



November 24, 2024
Reign of Christ Sunday
Worship Bulletin

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

Sovereign God, come to us now in silent, holy power. Still our distracted minds, our bruised hearts, our longing bodies. Then speak the power of Jesus' name in such a way that we might hear it, in such a way that we might bear it into the world – as a people who seek not to preserve what we know but to make palpable who you are – for we move and pray by the gift of your breath within us. Amen.

PRELUDE

Flourish on "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

Michael Ryan

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Grace to you and peace from the one who is
and who was and who is to come,
**and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the
kings of the earth.**
Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts.
The whole earth is full of God's glory.

† HYMN

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Hymnal #268

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we dare to call you LORD, but yield to you only fragments of our lives. You had nowhere to lay your head; we surround ourselves with comfort. We expect to serve you with what remains after we have indulged our desires. Forgive our greed, our lack of trust, and our hesitancy to trust you fully. In your abundant mercy, teach us what it means to follow, even at the cost of our lives. (Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

† GLORY TO GOD

Hymnal #582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

† HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Hymnal #263

SCRIPTURE

John 18:33-37

SERMON

"Gotcha Questions, Godly Answers"

Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

A. That I belong--body and soul, in life and in death--not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

OFFERING

Make It a Day of Thanksgiving
Chancel Choir

Mark Patterson

† THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

Hymnal #366

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”
Verse Three

Hymnal #611

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

POSTLUDE

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Lani Smith

†In body or spirit, please rise

November

UPCOMING EVENTS

24 Giving Thanks Meal, Following Worship

10 Go Getter Christmas Luncheon, 12 pm

25 Prayer Circle, 9:30 am

13 Holiday Party, 5 pm

26 Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am

14 Santa Breakfast, 9:30 am

26 Yoga, 6:30 pm

15 Christmas Cantata, During Worship

December

15 Garden Glow, Family Outing, 5 pm

5 Surviving the Holidays, 6:30 pm

19 Blue Christmas Service, 7 pm

8 Children & Youth Christmas Program, 4 pm

24 Children's Christmas Service, 4 pm

8 Jingle Mingle, 5 pm

24 Candlelight Christmas Service, 7 pm

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 available from a sound technician in the booth at the back of the sanctuary. Large print bulletins and hymnals are also available upon request from an usher.

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 "Sanctuary and Main Office" door and will be admitted by a member of the Safety Team.

Flowers for the Sanctuary are donated by Martin Gabbert. "In memory of his wife Mary Lou".

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.



PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

The pastors are generally available: Pastor Dave - Monday through Thursday from 8:15 am – 1 pm. Pastor MP - Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 9 am – 12 pm. Both are available at other times by appointment. Please contact the church office to confirm their availability or to schedule an appointment.



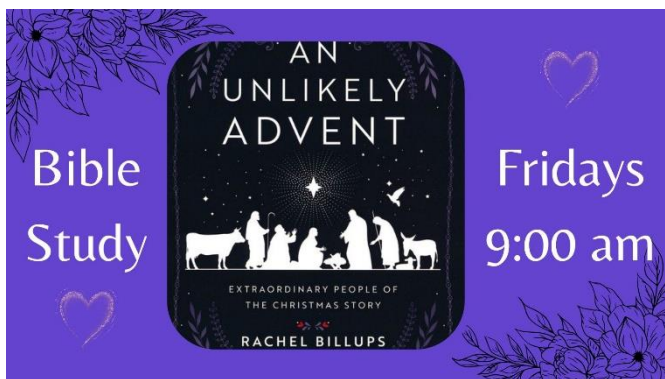
Fall has arrived, there's a crispness in the morning air; the holiday season is upon us! The Fellowship Committee wants everyone to mark their calendars for St. Mark's annual **GIVING THANKS dinner on Sunday, November 24**, immediately after the worship service. Please join us as we all gather together to, share in fellowship, good conversation and laughter while enjoying a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with one another. We invite you to bring your favorite dessert to share...we'll take care of everything else!

