



Worship Bulletin
May 3, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

O God of glory, sovereign of all nations, the risen and ascended Christ calls us to carry your message of life to all people. Led by the power of your Holy Spirit, may we witness always to the hope to which we are called as we share Christ's love to the ends of the earth. Amen.

PRELUDE

At Length There Dawns the Glorious Day

James Mansfield

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Shout for joy, sing songs of praise,

for God reigns over all the earth!

God has gone up with a shout!

Sound the trumpets and sing songs of praise!

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

† HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Hymnal #611

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, we confess our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others is faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. We stand looking toward heaven, yet we feel so far from you. Draw near in your mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power. We pray this in the name of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. (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

TIME WITH CHILDREN

† HYMN

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

Sing Twice

Hymnal #452

SCRIPTURE

Acts 1:6-11

SERMON

“Looking Up and Looking Out”

Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism LORD'S DAY 18

Q46. What do you mean by saying, “He ascended to heaven”?

A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven¹ and remains there on our behalf² until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.³

Q47. But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?¹

A. Christ is true human and true God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth;² but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is never absent from us.³

Q48. If his humanity is not present wherever his divinity is, then aren't the two natures of Christ separated from each other?

A. Certainly not. Since divinity is not limited and is present everywhere,¹ it is evident that Christ's divinity is surely beyond the bounds of the humanity that has been taken on, but at the same time his divinity is in and remains personally united to his humanity.²

Q49. How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father.¹ Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself.² Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge.³ By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.⁴

OFFERTORY

Come, Risen Lord
Chancel Choir

Martha Shaffer

† **THE DOXOLOGY**

**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!**

Hymnal #609

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**

"Soon and Very Soon"

Hymnal #384

† **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

† **BENEDICTION
RESPONSE**

"Christ Is Alive"

Hymnal #246

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

POSTLUDE

Hyfrydol

David Lasky

†In body or spirit, please rise.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May

3 Adult Sunday School, 8:50 am

5 Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am

6 Chancel Bell & Choir Practice, 6 pm & 7 pm

7 Chair Exercise, 10 am

8 Friday Bible Study, 9:30 am

12 Go Getter Luncheon, 12 pm

17 Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic, 10 am

18 Circle of Concern Golf Tournament

24 Capital Campaign Celebration

24 Senior Graduation Celebration

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.

Flowers for the Sanctuary are donated by Jen, Mary, Anne, Ray and Donna In loving memory of Raymond W. Bosenbecker III.

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.

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.

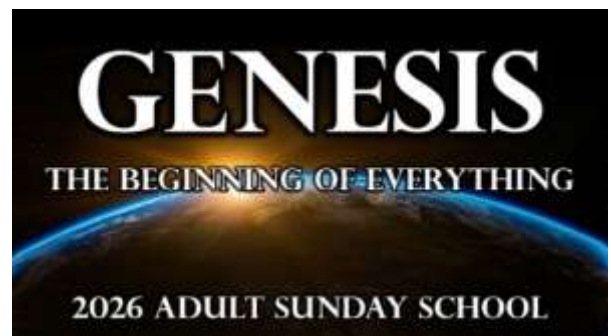


NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKING CANDIDATES

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for the next class of Elders, Deacons, Endowment, and next year's Nominating Committee. Forms are available at the welcome desk or by using the QR code. Please prayerfully consider and suggest candidates for leadership as St. Mark continues to fulfill its Mission in the future.



ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK



Sundays at 8:50 am

FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every Friday at 9:30am in Room 102 or via Zoom

We will conclude our study by Adam Hamilton titled "Why did Jesus have to die?" on Friday, May 8. The next week (May 15) we will relax a bit and play Bible Trivia! We're all going to bring white elephant gifts from home to use for prizes. We will not meet on May 22 because of the holiday weekend. We will begin a new study about Christian Empathy on May 29. No book purchase required. Plan now to join us for our Summer Session!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible Study will begin a new study exploring the Holy Spirit. We will be using The Promise of The Holy Spirit by Paul Banius. We meet in room 102 every Tuesday at 7:30. All are welcome!

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH YOUTH



Join us Sunday May 24th to celebrate and recognize graduating high school and college seniors! All graduates will receive a Bible as a gift from the St. Mark family as they venture on to the next step of their journeys. If you have a child that is graduating, please contact the church office to ensure that we recognize all of our seniors.

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.

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.



THE CHILDREN'S GARDEN PLANTING PARTY

is on May 6 at 5 p.m.! Everyone and anyone is invited to join us – just bring your own favorite drive-thru meal and a couple of plants. We'll do the rest! Join us as we celebrate Springtime at St. Mark!



The registration deadline is July 6! Go to discoverstmark.org to register today!



