



Worship Bulletin

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

Gracious God, with grateful hearts we gather to honor you. May your praises fill the whole earth. We are thankful for your mighty works, and for the tender care you give us. We praise you with our voices, our bodies, our instruments, ourselves. We join all of creation to give you praise. In the name of your Son, our Lord, amen.

PRELUDE

World Communion Sunday

James Michael Stevens

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the midst of war and division, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end.**

In the midst of devastation and loss, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end.**

In the midst of change and uncertainty, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end;**

They are new every morning.

Great is your faithfulness, O God!

† HYMN

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

Hymnal #318

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. We look at a world undone by strife, torn by violence, separated by hatred. Yet, you call us to walk the way of peace. Forgive us, O Lord, for refusing to follow you on this path because the cost is too high, the direction too confusing, the conditions too harsh. Forgive us our complacency. Grant us clarity of vision to see the light, and the strength to walk behind you. We pray this in the power of the Spirit. (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 (Children's Sunday School is in Fellowship Hall)

† HYMN

“As the Wind Song”

Hymnal #292

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 137:1-9, Lamentations 1:1-6, 3:19-26

SERMON

“Empty Chairs”

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

Take My Life And Let Me Be
Chancel Choir

David H 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!**

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord’s Prayer
Words of Institution
Sharing of the Bread & Cup
Prayer After Communion

† HYMN

“We Are Marching in the Light of God”

Hymnal #853

V. 1 - Marching, V. 2 - Singing, V. 3 - Dancing

†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

Postlude on “Duke Street”

David Lasky

†In body or spirit, please rise.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October

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| 5 Adult Sunday School, 8:50 am | 10 Friday Morning Bible Study, 9:30 am |
| 6 Prayer Circle, 9:30 am | 12 Equal Exchange in the Narthex |
| 7 Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am | 15 Pot Luck & Program, 5 pm |
| 8 Bell & Choir practices, 6 pm & 7 pm | 19 Fall Festival, 11 am |
| 8 Children & Youth activities, 5 pm & 6 pm | 26 Blood Drive, 8:30 am |
| 9 Chair Exercise, 10 am | 26 Reformation Sunday and Pipes & Pies |

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 Judy Richardson.

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

Peace and Global Witness Offering--World Communion Sunday

Through our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, we are able, as a single congregation, to participate in the larger work outside of St. Louis. Our gifts combine with churches across the denomination to sow seeds of peace at home and around the globe.

The Presbyterian Confession of 1967 invites us, the Church, to be "emissaries of peace." It also reminds us that "with an urgency born of this hope, the Church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world."

We are the peacemakers. And when we all do a little, it adds up to a lot. Please give generously. The 25% that St. Mark retains will be divided between Presbyterian Children's Home and Services and the Peace Meal program at St. John Episcopal Church in St. Louis. Be a part of those initiatives, in St. Louis and around the world.

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



SUNDAYS AT 8:50

FRIDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Starting Friday, October 3, 2025, the Friday Bible Study Group, led by Donna Schiro, will be changing their meeting time to 9:30 - 10:30 am (in Room 102 and via Zoom). On this date we will also begin a new 8-week study book called "Angels" by Vinita Hampton Wright. PLEASE JOIN US!

"What - or who - are angels? Where did they come from, and what is their purpose? What is their relationship to us as human beings? This study will explore numerous Bible passages that reveal the services these heavenly beings perform, the part they play in spirituality, and how they differ from other beings in God's created order."

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Tuesday Bible Study is reading 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. All men are welcome to join us for Bible study every Tuesday morning at 7:30 am! 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



Join us from 11:15 am – 1:30 pm for food, root beer garden, Good Turn Daily Band, bounce house, pumpkin decorating, balloon artists, and more!

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH

YOUTH WEDNESDAYS

Join us on
October 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
6:00 – 7:00 pm



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 OCTOBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Dinner Helpers & Canned Chicken
- Cereal/Oatmeal
- Snacks
- Canned Tomatoes



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.

