

# PAJAMA SUNDAY

WORSHIP



DECEMBER 28

## Bulletin

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## CENTERING PRAYER

In the stillness, I breathe in love. I let go of the weight I've carried too long. Where coldness once lived, I welcome warmth. Where walls once stood, I open the door. May my heart grow in kindness, in joy, in grace—three sizes, and more, with every breath. Amen.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come one, come all, both big and small, God's love is here to welcome all!

**People: We've come with hearts both glad and bright, to praise the Lord with all our might!**

Leader: No grumps, no grinchy gloom today, God's joy has chased the clouds away!

**All Together: So sing, rejoice, lift voices high, God's love has filled the winter sky!**

## † HYMN

**"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"**

**Hymnal #136**

All verses

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, sometimes our hearts feel two sizes too small. We cling to grudges, hoard our time and treasures, and hide away from the joy You offer. Forgive us for the moments we've turned away from kindness, generosity, and love. Melt the frost around our hearts, stretch them wide with compassion, and teach us to celebrate the gifts of life with open hands and open hearts. May we, like the Grinch, discover that true joy is found not in what we take, but in what we give. (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 AND THE CONGREGATION

Donna Schiro, RECP

### CHAPTER 1

**"When Everything is Wrong"**

Luke 1:26-38

*"The Grinch begins his journey to find that Christmas means more than what he thought."*

## † HYMN

**"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

**Hymnal #113**

Verses 1 & 2

### CHAPTER 2

**"When Christmas Isn't Christmas"**

Matthew 2:1-15

*"The Grinch did not want to share in the Christmas joy. So, the Grinch made a plan to ruin Christmas."*

† HYMN

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

**Hymnal #119**

All verses

CHAPTER 3

“When Light Shines”

John 1:1-14

*“The angry, mean Grinch is plowing through Whoville to destroy Christmas. But little do we know – the Grinch will soon be surrounded by joy and light.”*

† HYMN

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

**Hymnal #133**

Verses 1 & 3

CHAPTER 4

“When Joy is our Song”

Luke 2:1-20

*“Whoville awakens to stolen presents and torn down Christmas trees. It should have been, the Grinch thought, anything but joyous. However, despite the missing decorations and no gifts under the tree, the Whos begin to sing. The song annoys the Grinch. How could they possibly be singing?”*

† HYMN

**“Joy to the World”**

**Hymnal #134**

Verses 1 & 4

OFFERTORY

† 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!**

**DEDICATION 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.**

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

†In body or spirit, please rise.

**December**

**29** Prayer Circle, 9:30 am

**30** Men’s Bible Study, 7:30 am

**January**

**1** The church office is closed for the holiday

**11** Adult Sunday School, 8:50 am

**13** Go Getter Luncheon, 12 pm

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**13** Grief Share, 6 pm

**14** Potluck & Program, 5 pm

**25** Congregational Meeting, following worship

**28** PW Book Club, 9:30 am

**28** PW Midwinter Gathering

## **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.

**Flowers for the Sanctuary** are donated by Chris, Troy and Olivia Hargrove. Happy Heavenly Birthday, Grandpa!

**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.

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



*Pastor:* Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess  
*Dir. of Children's Ministry:* Latisha Gilliland  
*Parish Associate:* Donna Schiro

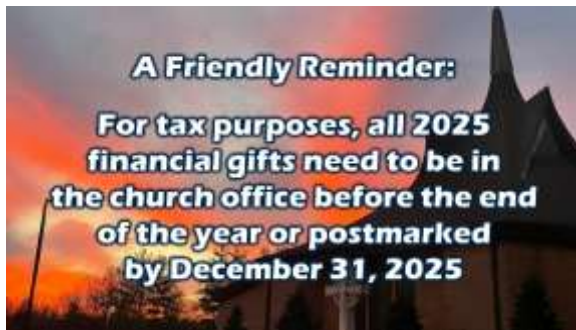


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website: [discoverstmark.org](http://discoverstmark.org)

*Dir. of Music:* Ethan Forte  
*Accompanist & Organist:* JeeHye Lee  
*Special Music:* Ethan Forte & JeeHye Lee  
*Liturgists:* Clay Douglas

## ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK



### FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a study of the books called "Angels" by Vinita Hampton Wright. Fridays at 9:30 am.  
*"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 – 5<sup>th</sup> 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

### SUNDAY SCHOOL SIGN IN!

Use this QR code to sign in for Sunday School. Scan the code to access the attendance form and enter the required information. We ask that you have your student registered before Time With Children so that we can contact you via text in the event that you are needed.



## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH



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

## MISSION AT ST. MARK

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, **adult sizes for men and women in particular.** Our mission partners will ensure someone in need receives your gift of warmth. Dog and cat coats are appreciated too!

## DECEMBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Baking basics and mixes
- Canned and dry beans
- Canned tomatoes (15 oz & larger)
- Dinner Helpers
- Personal Care Items



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.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Grief is a journey we are never prepared to take. Have you lost a spouse, family member, or close friend? Are you finding it difficult to talk about your loss? Do you feel nobody understands? GriefShare is a place you can come with caring compassionate people to walk with you on your grief journey. Be with people who are experiencing similar feelings. Let us help you. GriefShare meets weekly for 13 weeks. It is very helpful, but not required to attend all the sessions. Our next session starts Tuesday January 13, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. For information, contact Debbie Hames,



**POTLUCK & PROGRAM  
JANUARY 14 – 5 PM**



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