As we reflect on our blessings, we realize that many of our neighbors are not as fortunate. This year, we are seeking to stock the shelves at Circle of Concern and Isaiah 58 with items that are frequently asked for, but surprisingly rarely donated for holiday meals. The following list of items will give people the opportunity to select ingredients for them to make some of their most treasured dishes: canned yams/sweet potatoes, canned spinach, shortening, baking soda, baking powder, vanilla extract, chocolate chips, cooking/baking spices (chili powder, paprika, black pepper, garlic and onion powders, cinnamon), baking mixes (cookies, cakes, brownies, quick breads). All donations can be placed on the tables located in the lobby outside the church office.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

St. Mark Men meet in Room 102 every Tuesday at 7:30 am. Contact Bruce Cranston for more information.



Friday morning Advent Bible study 9:00 am-10:00 am four Fridays, November 22, December 6, 13, and 20 in room 102 @ St. Mark. We will be reading through the book that would be helpful, but it is not necessary to attend the study. Questions should be directed to Pastor MP mpanco@discoverstmark.org.

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.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

PreK Choir – 5:00 – 5:25 pm
Elementary Choir – 5:30 – 6:30 pm



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 Ministries has selected Isaiah 58 as the recipient, and they have provided a wish list for our Angel Tree. Especially needed are gifts for teens. Please return your gift (\$20-25 range) and place it under the tree with the angel attached by December 15th.



Kids and Youth Christmas Program, 4:00pm

Join us on Sunday, at 4:00pm for the Children & Youth Christmas Celebration. We will kick off Advent with a special celebration of Jesus's birth, including a carol sing-along! Immediately following the show, we will have our annual **Jingle Mingle**! Everyone is invited to bring an appetizer or dessert to share with one another as we embrace the festive holiday season. Delicious Food, Wonderful Company, plus a touch of whimsy are sure to bring a smile to your face and a special warmth to your heart! We'll look forward to seeing you then!



Return once again to Candy Cane Lane at St. Mark for breakfast with Santa on December 14, 9:30 – 11:30 am. Festivities include music from the St. Mark Youth Ensemble, Jingle Bell Sing along, crafts, cake walk, photo opportunities, & storytime with Santa at 10:30 am. The breakfast menu includes scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, sausage, pancakes, fruit, coffee, and hot chocolate. All are welcome!

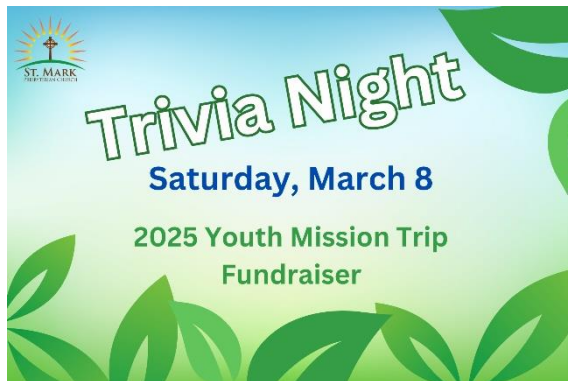
WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH

YOUTH WEDNESDAYS November 6th, 13th, 20th



Youth 6th grade – 12th – Join us for food, fun, faith, and fellowship! If you have any questions, contact Pastor MP.

Sunday
December
15th. Garden
Glow at the
Botanical
Gardens. We
have a
private fire
pit reserved
from 5 pm-7 pm and smore's and hot cocoa for everyone! Contact pastor MP with any questions and to get your tickets.



Many people in our region lack enough warm clothing to stay protected throughout winter. 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!

HONORING FAMILY AND FRIENDS THROUGH ALTERNATIVE GIVING

Finding the perfect, meaningful gift for someone who has many wonderful possessions is a difficult task! With this in mind, the newly formed Mission Committee at St. Mark created "Christmas Alternatives" in 2001.



Purchasing a gift through Christmas Alternatives honors the recipient and will help lift a family out of poverty. That family will in turn help another community member. Every gift is another word in an ongoing story of hope that will help create a cycle of change for generations to come.

