



December 24, 2023  
Worship Bulletin

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## CENTERING PRAYER

Mighty God, your faithfulness is magnified in the coming of your Son, in the long-awaited birth of the promised Messiah. May we, like Mary, proclaim your greatness as we rejoice in our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PRELUDE

*All My Heart This Night Rejoices*

Lyndell Leatherman

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

## HYMN

**“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”**

**Hymnal #100**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Faithful God, we know you are always there to guide us, yet we often make plans without listening to you and discover our human agendas can drown out our ability to hear your will for us. We repent of these faults and turn to you in love. Forgive our offenses and pardon our sins, that our lives may magnify your holy name forever.**  
(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

## † HYMN

**“Angels We Have Heard on High”**

**Hymnal #113**

## SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-55

## SERMON

“She Knew”

Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess

## † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## OFFERTORY

Let the Christ Child In  
Chancel Choir

Jay Althouse and Sally K. Albrecht

## † THE DOXOLOGY

**Hymnal #609**

## 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	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”	Hymnal #132
†CHARGE AND BLESSING		
†BENEDICTION RESPONSE	“Peace on the Earth”	See below
POSTLUDE	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	Michael Burkhardt

† In body or in spirit, please rise.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### December

**25 & 26** The Church Office is closed for the Christmas Holiday

**27-29** The Church Office hours are 9 am – 12 pm

**28** Chair Exercise, 10 am

**31** Lessons in Carols & Pajama Sunday Worship Service, 10 am

**31** Congregational Meeting, immediately following worship service

#### January

**1** The Church office is closed for the New Year Holiday

**17** Potluck Dinner & Program, 5 pm

**28** Chili Cookoff, 11 am

Peace On the Earth Sussex Carol

The image shows musical notation for two songs. The first line is for 'Peace On the Earth' in G major, 4/4 time. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, and ends on G5. The lyrics are: "Peace on the earth, Good Will to all, the earth, Good Will to all, we". The second line is for 'Sussex Carol' in G major, 4/4 time. The melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, and ends on G5. The lyrics are: an go - gels sang from Heav'n a - bove. go to share God's peace and Love.

## 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.

**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](https://discoverstmark.org).



## GIVING FOR 2023

All financial gifts need to be delivered to the church office or postmarked by **December 30** to be credited to your 2023 giving statement for IRS purposes.

JOIN US ON  
**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
5:00 PM FAMILY WORSHIP  7:00 PM CANDLELIGHT

CHRISTMAS  
PAJAMA WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 31, 2023  
Join us for a festive and cozy Christmas Pajama Worship Service. Slip into your favorite PJs, bring a friend, and get ready for a special Sunday at St. Mark  
[www.discoverstmark.org](https://www.discoverstmark.org)

## ST. MARK HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The church office will be closed Monday, December 25, Tuesday, December 26, and Monday, January 1. On December 27-29, the office will be open from 9 am – 12 pm. Normal office hours will resume on Tuesday, January 2.

## CONGRATIONAL MEETING DECEMBER 31

There will be a brief congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, December 31 to vote on the persons to fill several vacant spots on the Board of Deacons. An option to participate via Zoom will not be offered for this meeting due to the limited availability of staff and volunteers during this holiday weekend.

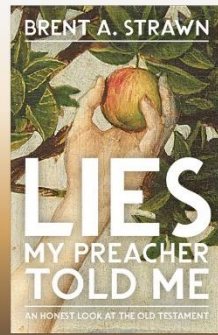
## ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

## NURSERY

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

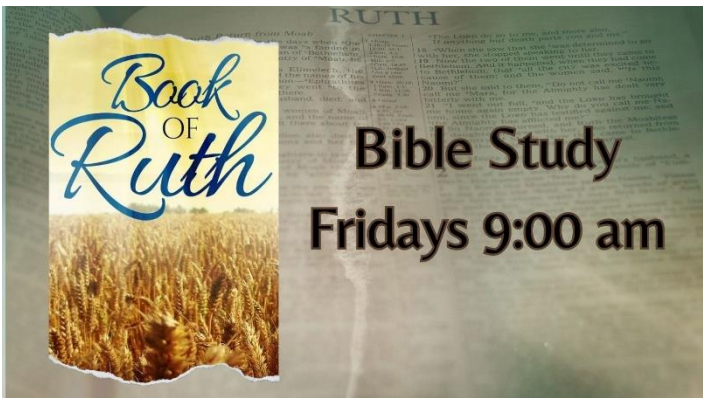
All-Church Book Study  
Arriving in January 2024

Pick up your copy today!



