



the welcome place.

St. Mark Lutheran Church  
Worship Bulletin  
Sunday, February 8, 2026  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG *Rise, Shine, You People!* (ELW 665)

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **KYRIE (ELW p. 147)**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,  
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

Alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God  
and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor and glory and might**

**be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

Alleluia. Alleluia.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-12

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> Shout out; do not hold back!

    Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
    to the house of Jacob their sins.

<sup>2</sup> Yet day after day they seek me

    and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness  
    and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments;  
    they want God on their side.

<sup>3</sup> “Why do we fast, but you do not see?

    Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day  
    and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup> You fast only to quarrel and to fight

    and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today

    will not make your voice heard on high.

<sup>5</sup> Is such the fast that I choose,

    a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush

    and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,

    a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup> Is not this the fast that I choose:

    to loose the bonds of injustice,

    to undo the straps of the yoke,

to let the oppressed go free,

    and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your bread with the hungry

    and bring the homeless poor into your house;

when you see the naked, to cover them

    and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,

    and your healing shall spring up quickly;

your vindicator shall go before you;

    the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

<sup>9a</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;

you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

<sup>9b</sup> If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you continually  
and satisfy your needs in parched places  
and make your bones strong,  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water  
whose waters never fail.

<sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 112:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in God’s commandments!

<sup>2</sup> **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;**  
**the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup> Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup> **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;**  
**the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup> It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup> **For they will never be shaken;**  
**the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup> They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> **Their heart is established and will not shrink,**  
**until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup> They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

<sup>10</sup> **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;**  
**the desires of the wicked will perish.**

### **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12**

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup> For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup> Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup> But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup> and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived,  
what God has prepared for those who love him"—

<sup>10</sup> God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Bring Forth the Kingdom (W&P 22)***

### **GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Bring Forth the Kingdom* (W&P 22)**

### **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY *Christ, Be Our Light* (ELW 715)**

#### **CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAVERS OF INTERCESSION**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **OFFERING *This Little Light of Mine* (ELW 677)**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

**Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE (ELW p. 153)**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O holy God:  
    you are the Life and Light of all.  
By your powerful word you created all things.  
Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.  
Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.  
He is your Light, shining in our darkness  
    and revealing to us your mercy and might.  
In the night in which he was betrayed,  
    our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
    broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
        Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
    and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
        This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
        shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Remembering, therefore,  
    his preaching and healing,  
    his dying and rising,  
    and his promise to come again,  
    we await that day when all the universe  
        will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.  
By your Spirit bless us and this meal,  
    that, refreshed with this heavenly food,  
    we may be light for the world,  
        revealing the brilliance of your Son.  
Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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 trespasses,**  
    as we forgive those  
        who trespass against us;  
**and lead us not into temptation,**  
    but deliver us from evil.  
**For thine is the kingdom,**  
    and the power, and the glory,  
    forever and ever. Amen.

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

### **COMMUNION**

#### **LAMB OF GOD (ELW p. 154)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**  
**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**  
**have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**  
**grant us peace, grant us peace.**

### **SONG DURING COMMUNION *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* (W&P 95)**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Radiant God,  
**we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.**  
**In the sacrament of his body and blood**  
**you have drawn us to your heart.**  
**Send us from this table with delight,**

that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,  
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

## SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### SENDING SONG *God's Work, Our Hands* (ACS 1000)

*Our work together as the people of God continues with our annual meeting.*

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## DEDICATIONS

*The Altar Flowers were given in loving memory of Ruth Seganti by Sherri Richards.*

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

**PREACHER / PRESIDER** ..... The Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey  
**MUSICIAN** ..... Faith Woodward  
**TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT** ..... Edie Beaupre/Tom Petree  
**LECTOR** .....

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** The Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Faith Woodward

**SCHOOL DIRECTOR:** Melisa McDaid  
**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:** Alice Kaplan

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Today .....	Worship Service .....	10 AM
Sunday .....	Annual Congregational meeting .....	11:15 AM
Wednesday .....	Bible Study .....	7 PM
Saturday .....	Thrift Shop Grand Re-Opening .....	10 - 2 PM
Sunday .....	Worship Service .....	10 AM

## Announcements

Be sure to stay after worship **today** for the **ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.**

**AT THE TABLE WITH GOD** - Join us at 7 pm on Thursdays in Lent as we explore themes of food and fellowship in the Bible. We'll begin with a potluck dinner - sign up in the Narthex to let us know what you're bringing.

Thinking about becoming a member of St. Mark? Just curious about what it means to be Lutheran? Then the **NEW (AND/OR) CURIOUS MEMBERS SESSIONS** are for you! Sign up in the narthex or email Pr. Kevin if you're interested in attending one or all of the sessions.

The sign-up sheets for 2026 **DEDICATIONS for ALTAR FLOWERS** are on the table in the Narthex. Now is your chance to reserve a date for dedicating altar flowers or the Eternal Flame Candle to a loved one or special occasion.

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