A copy of the "shopping list" is available in this month's Messenger and on the welcome desk. Displays will be in the Narthex on December 8, 15, & 22.

MISSION AT ST. MARK NOVEMBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Canned Pasta with Meat
- Canned Vegetables (no green beans please)
- Canned Chicken & Sardines
- Canned Fruit
- Shampoo and Deodorant*



All year long, we collect food and hygiene items for Circle of Concern and Isaiah 58 Ministries.

*Non-food products such as tampons and feminine pads cannot be purchased with food stamps.

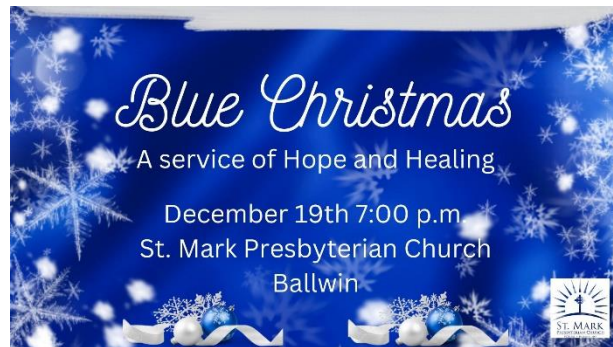


LET'S RECYCLE TOGETHER ... plastic caps and lids STILL wanted!

This summer, St. Mark donated another ADA picnic table to Mound Ridge made from the plastic lids you donated. Plastic in our world is not going away anytime soon, so let's keep it out of the landfill and turn it into something with another useful purpose! Please drop off your caps and lids in the collection bin near the Youth table in the Narthex. Go to discoverstmark.org for a list of the types of lids we collect.



The holidays are fast approaching. Are you dreading them because of the loss of a loved one? Do you need help surviving the holidays? Join us on Thursday, December 5th at 6:30 pm. This one-time event will help you find ways to navigate the holidays in a caring, supportive environment. For more information contact Debbie Hames.



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.



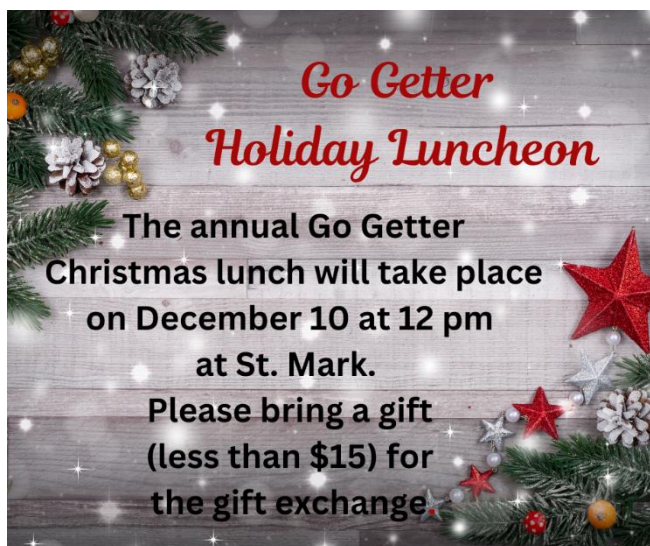
MERRY & BRIGHT HOLIDAY POTLUCK

Parents of preschool and elementary age kids (and anyone else who wants to join) are invited to the Burgess house on Friday, December 13 at 5 pm for a holiday potluck. Childcare will be provided at St. Mark from 5 – 10 pm. For more information, please contact Michelle Rochow.



ST. MARK ANGELS

On Sunday, December 15, tables will be set up in the Narthex to display your angels (similar to crèches last year). Please write a message telling us why your angels are special to you. Contact MaryBeth Powell or Sally Shepherd for questions.



Pastor: Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess
Associate Pastor: Rev. MP Panco
Dir. of Children's Ministry: Latisha Gilliland
Dir. Of Claymont Preschool: Jessie Bahr



ST. MARK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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website: discoverstmark.org

Dir. of Music: Ethan Forte
Accompanist & Organist: JeeHye Lee
Special Music: Chancel Choir
Liturgist: Brian Sprague