Order of Worship

Welcome
Prelude "Do Lord!" Arr. K. Wissinger (Handbell Choir)
Page 138-139 Greeting and Kyrie
Hymn 342 There in God's Garden vs. 1-3
Prayer
(we are seated)

The First Reading Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.
The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 *(spoken responsively)*

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, for God's mercy endures forever.
We give thanks to the Lord for he is good! For God's mercy endures forever and ever!
2-3 Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe, gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
God has redeemed us from the hand of the foe, from sin and the devil through Jesus Christ! God has gathered us in from the east and west, from the north and south! We give thanks to the Lord for he is good!
17-19 Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted. They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door. Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord and you delivered them from their distress.
We've been there too, foolish, rebellious, afflicted by our sins, and more. We've known trouble and we've cried out to the Lord. God has redeemed us through Jesus Christ! We give thanks to the Lord for he is good!
20-22 Lord God, you sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to you, Lord, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people. Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.
(loudly) **We shout with joy the good news! God has redeemed us through Jesus Christ! We offer our sacrifices of thanksgiving! We give thanks to the Lord for he is good!**

(we stand)
Page 142 Return to the Lord...

The Holy Gospel according to John 3:14-21

Glory to you, O Lord!
Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.
For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world**,**
but in order that the world might be saved through him.
Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed.
But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."
The Gospel of the Lord!
Praise to you, O Christ!
(we are seated)

Children's Message
Sermon
(we stand)
Hymn 323 God Loved the World
Page 105 Apostles' Creed
Prayers of Intercession
[10:30am Anthem: "God So loved the World" by Bob Chilcott.]
Page 144 Great Thanksgiving
Page 144 Holy, Holy, Holy
Page 145 Lord's Prayer

(we are seated. Communion is served around the altar. The pastor will first come to those seated in the pew than cannot come forward. Please raise your hand to let the pastor know. Then those who are able may come forward and stand or kneel.)

Page 146 Lamb of God
During Communion:
"When I survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. M.L. Thompson (Handbell Choir)
Hymn 595 Jesus Loves Me (all are invited to sing)

(we stand)
Blessing, Prayer, Benediction
Hymn 342 There in God's Garden vs. 4-6
Go in peace loved by God.
Thanks be to God!
Postlude

Soli Deo Gloria

"Moses Erecting the Bronze Serpent" by William Blake c. 1800-1803

This morning's scripture readings emphasize **the importance of faith in God even in the midst of great hardship or despair.** In the Numbers 21 reading, the Israelites are weary and complaining about their travels in the wilderness, and then poisonous snakes come into their midst and many Israelites die. As a result, God tells Moses to make a poisonous snake and put it on a pole so that everyone who died might see it and live. In the gospel according to John, a comparison is made to Jesus, who is like Moses' snake—all who see him lifted up will know eternal life. The darkness of the world is being scattered, and the serpent of sin is being crushed by the incarnation, crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

saintmarkslutheran.com
704.664.5474
office@saintmarkslutheran.com

Pastor Dave Keck
dave@saintmarkslutheran.com

Pastor Vern Kinard
vern@saintmarkslutheran.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

If you would like to give an offering online, follow this QR code to our secure online giving platform. Thank you.

Worship Servants

8:30 am		10:30 am	
Children/Youth Sundays		**Children/Youth Sundays**	
Nursery		**Nursery**	
Fitzgerald, Jessica	Nursery	Stanbery, Beth	Nursery
Service Team		**Service Team**	
Ushers		**Ushers**	
Morgan, Don	Usher 8:30am	Barone, Dawn	Usher 10:30am
Pless, Chick	Usher 8:30am	Kraft, Jeremy	Usher 10:30am
Yeates, Bill	Usher 8:30am	**Greeters**	
Greeters		Roy, Sharon	Greeter 10:30am
Morgan, Dian	Greeter 8:30am	**Lectors**	
Lectors		Hinz, Janine	Lector 10:30am
Horton, Jenny	Lector 8:30am	**Communion Assistants**	
Communion Assistants		No volunteer needed, *	Assistant 10:30am
No volunteer needed, *	Assistant 8:30am	**Acolytes**	
Acolytes		Koehler, Karlee	Acolyte 10:30am
Goethals, Reagan	Acolyte 8:30am	**AV Team**	
AV Team		Bostian, Susan	Monitors 10:30
Joy, Madison	Monitors 8:30	**Counters**	
Joy, Alison	Livestream	Davis Jr., Colin	Counter
Altar Guild		Enroth, Donna	Counter
Morgan, Dian	Altar Guild 8:30am	**Church Closers**	
		Wagoner, David	Closer
		Altar Guild	
		Barone, Dawn	Altar Guild 10:30am

ST MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
MOORESVILLE NC

Welcome saints and sinners to Saint Mark's, established 1908 on *"how firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!" (hymn 796)* Thank you for your presence in person and online in worship today; and for your prayers, singing voices, listening hearts, giving hands, and Christ-sharing fellowship. Jesus loves you.

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.