



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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.

May 10, 2026
6th Sunday of Easter
Order of Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Prelude on ‘Erie’ ” John O. Schroeder

**** CONFESSION OF SINS**

✠ All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

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.

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the
power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our
sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us
again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of
life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

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.

**** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

**** PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

No. 408

“Come, Thou Almighty King ”


**** 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**


Refrain




Ky-ri-e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Refrain

**** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, 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: Acts 17:22-31

²² Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³ For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴ 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, ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷ so 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. ²⁸ For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ ²⁹ “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰ While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹ because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

PSALM: Psalm 66:8-20

We will read the Psalm responsively, starting with the refrain and repeat where indicated.

Refrain: Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

⁸ Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹ **Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip. R**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹² You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³ **I will enter your house with burnt offerings
and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴ those that I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats. R**

¹⁶ Come and listen, all you who believe,
and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷ **I called out to God with my mouth,
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹ **but in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld unfailing love from me. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

** GOSPEL: John 14:15-21

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him.

You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Carrie Hoff

**** HYMN OF THE DAY**

No. 804

“Come Down, O Love Divine”

**** 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 *(Please be seated)*

Trusting in the power of Christ’s resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ’s righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

Amen.

OFFERING

CHOIR ANTHEM

“ One Bread, One Body ”

** OFFERTORY HYMN

No. 814

“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am ”

** OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY". It consists of four staves of music in a single system, all in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,". The second staff continues: "heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est." The third staff continues: "Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -". The fourth staff concludes: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

**** 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

COMMUNION HYMN

“ All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly ”

No. 461

“ Children of the Heavenly Father ”

No. 781

**** 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. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

**** BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

**** RECESSIONAL HYMN**

No. 668

" O Zion, Haste "

**** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. We WILL!

POSTLUDE

" The King of Glory " Dorothy Wells

St. Mark's Mission Statement

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

Church Calendar May 10, 2026 – May 17, 2026

- Today** - Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
with Holy Communion
- Tuesday** - No Yoga
- Thursday** - Chancel Choir at 6:30 p.m.
- End-of-Year dinner and fellowship at 7:00 p.m.
- Handbell Choir at 8:00 p.m.
- Next Sunday** - Adult Forum (Last session for Spring)
- Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.

Serving Today

Acolyte:	Taylor Kitzmiller
Lector:	Nancy Pagenhardt
Organist:	Sean Beachy
Co-Directors of Music:	Sean & Debi Beachy
Recorder:	Nicole Bosley
Communion Pourers:	Nancy Pagenhardt & Liz Lewis
Communion Clean-up:	Peggy Jamison & Donna Bachtel
Flower Delivery:	Laura Robinson
Safe Keeper:	Joyce Anderson
Ushers:	Terry Savage, Capt. Carol Savage, Paul LeDuc, Donna Swift

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



Altar Flowers

The Altar Flowers are given by Monty and Nancy Pagenhardt
in loving memory of Sue Pagenhardt and in honor of Wilma Meyers on this Mother's Day.



Prayer Requests

Illness: Emelee DeWitt, Helen Ferrell, Valerie Minor, Viola, Josh Wilhelm, Tom Bittinger, Dorothee Bittinger, Peter, Robert Hodges, Ava, Connie Leary, Emily, Marie, Joyce Chaney, Debbie, Bill & Diana Bachtel, Sig Blamble, Norma, Joe, Kimmie, Abe, Angie, Fred Meyer, baby Davis Wilson who is recovering from heart surgery, Tom Bingham, Senta Heinrich, Mary, Eric, Jeff Gilbert, Marylynn, Michael, Sally, George, David, Roger, Clint, C.J. Bennett, Micah Teter, John Arnold

Special Needs: Chase, Jeremy Lewis, Bil McGahn, Debra Lohman, Family of Becky Preston, Christine Chaney, Autumn and Jordan, Bravo, Erina, Miss Ann Collins, Shania, Joey Welch & his family, Mr. Kittle, Eli, Athena, Kella & Baby

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 31

Food Workshop with the Reisinger's after worship

Announcements

Food Workshop: Buying Locally and Seasonally
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

As a sort of kickoff to summer, Marty and Mary Reisinger invite everyone to another workshop on food and its impact on the environment. This time, we'll look at the choices we make in buying our food. Does it matter if we buy locally? What happens when crops and animals are produced on a large scale? How do we make the most of food that is only available in certain seasons?

