



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

***6 South Second Street
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***Sunday Worship Service is at 10:00 a.m.
Our Daily Ministers are The People of St. Mark's
Rev. Carrie Hoff, Pastor***

WELCOME

We extend a sincere welcome to all who join us for worship.

January 12, 2025
Baptism of Our Lord
Order of Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *“Fantasia on “MIT Freuden Zart” ”* by Robert J. Hughes

**** THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

***Stand*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

**** PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

No. 310

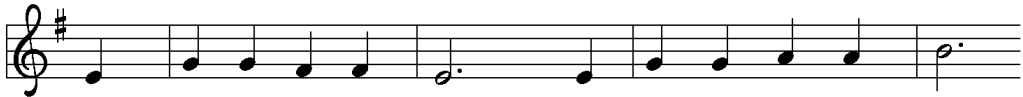
“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise ”

**** 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**



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

**** CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

** PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

PSALM: Psalm 29

We will start with the refrain and repeat where indicated.

Refrain: The voice of the LORD is upon the waters. (Ps. 29:3)

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor. R**

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the LORD
bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh. R**

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

¹¹ O LORD, give strength to your people;
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.
The voice of the LORD is upon the waters.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

**** GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17,21-22**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

** HYMN OF THE DAY

No. 304

“ Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized ”

** APOSTLES 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.**

** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news, especially Young Adults in Global Mission and international congregations. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas and oceans (*local bodies of water may be named*). Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You give strength to your people. Uphold all who serve the common good. Guide federal and state legislators, city and county officials, judges and juries. Strengthen our resolve to serve all in need. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery (*especially*). Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You draw us into community. Embolden ministries of racial reconciliation, nurture work on behalf of immigrants and refugees, and equip each to use their gifts for the sake of neighbors near and far. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You grant us peace. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

OFFERING

CHOIR ANTHEM *“ I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ”*

**** OFFERTORY HYMN**

No. 184

“ Let the Vineyards be Fruitful ”

**** OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen.**

**** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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**

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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**** THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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.

**** LORD’S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

**** COMMUNION SONG**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION

Distribution of Communion

All are welcome to receive the wine and bread at our Lord’s table. Grape Juice is in pre-poured glasses and gluten-free wafers are available on the tables as you come forward.

COMMUNION HYMN

No. 459

“ Wade in the Water ”

**** TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

**** POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



pared in the sight of ev-'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

**** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

**** BLESSING**

The Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.

Amen.

**** RECESSIONAL HYMN**

No. 543

“ Go, My Children, With My Blessing ”

**** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God. WE WILL!

POSTLUDE

“ When Morning Gilds the Skies ” by Edward Broughton



Prayer Requests

Illness: Jeremy Lewis, Anita Scheffel, Cheri Scheffel, John Burk, Calvin Samuels, Philip, Paul Thomas, Jim Bosley, Danny Bosley, Mikel Lewis, Gary Wotherspoon

Special Needs: Gary

Upcoming Events

Today

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting After Worship
Worship & Music Team Meeting

Sunday, January 19

Congregational Meeting – 2024 Year in Review

Sunday, January 26

St. Mark's Bingo

Thursday, May 8

Sight and Sound Bus Trip

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Crocheters and Knitters Needed

In January, I will be starting a Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Mark's. It is a wonderful outreach ministry which enables the talents of crocheters and knitters to create prayer shawls, baby blankets, lap robes, and blankets which we then deliver to hospitals, nursing homes, and children's hospitals. The reactions It is a perfect ministry for shut-ins and anyone who wants to share their talents. I can speak from a twenty-year experience that it is one of the most rewarding ministries I have ever participated in! Please think about it, and there will be an informational meeting downstairs after worship today. In the meantime, please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Barb Omholt

240-888-3649

barbomholt@hotmail.com



Special Offering – Long-Term Recovery for Men

This month, our offering supports Jacob's Ladder, a men's long-term addiction treatment program located in Aurora, WV, at Brookside Farm near Cathedral State Park. Their holistic approach combines mindfulness, farming, 12-step work, and wilderness therapy to foster purpose-driven recovery. Donations help provide scholarships to offset treatment costs, support staffing, and cover general expenses. Along with our financial donation, we will host a Bingo Sunday at St. Mark's on January 26th. Admission to the bingo will be men's toiletries and body washes. Your support can make a life-changing difference and an opportunity for these men to heal.

