



November 25 & 26, 2023
Worship Bulletin

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

God of majesty, you love us with an everlasting love and show us the way to justice and peace. In Jesus Christ you reconciled the whole world to you and claimed us as your own, that we may live as his body on earth and, with all the saints, enter your glory on the last day. Amen.

PRELUDE (Sunday Worship)

The Thankful Heart Rejoices

Lani Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord God is our shepherd.

**We are the people of God's pasture,
the sheep of God's hand.**

God will seek the lost,
feed the hungry,
and strengthen the weak.

**But the proud and power-hungry
will be fed with justice.**

HYMN

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

Hymnal #2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sovereign God, we confess we are not ready for your holy realm. You guide us toward right paths, but we refuse to follow where you lead. You love, feed, and care for us, but we fail to love and serve others. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne. (Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

† GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

Hymnal #581

TIME WITH CHILDREN (Sunday Worship)

† HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Hymnal #263

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:31-46

SERMON

"Firmaments and Ferments"

Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Confession of 1967 9.54

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.

OFFERTORY

Thanks Be to Thee
Chancel Choir

Attributed to G.F. Handel
Arr. Albert Blackwell

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.

† HYMN

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”**Hymnal #268**

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“We Lift Our Voices”**Hymnal #710**

(Sunday Worship)

POSTLUDE (Sunday Worship)

Come, Ye Thankful People

William Stickles

† *In body or in spirit, please rise.***UPCOMING EVENTS****November****26** Adult Sunday School, 8:50 am**27** Prayer Circle, 9:30 am**28** Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am**30** Surviving the Holidays, 6:30 pm**December****3** Children's Christmas Musical, 4 pm**3** Jingle Mingle, 5 pm**9** Santa Breakfast, 9:30 am**10** Christmas Cantata, 10 am**12** Go Getter Luncheon at St. Mark, 12 pm**14** Blue Christmas Service, 7 pm**15** Supper Club Pot Luck, 6 pm**16** Nativity Displays, Before & After Worship**24** Christmas Eve Services, 5 pm & 7 pm**THE SEASON OF ADVENT**JOIN US FOR OUR ADVENT
WORSHIP SERVICES

DECEMBER 3	HOPE
DECEMBER 10	PEACE
DECEMBER 17	JOY
DECEMBER 24	LOVE


**JOIN US ON
CHRISTMAS EVE**
5:00 PM
FAMILY WORSHIP

7:00 PM
CANDLELIGHT


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.

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

Devotional Booklets, *These Days* are available 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 in the Sanctuary are donated by Martin Gabbert. "In memory of his wife".

TO MEMBERS: 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.

WAYS TO GIVE: There are several convenient and easy ways to contribute to St. Mark:

In-person: During Sunday 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

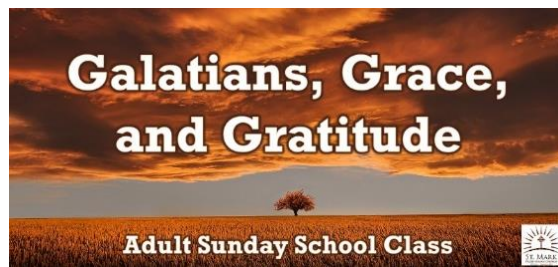
Online: To donate, use the **QR Code** here to be directed to our giving page on discoverstmark.org.



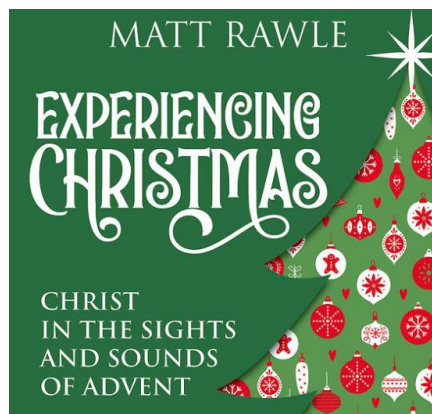
ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

ST. MARK MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The men's bible study meets in room 102 every Tuesday at 7:30 am. We are starting a new book, *What's So Amazing About Grace* by Philip Yancy. All men are welcome! You may contact Glen Corlett or Bruce Cranston for more information.



It's time to gather once again for our adult Sunday school class at St. Mark. "Galatians, Grace, and Gratitude" will meet every Sunday until December 3 at 8:50 AM in Room 102. Please spread the word about this new educational opportunity, and we hope to see you this week. Let Pastor Dave know if you have any thoughts, questions, or if you need the ZOOM link for remote participation.



FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Join us Friday mornings from 9:00 am - 10:00 am on December 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd, either in person or

on Zoom. You can buy the book if you desire but it is not necessary though we will be drawing from parts of it for the discussion. If you have any questions or want the Zoom link, contact Pastor MP.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school for children PreK - 5th grade takes place during Sunday worship, immediately following the Children's Message.

NURSERY

Nursery Care, for ages 0 – 2 years, is available Sunday mornings from 8:30 am - 11:00 am

SUNDAY SCHOOL SIGN IN!

Please be sure to sign in your student(s) for Sunday School! Parents will receive a card after Time With Children with a QR code for access to the sign in. Please register your student(s) so that we can contact you via text if needed.

