



Discover Sunday
September 14, 2025
Worship Bulletin

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

Merciful Lord, in Christ we see the lengths and depths to which you go to save us. Make us glad in our salvation, so we may share this good news with friends and neighbors and with the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Slane

Douglas E Wagner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice with me, people of God.

God has gathered us in from the wilderness.

Rejoice with me, people of God.

God has swept away the darkness of the night.

Rejoice with me, people of God.

Today, there is joy in the presence of the angels.

† HYMN

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine”

Hymnal #839

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, forgive your foolish people. We are skilled in doing evil, but we do not know how to do good.

Create in us a clean heart, O God; **put a new and right spirit within us.**

We forget all you do for us and make false idols to be our gods.

Create in us a clean heart, O God; **put a new and right spirit within us.**

We act faithlessly, violently, and scorn your name.

Create in us a clean heart, O God; **put a new and right spirit within us.** (Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

† GLORIA PATRI

Hymnal #581

Glory be to the Father,

and to the Son,

and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ever shall be,

world without end.

Amen, amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

† HYMN

“Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet”

Hymnal #458

Sing Twice

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-10

SERMON

“Laugh with the Sinners”

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

Make This Church a Welcome Place
Chancel Choir

Joel Raney & J. Paul Williams

† THE DOXOLOGY

Hymnal #609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Hymnal #649

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†BENEDICTION

"We Will Walk with God"

Hymnal #742

RESPONSE

Sing Twice

We will walk with God, my brothers;
we will walk with God.
We will walk with God, my sisters;
we will walk with God.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.
We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

POSTLUDE

A Festival Day

David Lasky

†In body or spirit, please rise.

September

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 14** St. Mark Discover Sunday, 9:00 am
- 15** Prayer Circle, 9:30 am
- 16** Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am
- 17** September Potluck & Program, 5 pm
- 17** Children & Youth activities, 5 pm & 6 pm
- 17** Bell & Choir practices, 6 pm & 7 pm

- 18** Chair Exercise, 10 am
- 19** Friday Morning Bible Study, 9 am
- 21** New Adult Sunday School Class, 8:50 am
- 21** Confirmation Meeting, 11:15 am
- 21** Pet Parade & Blessing, 3 pm
- 28** Sunday School Teacher Training, 11:15 am

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 main 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 door at the office entrance and will be admitted by a member of the Security Team.

Flowers in the Sanctuary are donated by Jack and Betsy Morgan in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

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.



PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS - BACKPACKS

For the past 12 years, Chester Presbyterian Church, in the Presbytery of the James, has partnered with Marguerite Christian Elementary School to provide backpacks of food for children to take home over the weekend — as well as a drive-through café that meets the needs of 90 to 105 residents weekly.

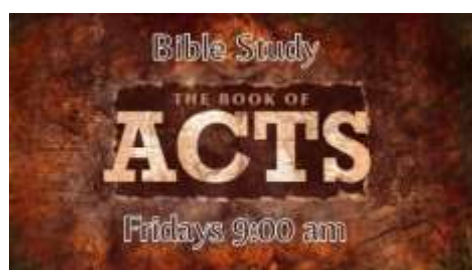
Jane Ward, a retired high school marketing teacher who coordinates the congregation's "Backpack Buddies" program, said, "Even though you wouldn't think there's poverty here because we're pretty middle class, you'll find a lot of low-income residents. And because many in our community make minimum wage working in restaurants or food service, their families need the food to get them through the weekend."

This is an example of a way that one congregation works within the community to address needs with practical assistance and compassion. The 25% of the offering that is retained by the local church is meant to advance peace and reconciliation. St. Mark's portion goes to Presbyterian Children's Home and Services and St. John's Peace Meal.

USHERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed to serve on teams of 6-8 as ushers. Teams serve one month at a time. Men, especially, are needed as a number of women have already volunteered. Please contact Roy McBee if you are interested.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK



Bible Study continues under the leadership of Donna Schiro. We meet on Friday mornings at 9 am in Room 102. Come and be a part of the fun and fellowship, in person or via Zoom, as we study God's Word.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We have a new year and a new book coming for Men's Tuesday Bible Study. We will use Max Lucado's book, *You Are Never Alone*. It uses the Gospel of John as a source of God's active presence in our lives. We will start our study beginning September 9th at 7:30am. All men are welcome! You can purchase the book on Amazon. If you have questions call or email Bruce Cranston.



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, except for the first Sunday of the month when the nursery is open but there is no attendant present.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES

Midweek Praise Club, 5:30 – 6:30 pm



RENEWAL TEACHER TRAINING LUNCHEON

There will be a one-time training for all teachers and also those who would like to be a part of our Team immediately following worship on September 28 from 11:15 am – 12:15 pm.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH



Youth 6th– 12th grade. Join us for food, fun, faith, and fellowship! If you have any questions, call the church office.



MISSION AT ST. MARK SEPTEMBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Sardines & Chili
- Cooking Oil
- Shampoo*
- Razors & Shaving Cream*
- Laundry Detergent*



All year long, we collect food and hygiene items for Circle of Concern and Isaiah 58 Ministries. Please place your donations on the mission table outside the church office. *Non-food products cannot be purchased with food stamps.



EQUAL EXCHANGE

In the Narthex on September 14

Every time we serve Equal Exchange coffee at St Mark or sell Equal Exchange products we are making a strong statement about our values. We are proclaiming that our congregation

believes that it's vital to keep small farmers on the land providing food for their families and having some economic control over their lives; that it's important to work with indigenous producers and women; that sustainable agricultural methods are a vital way to address climate change.

Cash, Credit, Debit, Digital Wallet Payments Accepted.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

BOOK CLUB

The Presbyterian Women's Book Club meets September 24th to select books for the coming year. Please submit nominees that you have read and enjoyed to Judy Richardson.



PW is collecting for Newborns in Need during the month of September.

Newborns In Need is a charity that specializes in the needs of babies facing health or economic crisis in St. Louis. It is a local and national nonprofit organization.

New and gently used baby items such as bibs, booties, burp cloths, hats, onesies, socks, sweaters, and undershirts, sleepers, blankets, baby wash, wipes and diapers are accepted and may be placed in the playpen by the PW table.

Monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Make checks out to Newborns In Need and ask for a tax receipt. Mail to: **Newborns In Need** c/o Judy Giovanoni, 310 Oxford Ridge Ct., Ellisville, MO 63021. For more information, call Shirley Boeker.

PRESBYTERY-WIDE PW FALL GATHERING AT ST. MARK

You are invited to join us for the program, "The Fire of Our Foremothers" on Saturday, October 25. The day begins with chair exercise at 8 am, followed by a continental breakfast. The program and worship begin at 10 am, featuring Reverend MP Panco as keynote speaker. The day concludes as we gather for lunch at 12:30 pm. Registration forms are on the PW table in the Narthex.



Midweek Church Potluck

Sept. 17 – 5:00 PM



Wednesday Evening Enrichment



Fair Trade Chocolate Tasting
Sept. 17 – 6:00 PM

SEPTEMBER POTLUCK AND PROGRAM

The mission committee is sponsoring the September 17th potluck. The educational program will be presented by Kirsten King of Equal Exchange via zoom. Join us to learn about the Equal Exchange organization and regenerative cocoa farming and chocolate production then enjoy an Equal Exchange chocolate tasting!

OCTOBER GO GETTER LUNCHEON

Go Getters will meet on Tuesday, October 7 at Mimi's Cafe at noon.

We hope you can join us for lunch and good times together!

Please let Judy Richardson know if you plan to attend.



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



601 Claymont Drive
Ballwin, MO 63011
(636)394-2233
website: discoverstmark.org

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