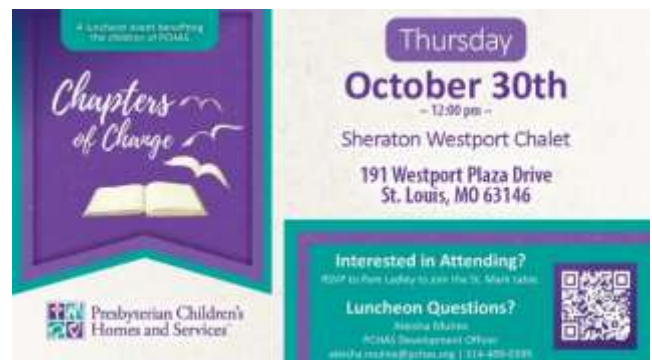
EQUAL EXCHANGE

In the Narthex on October 12
Hot Cocoa Season is Almost
Here!



EE supports “regenerative” agriculture, a shift beyond sustainability or resilience: interconnecting a better quality of life with a healthy planet, rejecting massive profits and unfettered growth as the ultimate goals. Regenerative Ag emphasizes restoring ecosystems, building equitable systems, and fostering long-term well-being.

If you'd like to learn how you can be part of the Citizen-Community, check out EE resources or sign up to keep informed of webinars, events, etc. at <https://shop.equalexchange.coop/pages/join>
Cash, Credit, Debit, Digital Wallet Payments Accepted.



This year's annual luncheon in support of Presbyterian Children's Home and Services will be held on Wednesday, October 30th at the Sheraton Westport Chalet. If you'd like to attend with other St. Mark members, please contact Pam Ladley.

OCTOBER GO GETTER LUNCHEON

Go Getters will meet on Tuesday, October 14
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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet Wednesday, October 29, at 9:30 am. There is an option to participate virtually as well as in person. Contact Judy Richardson for a Zoom invitation to participate virtually.



PIPES AND PIES

Fall has arrived,
and that means our
annual “**Pipes and
Pies**” celebration

is just around the corner! On **Reformation Sunday, October 26**, the sanctuary will be filled with the sound of bagpipes as we celebrate the tradition and heritage that grounds our faith. It's also the time for us to celebrate Dave's anniversary with St. Mark with slices of pie! The Fellowship Committee invites you to join us by bringing in your favorite pies to share with one another after the worship service. It's sure to be a wonderful (and tasty) celebration for all!

ST. MARK BLOOD DRIVE



Please mark your calendar for the next Red Cross Blood drive being held on Sunday, October 26 from 8:30 am – 1:30 pm in Gleason Hall. Register at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>. Enter code: Saintmarkpres.



GLPW Fall Gathering October 25, 2025 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at St. Mark

St. Mark PW will host women from throughout the Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery for the 2025 GLPW Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 25.

Pastor MP Panco is returning to be our keynote speaker as we focus on keeping our light burning brightly as we share the spirit and mission of Presbyterian Women. Indeed, it is the **Fire of our Foremothers** that we **pass on** in our daily lives. It will be a time to broaden our horizons about Presbyterian Women beyond St. Mark.

Since we are the hostesses for this event, we are seeking volunteers who will serve in a variety of ways. Please check the opportunities at the PW Table in the Narthex. We will need volunteers to help at the Gathering. We also need nut breads, coffee cakes, fruit etc. for the welcoming coffee time.

Plan now to take part in the Gathering! You can sign-up at the PW Table in the Narthex. The cost is \$15.00 which includes lunch and Gathering resources. Please sign-up by Sunday, October 12. You may also contact the Church Office, Judy Richardson or Mary Beth Powell for further information.



For more information about the Mound Ridge Trivia Night, scan the QR code.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

How you can help with the Christmas Boutique and the Angel

Street Café, November 11 & 12!

- *Make chicken salad, bean soup, or broccoli soup.
- *Bake specialty desserts or bake a pie of cake for the dessert table.
- *Create a yummy treat for the bake sale.
- *Help with set up after church on Sunday, Nov. 10.
- *Work a shift on Tuesday and/or Wednesday.
- *Help with take down on Wednesday afternoon.
- *Shop 'til you drop!
- *Bring your friends to lunch!
- *Come back for supper!



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: Carol Weber