CELEBRATING JESUS' BIRTH



Happy Birthday Jesus" Cake Party Bag: Merry Christmas from Children's Ministries and Youth! We thought you might like to celebrate the birth of God's Son

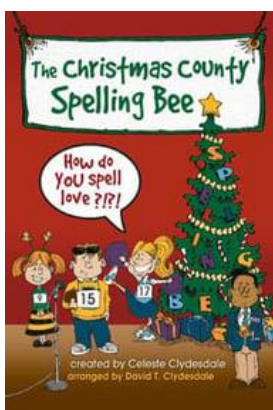
so we put together a birthday cake "kit" for Jesus for you to make at home! Included in each bag is a cake mix, sprinkles, one candle, icing and an advent calendar. It's just our way of saying, "Have a Merry, Blessed Christmas!" (available the first Sunday in Advent -Sunday, December 3rd).



DECEMBER 3 CHILDREN'S MUSICAL - 4PM

JINGLE MINGLE – 5 PM

Join **Children's Ministries** and the **Fellowship Committee** on December 3rd for the Children's Musical "The Christmas County Spelling Bee" beginning at 4 pm in the Sanctuary. Immediately following the show, please join us for the Jingle Mingle in the Narthex from 5 pm to 7pm. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share and Fellowship will provide a festive punch to wash down all the yummy treats!



SPECIAL DELIVERY FROM THE NORTH POLE

Return to Candy Cane Lane, and Enjoy Breakfast with Santa

MENU:
SCRAMBLED EGGS,
BISCUITS/GRAVY,
SAUSAGE, PANCAKES,
FRUIT, COFFEE/HOT COCOA

OUR FUN ACTIVITIES INCLUDE- A BAKE SALE AT THE LITTLE ELF BAKE SHOP, ARTS & CRAFTS, CAKE WALK, AND COOKIE DECORATING

SATURDAY 12/9 @ 9:30-11:30

St Mark Presbyterian Church 601 Claymont Dr Ballwin, MO 63011

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH



Join Us For...

YOUTH WEDNESDAYS

Nov. 1st, 8th, 15th, 29th

SEEK * DISCOVER * SHARE

Youth 6th grade and up meet Wednesdays from 6:00 – 7:00 pm (unless noted otherwise) for food, fun, fellowship, and faith! If you have any questions, contact pastor MP mpanco@discoverstmark.org or call the church office.



Our December Youth Hangout will take place at the ZOO! If you have not reserved your tickets or have any questions contact Pastor MP
mpanco@discoverstmark.org.

Youth Music Ensemble
Rehearsals Dec. 3rd & 10th
11:15am - 12:15pm
Contact Pastor MP
mpanco@discoverstmark.org
 Play in worship December 17th

MISSION AT ST. MARK

THE TRADITION CONTINUES ...

The Angel Tree will once again be making an appearance in the Narthex on Sunday, November 19. Please select an angel or two to help provide a Merry Christmas for one or more children. This year, Children's Ministries has selected Isaiah 58 as the recipient, and they have provided a wish list for our Angel Tree. Please return your gift (\$20-25 range) and place it under the tree with the angel attached by December 17th.



New and gently used clean winter coats and clothing are needed for men, women, and kids, all sizes, and styles. Our mission partners will ensure someone in need receives your gift of warmth! Place your donations in the foyer outside the office.

NOVEMBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS



- Hearty Soups
- Canned Vegetables (not green beans)
- Canned Fruit
- Size 6 Baby Diapers, Baby Wipes
- Adult Incontinence Products *

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

Equal Exchange / Fairly Traded in the Narthex - December 3, 10, & 17



Great host/hostess gifts and treats for you and your loved ones!

When you choose Equal Exchange, you're supporting a more equitable alternative trade system that empowers local

communities and small family farms worldwide.

Cash, Credit, Debit, Tap accepted.



Saturday
 November 18th
 10:00 am
 or
 Thursday
 November 30th
 6:30 pm

The Holidays are fast approaching, and the hustle and bustle of this happy season will soon begin. For some people, however, this time of year is anything but happy. The holidays have a completely different feeling when you have lost a loved one. Going out to parties, being with people is not what you want to do. Join us for Surviving the Holidays. It is a one-time two-hour session that will try to help you find the tools to get through the holidays. If you have any questions, contact Pastor MP at mpanco@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.

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

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



On Sunday, December 17, we invite you to share your nativity/creche with St. Mark before and after worship service. Tables will be provided in the Narthex to set up your display and we encourage you to share your family traditions with the church. For more information contact Sally Shepherd or Mary Beth Powell.



Parents of preschool and elementary age kids (and anyone else who wants to join) - Join us Friday, December 15, at 6 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. Got to this link to RSVP by December 11.

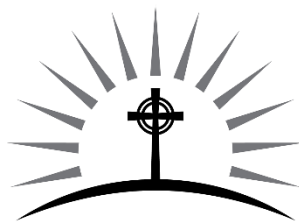
<https://www.evite.com/event/02BAQMXERRINLU7QEEPOM7K4AHX4EQ/> or contact Shelley Lester.

HONORING FAMILY AND FRIENDS THROUGH ALTERNATIVE GIVING

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 helps deserving people who have so little but need so much. Items may be purchased in the Narthex on December 3, 10, and 17.



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



ST. MARK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PC(USA) · BALLWIN, MO

601 Claymont Drive
Ballwin, MO 63011
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discoverstmark.org

Dir. of Music: Ethan Forte
Saturday Musician: Mark Reynoso
Sunday Accompanist & Organist: Jee-Hye Lee
Special Music: Chancel Choir
Sunday Liturgist: Emme Douglas