



Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with \uparrow my whole heart.

Psalm 111:1

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.

April 12, 2026
Second Sunday of Easter
Order of Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Fanfare and Statement on ‘Llanfair’ ” by E. Broughton

**** THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ’s death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit’s power. Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

**** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

**** PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

No. 376

“Thine Is the Glory”

**** 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,

Refrain

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

**** HYMN OF PRAISE**

No. 836

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee ”

**** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²²“Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ ²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, ‘He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.’ ³²“This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

**** FIRST READING HYMN**

No. 817

“ You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore ”

PSALM: Psalm 16

We will start with the refrain and repeat where indicated.

Refrain: In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips. R**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

**⁶ My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

**⁸ I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

In your presence there is fullness of joy.

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

**¹⁰ For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
In your presence there is fullness of joy.

**** PSALM HYMN**

No. 774

“ What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine ”

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

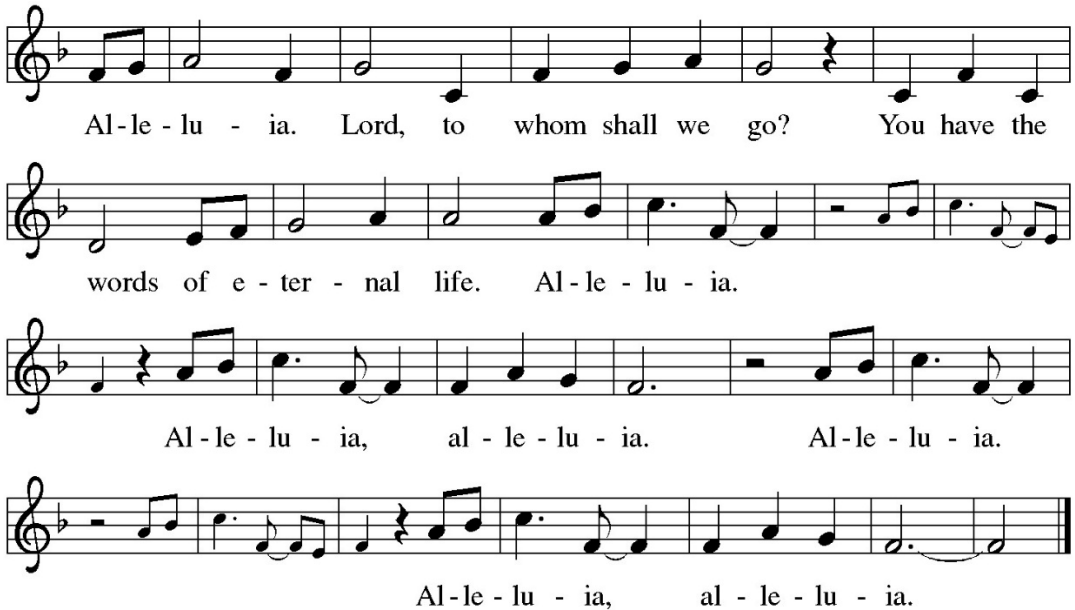
⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**** SECOND READING HYMN**

No. 815

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

**** 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 20:19-31**

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**** HYMN OF THE DAY**

No. 843

“ Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness ”

**** 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.

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way (*especially*).
Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them.

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care
for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church
triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence.

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

“ Bring to the Lord A Song ”

**** OFFERTORY HYMN**

No. 679

“ For the Fruit of All Creation ”

**** 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.**

**** 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.

**** 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. 543

“ Go, My Children, with My Blessing ”

**** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God..... We Will!

POSTLUDE

“ Postlude in D ” by Johann Rinck

St. Mark's Mission Statement

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

Church Calendar April 12, 2026 – April 19, 2026

- Today** Easter Hymn Sing
- Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
- Easter Fellowship after worship
- Tuesday** - Yoga at 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday** - 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:	Winnie Wilhelm
Organist:	Sean Beachy
Co-Directors of Music:	Sean & Debi Beachy
Recording:	Nicole Bosley
Safe Keeper:	Jana Brown
Flower Delivery:	Laura Robinson
Ushers:	Terry Savage, Capt.

Carol Savage, Paul LeDuc, Donna Swift, Joann Kinzy

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 placed today by Karen Myers
in loving memory of Tom Myers on his birthday.



Prayer Requests

Illness: Emelee DeWitt, Helen Ferrell, Valerie Minor, Viola, Josh Wilhelm, Tom Bittinger, Dorothee Bittinger, Peter, Jerry Gank, 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, Jeff

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

Upcoming Events

Today

Easter Hymn Sing
Easter Fellowship after Worship

Sunday, April 19

Wellness Walk and Clean-up after Worship

Sunday, April 26

Blessing of Prayer Shawls and Blankets
Garrett County Band Concert

Saturday, May 9

Bikes For the World Collection Day

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.



April 12, 2026, Second Sunday of Easter John 20:19-31

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



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

Risen God, you come into our midst and breathe on us your Holy Spirit. Empower us to believe at depth that you are with us, no matter how we experience you in our lives, and make us witnesses to one another of your very real presence among us. In your name we pray. Amen.



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

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (John 20:21-22)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Thomas was not with the other disciples when they witnessed the risen Jesus. But just a week later, he was blessed to see. Jesus' invitation was to all: proclaim what you have seen to whoever will listen.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Tell of a time you doubted something about your faith. Give yourself permission to doubt—doubt leads to wondering, which leads to an even deeper faith.
- What would you have done in Thomas' position?
- For the littles: Do you like to be surprised? Why or why not.



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God grant you doubt and faith. Amen.



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

Take a long walk. (If you cannot take a long walk, find time to meditate.) Take with you a doubt or a challenge that has been haunting you. Work it over as you walk or meditate. Look at it from every angle. Consider all your options. Look at it from God's perspective. Ask God for guidance. See if you can come to greater clarity by the end of your walk or meditation



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

Monday, Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Tuesday, Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28

Wednesday, Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42

Thursday, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12

Friday, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16

Saturday, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14