## ST. MARK MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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



Join us Friday mornings from 9:00 - 10:00 am on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> either in person or on Zoom. There is no book to buy. If you have any questions or want the Zoom link, contact pastor MP [mpanco@discoverstmark.org](mailto:mpanco@discoverstmark.org).

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

## 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.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH



Youth 6<sup>th</sup> grade are meeting 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](mailto:mpanco@discoverstmark.org) or call the church office.



If you have a youth 7<sup>th</sup> grade or older who would like to explore more about what it means to be a Christian, this is the place! Students will meet weekly along with their mentors and talk about their faith and what they believe about Jesus, religion, the church, and more! Never too late to join in!

## MISSION AT ST. MARK

**WANTED**  
**Winter Coats**

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.

## DECEMBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS



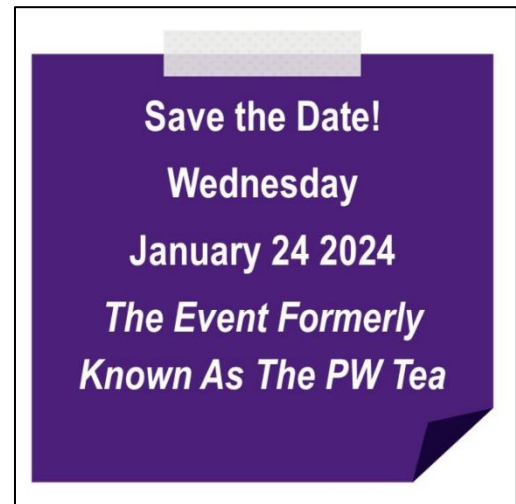
- Kid-friendly Cereal
- Instant Oatmeal
- Jelly (we have peanut butter)
- Adult personal care products (shampoo, deodorant, bar soap, toothpaste & toothbrushes, lotion) Please place donations on the table in the Pastors' hallway.



Thank you to all Presbyterian Women who participated in the annual PW "60 Gifts for 60 Children." All the gifts were selected for individual children either by the child, parent or foster parent. Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services collects over 500 gifts each year.

St. Mark donated 65 gifts, so as usual we went over our goal! Thank you!

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



## FAITH STORIES

This past summer, a number of St. Mark members began a journey which included **seeking** examples of other writers and their faith, **discovering** how to write about their faith experience, and **sharing** their writing with others.

Fifteen faith stories written by members of our congregation have been posted on the St. Mark blog throughout this past summer and fall at <https://discoverstmark.blogspot.com/search/label/Faith%20Story>, and more may be added in the future. If you want to submit your own story, send to Bill Tucker. In the meantime, "Share the faith!"



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**FEBRUARY 24, 2024**



## **JANUARY POTLUCK**

The midweek potluck meal resumes on Wednesday, January 17 at 5pm. Bring your favorite potluck dish and join us for food, fellowship, and an informative program.



This year for the Super Bowl of Caring, as a little treat to all of us, MP has agreed to dye her hair purple, orange, or blue. To make this happen we need your help. We need to collect enough money plus food in pounds to add up to 1000 total. So, the question is, are you ready to make this happen?



## **POINSETTIAS**

The beautiful Poinsettias in our Sanctuary were donated by the following families in celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Donna Bosenbecker  
Mark & Stacey Caplinger  
Peggy Carson  
Vicki & Mike Chabot  
Laurie Dolson  
Pat Eisenberg  
Ron & Shirley Goff  
Donna Kniep  
Glenn Knopf  
Laurie Lambie  
Bertha Larez  
Mike & Marilyn McMillen  
Linda Morrison

Casey Pfarr  
Becky & Randy Pierce  
Rick, Mary Beth & Gaspode Powell  
Debbie & Phil Rahn  
Judy Richardson  
Linda & Hugh Smith  
Jean Steward  
Nancy Sutch  
Mike & Judy Vroman  
Bruce Walz  
Mark & Carol Weber  
Dale Weir  
Cathy & Don York

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



601 Claymont Drive  
Ballwin, MO 63011  
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*Dir. of Music: Ethan Forte*  
*Sunday Accompanist & Organist: Jee-Hye Lee*  
*Special Music: Chancel Choir*  
*Sunday Advent Liturgists: The Shaffer Family*