Here's a great visual of our VBS egg carton igloo! One of the VBS fun activities will be building this egg carton igloo – please donate all of your egg cartons (it doesn't matter what material or color). If you can, please take off any labels. This is a great way to recycle as the Easter egg coloring comes closer. Please leave cartons in the Narthex under the Children and Youth table.

MISSION AT ST. MARK



MEAL PACKING EVENT – JUNE 20 AT 10 AM

Let's fight hunger together. Individuals, families, kids, everyone can do this. Can't stand long or need to sit? There is a place for you! Over the last 3 years we have packaged 15,000 nutritious meals each year. This year our stretch goal is to package 17,000 meals and we can do it with your help. Donate for meals delivered where they are most needed. Each meal cost about 45 cents each, you can donate \$50 and pay for over 100 meals!



Sign up to volunteer or donate using the QR code. Your support is greatly appreciated.

MAY FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Canned chicken
- Rice
- Sugar, 1lb bags
- Toothpaste
- Laundry Detergent, no larger than 50 oz.



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.



Spots are still available!

Email circle@circleofconcern.org for more information!



EQUAL EXCHANGE & FAIRLY TRADED

In the Narthex on May 10

Several Equal Exchange products can be used in baking treats for your mother this Mother's Day. Visit our table and stock up! All products are fair trade and organic, supporting regenerative agriculture and small farmers. Thank you for your support.

Cash, Credit, Debit, Mobile Payments Accepted



Mark your calendars! **Sunday, May 17**, our St. Mark community will be worshipping outdoors at Wildwood Community Park, with our annual PICNIC occurring

right after the service. We'll provide the hot dogs, brats, burgers and drinks, and we invite you to bring your favorite side dishes and desserts to share with one another. Because there won't be electrical outlets available, please refrain from bringing anything that needs to be heated up. It's been quite some time since we've held a worship service or picnic offsite, and we look forward to this opportunity for faith, fun and fellowship with one another!

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

BOOK CLUB

The Presbyterian Women's Book Club will meet May 27 to discuss the book, **The Book Club for Troublesome Women** by Marie Bostwick. There is a virtual option for meeting as well. Please contact Judy Richardson for more information.

Go Getter Luncheon May 12 at 12 pm

Join us for Lunch at Spiro's!

Please let Judy know of your plans to attend and bring a friend!



LORD'S DAY 18

Q46. What do you mean by saying, "He ascended to heaven"?

A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven¹ and remains there on our behalf² until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.³

1. Acts 1:9 – "When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight."

Matt. 26[:64] – "Jesus said to him, 'You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.'"

Mark 16[:19] – "So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God."

Luke 24[:51] – "While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven."

2. Heb. 4:14 – "Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession."

Heb. 7:15[-25] – "It is even more obvious when another priest arises, resembling Melchizedek,"

Heb. 9:11 – "But when Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation),"

Rom. 8:34 – "Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us."

Eph. 4:10 – "He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)"

Col. 3:1 – "So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God."

3. Acts 1:11 – "They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'"

Matt. 24:30 – "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see 'the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven' with power and great glory."

Q47. But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?¹

A. Christ is true human and true God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth;² but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is never absent from us.³

1. Matt. 28:20 – "and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

2. Matt. 26:11 – "For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me."

John 16:28 – "I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father."

John 17:11 – "And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Acts 3:21 – "who must remain in heaven until the time of universal restoration that God announced long ago through his holy prophets."

3. John 14:17[-19] – "This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you."

John 16:13 – "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."

Matt. 28:20 – "and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Eph. 4:8 – "Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.'"

Eph. 12

also cited: Augustine, Tractates on the Gospel of John 50

Q48. If his humanity is not present wherever his divinity is, then aren't the two natures of Christ separated from each other?

A. Certainly not. Since divinity is not limited and is present everywhere,¹ it is evident that Christ's divinity is surely beyond the bounds of the humanity that has been taken on, but at the same time his divinity is in and remains personally united to his humanity.²

1. Acts 7:49 – “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest?”

Acts 17:28 – “For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’”

Jer. 23:24 – “Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord.”

2. Col. 2:9 – “For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,”

John 3:13 – “No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.”

John 11:15 – “For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

Matt. 28:6 – “He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.”

Q49. How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father.¹ Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself.² Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge.³ By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but

the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.⁴

1. 1 John 2:1-2 – “On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.”

Rom. 8:34 – “Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

2. John 14:2 – “In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?”

John 20:17 – “Jesus said to her, ‘Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’”

Eph. 2:6 – “and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,”

3. John 14:16 – “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.”

John 16:7 – “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you.”

Acts 2

2 Cor. 1:22 – “who has put his seal on us and given[a] us his Spirit in our hearts as a down payment.”

2 Cor. 5:5 – “The one who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a down payment.”

4. Col. 3:1 – “So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”

Phil. 3:14 – “I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.”

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



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