



Worship Bulletin
September 27, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

Gracious God, seeker of the lost: draw your children back to your loving embrace, restore us to our inheritance as daughters and sons, and reconcile our hearts to you, that we may become ambassadors of your reconciling love to all the world. Through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Almighty Father, you instruct us in the ways that lead to life.

Help us to follow your path.

You protect us like a mother hen guarding her children.

May we never stray from your arms.

You provide everything we need to thrive.

We come to worship you with our whole selves.

† HYMN

“To God Be the Glory”

Hymnal #634

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we stray from your ways. Like the Prodigal Son, we waste our inheritance. You give us the earth for our home, but we squander its resources and hoard its bounty. You give us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions. You give us the commandments that lead to human flourishing, but we break your law and forsake your love. Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance. Draw our wandering hearts back to you that we may find freedom in obedience to your love. Through Christ our Lord we pray. (Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

† GLORY TO GOD

“Glory to God”

Hymnal #582

TIME WITH CHILDREN

† HYMN

“Like a Mother who Has Borne Us”

Hymnal #44

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:11-32

SERMON

“Arms Wide Open”

Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Heidelberg Catechism LORD’S DAY 39

Q104. What is God’s will for you in the fifth commandment?

A. That I honor, love, and be loyal to my father and mother and all those in authority over me;¹ that I submit myself with proper obedience to all their good teaching and discipline; and also that I be patient with their failings—² for through them God chooses to rule us.³

† 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

"What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine"

Hymnal #837

†CHARGE AND BLESSING

†BENEDICTION
RESPONSE

"Go Now in Peace"

Go now in peace, go now in peace
May the love of God surround you
Everywhere, everywhere
You may go.

POSTLUDE

†In body or spirit, please rise.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

- 27 Membership Exploration Class, 8:50 am
- 27 Adult Sunday School, 8:50 am
- 27 Youth Group, 11:30 am
- 28 Prayer Circle, 9:30 am
- 29 Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am

- 30 Adult Bell & Chancel Choir Practices, 6 & 7 pm

October

- 1 Chair Exercise, 10 am
- 2 Friday Bible Study, 9:30 am
- 18 Fall Festival, 11:30 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.

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.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

The Al Amana Centre in Oman, a partner of PCUSA, is one of the few Christian-led organizations in the region working toward reconciliation and sustainable peace through safe, immersive, interfaith experiences. The Centre's facilitated discussions bridge the gap between people of different beliefs and help participants gain deeper insights into themselves.

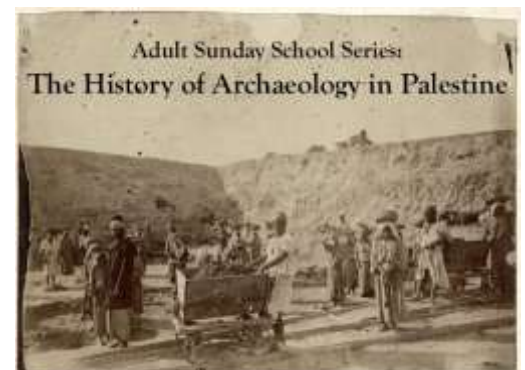
The World Communion Offering at its core invites us to something different—to act on a commitment we say has its root and its core expression at the table. This Offering is a way to act to stand alongside people and organizations breaking down the very barriers set aside at Christ's table.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please join the Adult Sunday School Class beginning on Sunday, Sept. 20th as we dig in to the history of Archaeological investigation in the Holy Land, led by John Northrip and based on the acclaimed video series he helped create in the 1990's, "The History of Palestinian Archeology."



"Four tapes provide an excellent overview of the history of archaeology in the Holy Land. *The History of Palestinian Archaeology*. 1991. A four-part video series produced by AAI/Our Gang with research by Jeffrey Blakely." - *Archaeology Magazine*, July/August 1996

FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Friday Bible Study group led by Donna Schiro, Parish Associate, is using a study by David Helm called "Daniel - Staying Strong in a Hostile World". The Bible study will temporarily meet at 9:30 am in rooms 17, 18, 19 in the lower level, or via Zoom. This seven-week study will teach us that how Daniel lived and what Daniel saw speaks to us still today. How much can we expect from this life? How can we have the courage to remain faithful in our world today? Come hear the answers to these questions and more!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We have a New Year and a New Book coming for Men's Tuesday Bible Study. We will use NT Wright's, Mark for Everyone. It uses the Gospel of Mark as a source of God's active presence in our lives. We will start our study beginning September 15th 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 YOUTH

YOUTH ACTIVITIES HAVE A NEW DAY AND TIME!

We will meet on Sundays right after church, 11:30 am-1 pm. Lunch will be provided. Come enjoy the fellowship, fun, expand your knowledge, and whatever else we decided to explore."

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 Kids Activities, 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.



KID WEDNESDAYS AT ST MARK!

Wednesday night activities for grades K – 5th will meet once a month from 5:30 – 6:30 pm. Students will enjoy games and activities based on "Family Night Tool Chest – Christian Character Qualities" on the following dates: September 26, October 28, November 18, and December 2.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM- "ANGEL ALERT"

Practice will be held every Sunday, 11:00 - 11:15 am, after Sunday School in Fellowship Hall. PreK – 5th and 6th grade – 12 are welcome! A dress rehearsal will be held on Saturday, December 5, 10 am – 12 pm and the performance is Sunday, December 6 at 4 pm. A sign-up sheet will be available and a schedule of the remaining rehearsals until December 6th presentation.



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!

