ST. MARK
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PC(USA) · BALLWIN, MO

Worship Bulletin
November 15, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CENTERING PRAYER

Sit quietly, close your eyes, and breathe slowly. Set aside distractions, prepare and pray: "Christ has commanded us to call You 'Our Father,' so that we may approach You with the trust of a child, knowing You will not refuse what we ask in faith. You are in heaven, beyond all earthly conception, and Your power provides all we need for body and soul."

PRELUDE *Woodland Peace* David Paxton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to the Lord's Table, not with our own strength, but with the trust of a child in a loving Father.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
We ask, not in our own wisdom, but in faith, that you will give us all we need for body and soul.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For you are our Father in heaven, and we are your children in Christ.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

† HYMN "This is My Father's World" Hymnal #370

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus said, "Children of God, I am speaking these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world." Join me in the Prayer of Confession printed in your bulletins, or on your screens at home. (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 "God of Great and God of Small" Hymnal #19

SCRIPTURE Mathew 7:9-11 & Luke 11:11-13

SERMON "Powering On" Donna Schiro

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Heidelberg Catechism LORD'S DAY 46*

Q120. Why did Christ command us to call God "our Father"?
A. To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer what should be basic to our prayer—a childlike reverence and trust that through Christ God has become our Father, and that just as our parents do not refuse us the things of this life, even less will God our Father refuse to give us what we ask in faith.[1]

Q121. Why the words "in heaven"?

A. These words teach us not to think of God's heavenly majesty as something earthly,[1] and to expect everything needed for body and soul from God's almighty power.[2]

OFFERTORY — A Triune Prayer — Lyrics by Chris Anderson
Chancel Choir — Music by Molly James

† 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 "Great is Thy Faithfulness" **Hymnal #39**

† CHARGE AND BLESSING

†BENEDICTION "Go Now in Peace"
RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE — *The Power of the Word* — David Paxton

†In body or spirit, please rise.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

16 Prayer Circle, 9:30 am
17 Men's Bible Study, 7:30 am
18 NO Chancel Bell or Choir Practice
18 Potluck and Program, 5 pm
18 Kids Activities, 5 pm
19 Chair Exercise, 10 am
20 Friday Bible Study, 9:30 am
21 Claymont Neighborhood Turkey Trot, 10 am
22 Celebration Sunday
22 Giving Thanks Meal, following worship
23 Chancel Choir Practice, 7 pm
25 NO Chancel Bell or Choir Practice

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.



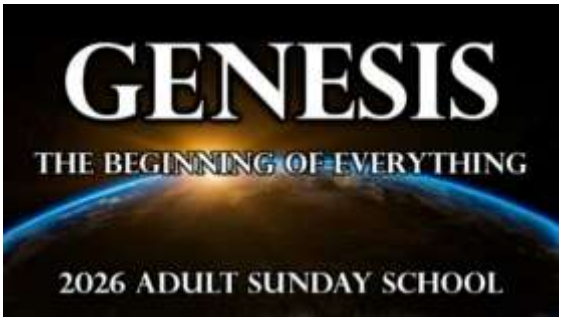
Celebration Sunday, November 22



ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

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 resume meeting in room 102, 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 are reading NT Wright's, Mark for Everyone. It uses the Gospel of Mark as a source of God's active presence in our lives. We meet every Tuesday 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



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.

KID WEDNESDAYS AT ST MARK!

On November 18 from 5 – 6:30 pm, the children will be baking bread for the homebound members of our congregation. Feel free to invite friends to come along!



Come join us on Candy Cane Lane as we journey to the North Pole for breakfast with Santa and his friends on Saturday, December 12 from 9:30 – 11:00 am. Breakfast includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, fruit, juice, coffee and hot chocolate. There will be activities, games, and of course, a story and visit with Santa!

MISSION AT ST. MARK

NOVEMBER FOOD PANTRY CRITICAL NEEDS

- Canned Chicken
- Rice
- Coffee & Hot Chocolate
- Toothpaste
- Dish Soap

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



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 for men, women, and kids, all sizes, and styles. Dog and cat coats are appreciated, too. Please place donations on the mission table. Isaiah 58 will receive our donations.



THE TRADITION CONTINUES

The Angel Tree will once again be making an appearance in the Narthex. Please select an angel or two to help provide a Merry Christmas for one or more children. The gifts donated will go to Isaiah 58 Ministries. Please return your gift and place it under the tree with the angel attached by December 9.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN











GIVING THANKS MEAL

Our annual Giving Thanks dinner will be held right after the worship service on **Sunday, November 22**. The Fellowship Committee will provide "all the fixings" for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner, including turkey, dressing, green bean casserole, sweet potato casserole, mashed potatoes and a salad. All we ask is that you bring in a dessert to share with one another!

During this season when we take a moment to reflect on all our blessings, we ask that you would consider helping our neighbors in need by donating to Circle of Concern and Isiah 58. We will have an extra table in the Narthex on Giving Thanks Sunday where you can drop off one or more food items that are in critical need. These include: cereals, dinner helpers (Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, etc), pasta, pasta sauce and personal care items. Of course, many people have baking traditions during the holiday season, so donations of sugar, flour, baking soda and powder, chocolate chips, and other baking supplies would also be greatly appreciated. Many thanks for all of your generosity throughout the entire year!



On **Sunday, December 13,** immediately after the Christmas Cantata and worship service is over, we will celebrate **MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY.** We're asking the congregation to bring in their favorite Christmas cookies or treats to share with one another as we take this opportunity to say thank you to everyone who participates in the music program throughout the year, whether it's singing in the choir, playing bells, playing instruments, or providing special music in the summer. We hope you will join us as we celebrate our musicians!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

St. Mark will continue our tradition of beautifying our sanctuary with poinsettias for our Sunday service on December 20 and the Christmas Eve services. Please consider ordering one or more to bring home to your family and friends. The poinsettias may be taken home after the service on the 20th or after the Christmas Eve Service. Order forms can be found by the flower chart on the easel. Please make your check payable to *St. Mark Presbyterian Church and* place the order form and check in the "Drop Box" in the Pastor's Hallway. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, November 29. The cost is $7 per plant. Plants are sourced from a locally owned greenhouse. If you have questions, please contact Mickey McKnight.



In an effort to recognize and support those who are experiencing grief and loss during the holiday season, St. Mark gathers for a worship service that provides a contemplative experience that leaves room for finding hope and healing in the Christmas story. Worshippers will be asked to fill out a paper slip with the name of the loved one they are remembering when they arrive. The slips will be gathered and read during worship. As loved one's names are read out loud, candles are lit in their honor. At the conclusion of the service, everyone will receive a small keepsake in remembrance of this experience. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Schiro dschiro@discoverstmark.org.

LORD'S DAY 46

Q120. Why did Christ command us to call God "our Father"?

A. To awaken in us at the very beginning of our prayer what should be basic to our prayer—a childlike reverence and trust that through Christ God has become our Father, and that just as our parents do not refuse us the things of this life, even less will God our Father refuse to give us what we ask in faith.[1]

1. Matt. 7:9–11 – "Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for bread, would give a stone? Or if the child asked for a fish, would give a snake? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"

Luke 11:11–13 – "Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Q121. Why the words "in heaven"?

A. These words teach us not to think of God's heavenly majesty as something earthly,[1] and to expect everything needed for body and soul from God's almighty power.[2]

1. Jer. 23:23–24 – "Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? 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."

Acts 17:24–25, 27 – "The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things….that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us."

2. Rom. 10:12 – "For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him."

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



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