The workshop is free. If you can, bring a dish to share; it would be great if you could incorporate ingredients from local growers. If you learn about this workshop too late to bring food, just come and enjoy the lunch.

Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church

We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. Here are a few things to help you feel comfortable in our space and more fully participate in worship. If you have questions at any time, our ushers will be happy to help.

Restrooms

- A first-floor restroom is available. Facing the pulpit, use the door to the left, enter the church office, and the restroom is located on the right.
- Restrooms and water fountains are also available downstairs. From the back of the sanctuary (narthex), take the steps downstairs, turn right into Fellowship Hall, restrooms are on the right and the water fountain is on the left.

Accessibility & Comfort

- Our bulletins contain the order of worship so you can easily follow along. You are invited to participate in the liturgy in areas indicated in bold and hymns can be found in the red hymnal.
- If standing during worship is uncomfortable, please feel free to remain seated.
- Hearing assistance devices and large-print bulletins are available—please ask an usher.

Visitors

- If you are visiting, we invite you to sign the guest registry located on the stand near the front doors or fill out a visitor envelope found in the pew rack in front of you and place it in the offering plate.
- If you or someone you know is in need of an extra prayer, please fill out a card in the pew back in front of you, and an usher will be by during the prelude to collect it.

Children

- Children's worship bags are available in the narthex. You are welcome to pick one up for your child(ren).

Electronics

- Please silence or turn off cell phones and electronic devices so that all may focus on worship.

Holy Communion

- If Holy Communion is celebrated today, please know that all are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who prefer not to receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice is available on the side tables and wine will be poured from the chalice. Gluten-free wafers are also available.

Thank you for worshiping with us today—we are glad you are here.

Solve the puzzle to finish this week's memory verses:

Jesus said, "If you K ___ M N ___ P U ___ W,
D ___ F me, you will J ___ L D ___ F D ___ F
O ___ Q my commandments." John 14:15

Jesus said, "If you ___ ___ ___ ___ me, you will ___ ___ ___ ___ my
commandments." John 14:15

Memory Verse



Commandment Changes

Jesus made some changes to the traditional rules.

Match the commandment with Jesus' change. Look up the Bible passage if you get stuck.

You have heard it said...	But I say to you...
You shall not murder (Matthew 5:21)	Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.
An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth (Matthew 5:38)	Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool.
You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy (Matthew 5:43)	If you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment.
You shall not swear falsely (Matthew 5:33)	Do not resist an evildoer.



May 10, 2026, Sixth Sunday of Easter John 14:15-21

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



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

Faithful God, you have promised the Spirit to be with us forever. May our lives show through our love and devotion to you that this one truly lives within us, for the sake of Jesus our risen Lord. Amen.



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

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you." (John 14:16-17)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

The disciples feared for a day when Jesus might no longer walk with them. Never fear. Jesus promised an Advocate to remain with them forever.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- **What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?**
- **When have you needed an advocate? When have you needed to advocate for another?**
- **For the littles: Who stands up for you when you need help?**



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God's Holy Spirit bring truth, light, and justice into your world. Amen.



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

Do some research to discover underserved populations in your community. Consider how you might step in to advocate for them. It might be a support rally, writing letters, or getting involved in their lives on a more personal level. Push yourself just outside your comfort zone.



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

Monday, Psalm 93; Genesis 9:8-17; Acts 27:39-44

Tuesday, Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:8-12

Wednesday, Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 31:1-13; John 16:16-24

Thursday, Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

Friday, Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:1-12; Ephesians 2:1-7

Saturday, Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:13-15; John 8:21-30