MISSION AT ST. MARK

SEPTEMBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Sardines,
- Chili
- Cooking Oil, 48 oz or less
- Shampoo, razors, shaving cream
- Laundry detergent, 50 oz or less



All year long, we collect food and hygiene items for Circle of Concern and Isaiah 58. Please place your donations on the Mission table outside the church office.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



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.

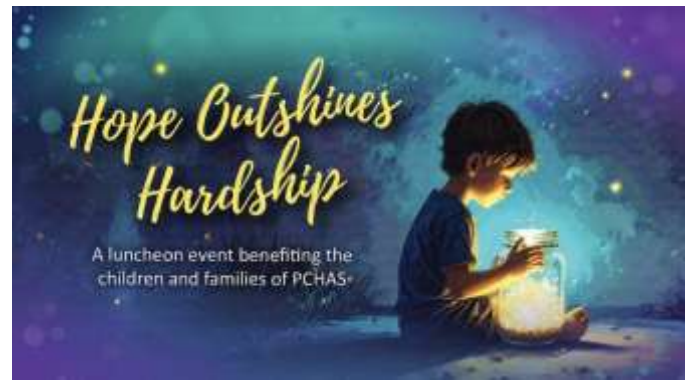
Monetary donations are greatly appreciated. Make checks out to Newborns In Need and ask for a tax receipt. Mail to: **Newborns In Need** c/o Judy Giovanoni, 310 Oxford Ridge Ct., Ellisville, MO 63021. For more information, call Shirley Boeker.



ATTENTION HANDYMEN & DO-IT-YOURSELFERS!

The St. Mark Property Committee is actively seeking volunteers to fill various limited roles on an "occasional & as needed" basis

throughout the year. If you have some DIY skills, please contact a member of the Property Committee to learn more about what this involves and how you might share some of your time and talent with St. Mark.



PCHAS ANNUAL LUNCHEON – October 22nd -- Please join us for this year's Annual Luncheon! This year's annual luncheon in support of Presbyterian Children's Home and Services will be held on Thursday, October 22nd from 12 – 1pm at the Sheraton Westport Chalet. If you'd like to attend with other St. Mark members, please contact Pam Ladley. We'd love to see you there!



TOPS TO BEGIN MEETING AT ST. MARK

We welcome Tops (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) who will meet on Tuesdays at 4:30 pm in room 305, beginning September 29. This

group meets to support one another in their journey to improve health by losing weight and maintaining weight loss. The first visit is free. Please contact Judy Neary, facilitator, at 636-391-9185 for more information.



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY



On October 8-9, the Center for Excellence in Christian Education is offering the symposium, Intentional: Intergenerational Preaching, Teaching and Worship. You are invited to participate in several

sessions of this conference that will be live-streamed in room 102.

Day One –

Explore the foundations through Bible study and panel discussions with the UPSem Faculty.

Build understanding of the frameworks for interating intergenerational approached into ministry led by leaders in the field

Schedule

9:30 Opening & Welcome

Foundations

9:45 Bible Study

10:40 Intentionally Intergenerational: Preaching, Teaching, & Worship

12:30 Leading Congregational Change Framework

1:30 Introductions of Framework

1:45 Intergenerational Preaching

3:20 Intergenerational Teaching

4:30 Intergenerational Worship

Day Two

Move from theory to practice as you focus in Preaching, Teaching or Worship/Liturgy with concentrated time to incorporate strategies and methods into these aspects of ministry and receive coaching from the focus leader.

9:00 A Deeper Dive: Exploring the theories and practices that strengthen intergenerational preaching/teaching/liturgy

Please contact Latisha Gilliland for more information or if you would like to attend one or all of these sessions.

Heidelberg Catechism LORD'S DAY 39

Q104. What is God's will for you in the fifth commandment?

A. That I honor, love, and be loyal to my father and mother and all those in authority over me;¹ that I submit myself with proper obedience to all their good teaching and discipline; and also that I be patient with their failings—² for through them God chooses to rule us.³

1. Eph. 6:1 [–9] – “Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”

Col. 3:18 – “Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

Col. 3:20–24 – “Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart. Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything, not with a slavery performed merely for looks, to please people, but wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord. Whatever task you must do, work as if your soul depends on it, as for the Lord and not for humans, since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ.”

Eph. 5:22 – “Wives, be subject to your husbands as to the Lord,”

Prov. 1:8 – “Hear, my child, your father's instruction, and do not reject your mother's teaching,”

Prov. 4:1 – “Listen, children, to a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight,”

Prov. 15:20 – “A wise child makes a glad father, but the foolish despise their mothers.”

Prov. 20:20 – “If you curse father or mother, your lamp will go out in utter darkness.”

Exod. 21:17 – “Whoever curses father or mother shall be put to death.”

Rom. 13:1–5] – “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval, for it is God's agent for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the

authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the agent of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience.”

2. Prov. 23:22 – “Listen to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old.”

Gen. 9:25 – “he said, ‘Cursed be Canaan; lowest of slaves shall he be to his brothers.’”

1 Pet. 2:18 – “Slaves, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only those who are good and gentle but also those who are dishonest.”

3. Eph. 6:4 – “And, fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

Eph. 6:9 – “And, masters, do the same to them. Stop threatening them, for you know that both of you have the same Lord in heaven, and with him there is no partiality.”

Col. 3:19 – “Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.”

Col 3:21 – “Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart.”

Rom. 13:[1–5]

Matt. 22:21 – “They answered, ‘Caesar’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Dave Burgess
Dir. of Children’s Ministry: Latisha Gilliland
Parish Associate: Donna Schiro
Dir. Of Claymont Preschool: Emily Ulmer



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: Lynne Dauve