

Sunday, December 18, 4-6 pm. Wear your favorite Christmas get-up! Bring a "White Elephant" gift. Be ready to play games and have fun!

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



SUNDAY SCHOOL SIGN IN!

Use this QR code to sign in for Sunday School. Scan the code to access the attendance form and enter the required information. Forgot your phone? There is a tablet on the welcome center that you can use. We ask that you have your student registered before Time With Children so that we can contact you via text in the event that you are needed.

MISSION AT ST. MARK

FOOD PANTRY MOST WANTED

We are collecting the following items for Circle of Concern and Isaiah 58:



- canned pasta with meat
- meal helpers
- canned tomato products
- boxed potato mixes
- lotion*
- baby wipes*



All year long, we collect food and hygiene items for Circle of Concern and Isaiah 58 Ministries. Please place your donations on the table in the pastors' hallway. *Non-food products such as bar soap and razors cannot be purchased with food stamps.

WINTER COAT DRIVE



Due to high demand, the coat drive will continue through the end of January.

New and gently used clean winter coats and clothing are needed for men, women, and kids, all sizes, and styles. Many people in our region lack enough warm clothing to stay protected throughout winter. Our mission partners will ensure someone in need receives your gift of warmth!

EQUAL EXCHANGE / FAIRLY

TRADED Through fair trade, small-scale farmers



are better able to support their families and stay on their land with better income and support from their co-operatives. St. Mark supports this mission to build long-term trade partnerships that are

economically just and environmentally sustainable, and to foster mutually beneficial relationships between small farmers and consumers (that's us!). Credit and Debit cards accepted.

Celebrating 22 years as part of St. Mark's Christmas Alternatives Program!

CHRISTMAS ALTERNATIVES 2022

A Twenty-Two Year Tradition

Are you struggling to find just the right gifts for family members and friends? Look no further than the St. Mark Christmas Alternatives shopping list!

Purchasing a gift through Christmas Alternatives honors the recipient and helps those who have so little, but need so much.

Please visit our displays in the narthex December 4th, 11th and 18th. We look forward to helping you select the perfect gift! Of course, you are also welcome to drop your completed shopping list and check (Christmas Alternatives on the memo line) in a collection plate, the church office or via mail. You will find the Christmas Alternatives Shopping List on the back of the bulletin.



THE TRADITION CONTINUES

The Angel Tree will once again be making an appearance in the Narthex. Please select an angel or two to help provide a Merry Christmas for one or more children. This year, Children's Ministry has selected Isaiah 58 as the recipient and they have provided a wish list for our Angel Tree. Please return your gift (\$15-25 range) and place it under the tree with the angel attached by December 18th.

GO GETTER CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



Please mark your calendars now to attend the St. Mark Go Getters Christmas luncheon to be held at the church at 12:00 noon on December 13, 2022. In typical fashion, we will cater our lunch so it is very important to get your reservation in soon. We will have our usual Christmas White Elephant gift exchange (\$10.00), and a surprise guest will entertain us. Please contact Jan Graves if you have any specific dietary needs and to RSVP.



We will gather for worship on Sunday, December 25 at 10 am for an uplifting service of carols, scripture, and a timely Christmas Day message. Everyone is invited to "come as you are" as we celebrate God's love coming down to all the earth!



UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER PARTY

Parents of preschool and elementary age kids (and anyone else who wants to join) - Join us Friday, December 16, at 6:30 pm for a holiday potluck and Ugly Sweater Contest. Bring your favorite side dish! Childcare will be provided at St. Mark from 6-10 pm. RSVP by December 11 to Shelley Lester.



CHRISTMAS EVE OPEN HOUSE

The Burgess Family invites you to join us for an informal open house on Christmas Eve. We will open our doors (419 Claymont Dr.) at 6:00 pm, and everyone is invited to come by for a time of light refreshment after the Family Service or before the Candlelight Service.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Woman of God® Wonderfully Made

St. Mark 26th Annual Women's Retreat
February 10-11, 2023
Toddhall Retreat Center
Save the date!

TRIVIA NIGHT IS BACK!
Details coming soon! Proceeds
benefit the 2023 St. Mark's Youth
Group Mission Trip to Puerto Rico.



Feasts of the Bible

Wednesday, January 25, 2023 1:00 p.m.

Throughout the Old Testament, God commanded the children of Israel to observe his holy days to remember the mighty things he had done in the lives of Israel's forefathers.