Congregational Meeting

A Congregational meeting will be scheduled for Sunday, January 19 after worship service to address two matters. (1) The 2024 Church Year in Review will be presented by Council Committee members and (2) Congregational Council members will be officially elected for the January 1 to December 31, 2025 term of office.

St. Mark's Bingo

Get ready for a fun afternoon at St. Mark's on Sunday, January 26th! Lunch will be served after worship, with Bingo games running from 12:00 to 2:00 PM. For admission, please bring a men's toiletry item to be donated to Jacob's Ladder. If you'd like to donate a prize for our winners, a sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. Prizes can be up to a \$10 item, ranging from gift cards to small trinkets or other creative goodies. We look forward to sharing lunch, laughs, and fellowship with you!

Sight & Sound St. Mark's Bus Trip

Join us for an unforgettable bus trip on May 8th, 2025, to Lancaster's Sight & Sound Theatre for the spectacular production of Noah! Witness the powerful story of Noah's faith and trust as he embarks on one of the world's most famous voyages. This landmark production, featuring live animals and captivating sets that fill the stage and aisles, returns for one season only to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Sight & Sound Theatre. In addition to the show, we'll enjoy a scenic bus ride through the beautiful countryside and lunch at Hershey Farm Restaurant. The cost of tickets is \$232 per person (includes transportation, premier 1st-floor seating, and lunch). You'll need to secure your spot by signing up soon. Payment for the trip is due by March 1st. Ticket forms are located in the narthex. Please HOLD your spot by returning the purple form in the narthex or by talking to Joyce Anderson, Ellda, or Pastor Carrie for more information.

St. Mark's Mission Statement

“United in Christ, Sharing his Good News,
we invite all people to grow in God's love.”

Church Calendar January 12, 2025 – January 19, 2025

- Today**
- Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
 - with Holy Communion
 - Worship & Music Team Meeting after worship
 - Prayer Shaw Ministry Meeting
- Tuesday**
- Yoga at 5:00 p.m.
- Wednesday**
- Bell Quartet at 5:30 p.m.
 - Bell Choir at 6:30 p.m.
 - Chancel Choir at 7:30 p.m.
- Next Sunday**
- Adult Forum at 8:30 a.m.
 - Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

Serving Today

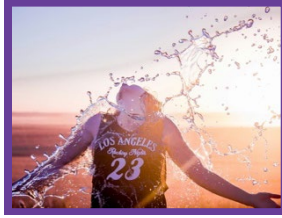
Acolyte:	Taylor Kitzmiller-Bosley
Lector:	Dave Hoff
Organist:	Sean Beachy
Co-Directors of Music:	Sean & Debi Beachy
Recording:	Renate Murray
Safekeeper:	Nicole Bosley
Ushers:	Paul Lewis, Capt. Liz Lewis, Dave Hoff, Bob Dempsey

Pastor Carrie can be reached by email at carriehoff@outlook.com or
phone 443-974-1738 for any pastoral needs or concerns.



Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are available for sponsorship.



January 12, 2025, Baptism of the Lord Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Gracious God, help us embrace the fullness of the truth that “all people shall see the salvation of God.” Your gifts of grace and love are overwhelming, and we thank you for your presence with us every day. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday’s reading.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’ (Luke 3:21-22)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus is baptized by John, and the event reminds us of what it means to be united with him and to have in him an advocate who is beloved by God.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- What prophets do you listen to today? How does their message jive with Jesus' message of justice, peace, hope, and love?
- For the littles: Ask someone to tell you the story of your baptism. Who was there? What was the best part of the day?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God's Holy Spirit flutter within you today. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Fill a small bowl with water and put it by the front door. Every time you leave the house, dip your finger in the water and make the sign of the cross on your forehead to remind you of your baptism. Carry God's love out into the world with you.



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Sunday, Isaiah 43:1-7; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Monday, Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 4:1-16; Ephesians 6:10-17

Tuesday, Psalm 106:1-12; Judges 5:12-21; 1 John 5:13-21

Wednesday, Psalm 106:1-12; Numbers 27:1-11; Luke 11:33-36

Thursday, Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:1-5; Acts 8:18-24

Friday, Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 3:19-25; 1 Corinthians 7:1-7

Saturday, Psalm 36:5-10; Jeremiah 4:1-4; Luke 11:14-23