These were the celebrations during the times in which Jesus lived. FotB, Rose

Save the Date!

HOLIDAY CLOSURES AT ST. MARK

St. Mark will be closed the following days to observe the Christmas and New Year's holidays: December 26, 27, and January 2. Also, there will not be an evening worship service on Saturday, December 31.

DOXOLOGY

Peace On the Earth

Sussex Carol

The musical score consists of two staves of music. The top staff is in common time (indicated by a '4') and has a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is also in common time and has a key signature of one flat. Both staves begin with a treble clef. The lyrics are as follows:

 "Peace on the earth, Good Will to all, the
 "Peace on the earth, Good Will to all," we
 an - gels sang from Heav'n a - bove.
 go to share God's peace and Love.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. J. David Burgess
Associate Pastor: Rev. MP Panco
Dir. of Children's Ministry: Latisha Gilliland
Dir. of Claymont Preschool: Susan Talley



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*Dir. of Music: Ethan Forte
Saturday Musician: Mark Reynoso
Sunday Accompanist & Organist: Jee-Hye Lee
Special Music: Chancel Choir
Advent Liturgists: The Talley Family*

Honoring Family and Friends Through Alternative Giving

Because we are blessed with many material possessions, when Christmas comes around, we encounter a huge challenge selecting gifts for family and friends. Finding the perfect gift for someone who has many wonderful possessions is a difficult task! With this in mind, in 2001 the newly formed Mission Committee at St. Mark created "Christmas Alternatives."

Purchasing a gift through Christmas Alternatives honors the recipient and also aids deserving people who have so little, but need so much.

Thank you for your support during the past 21 years.
Your generosity has transformed lives and had a lasting impact around the world!

Christmas Alternatives 2022 - Our 22nd Year!

PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY, STATE, ZIP:

PHONE:

Do you want Christmas Cards ? YES NO

St. Mark Member ? YES NO

If Yes, contributions will be included on your annual giving statement.

If No, would you like us to mail you a receipt ? YES NO

DEADLINE: December 24th, 2022

Please include payment with form.

Give to Office Staff, place in night drop box in pastors' hallway

-- OR --

Mail to:

St. Mark Presbyterian Church

ATTN: Christmas Alternatives

601 Claymont Drive

Ballwin, MO 63011

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE SUBMITTED:

PAID?

Shopping List

2022 Christmas Alternatives

Marion Medical Mission (Africa)	Price	Qty	Total
Contribute to Build a Well (\$450/well)	\$ 25.00		
	Total		

Medical Benevolence Foundation	Price	Qty	Total
Nursing school scholarships: Malawi, Haiti, Dr Congo, Kenya	\$ 30.00		
Life Saver Clinics: Dr. Congo, Malawi, Kenya and Haiti	\$ 25.00		
Share for Greatest Needs (e.g., vaccinations, malaria nets)	\$ 15.00		
	Total		

Education Scholarship Partnership with Presbytery of Giddings Lovejoy	Price	Qty	Total
Plan Grande #2, Nicaragua High School (\$200/year/student)	\$ 25.00		
Kenyan Education Project, High School (\$500/year/student)	\$ 25.00		
	Total		

PCUSA International Food and Income Security	Price	Qty	Total
Family of Chickens	\$ 25.00		
Share of Cow (\$450/cow)	\$ 50.00		
Share of Goat (\$178/pair)	\$ 30.00		
Piglet	\$ 40.00		
Share of Bee Hive (\$240/hive)	\$ 20.00		
Share of Moringa Seeds (food for humans - \$40/bag)	\$ 10.00		
Share of Rainwater Catchment (\$75/system)	\$ 25.00		
Share of Sewing Machine (\$50 each)	\$ 25.00		
	Total		

PCUSA Mission Co-Workers	Price	Qty	Total
Rev. Jed and Jenny Koball, Peru	\$ 25.00		
Chenoa Stock, Peru	\$ 25.00		
	Total		

Presbyterian Childrens Homes and Services	Price	Qty	Total
Support Farmington Service Center community, family, and youth therapeutic programs	\$ 25.00		
	Total		

General Gift to Christmas Alternatives	Price	Qty	Total
St. Mark Mission Committee to Designate Recipients	\$ 50.00		
	Total		

SHOPPING LIST GRAND TOTAL	Qty	Total
Checks to: St. Mark Presbyterian Church Memo Line: Christmas Alternatives		\$