

Service Participants:

Assisting Minister: Joan Bloomberg

Acolyte: Andrew Caple

Lector: Bonnie Mueller

Children's Message: Traci Billman

Lay Communion Asst.: Collin Caple

Greeters/Ushers: Mike & Michelle Price



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 24, 2021

5:00p.m. Contemporary Worship

Christmas Eve

Public Internet Access: *StMarks_Guest* Password: *Connect123!*

MERRY
christmas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unity Worship Services will be held at 10: 00 am:

Sunday, December 26

& Sunday, January 2

PRAYER REQUESTS

June Barber

Dennis Fakes

Eric Martin

Jim Brumfield

Pastor Jill Henning

Brian Paulus

Cindy Conrad

Brenda Holsopple

Katy Schroer

Patti Cutter

Rein Ise

Grace Schultz

Vicki Eversmeyer

Meg Jones

Mija Stockman

If you would like the St. Mark's Prayer Chain to pray for your concern, please contact our Prayer Chain Coordinator, Brenda Holsopple.



*Growing together in faith to abundantly
nourish our community.*

200 Longwood Drive SE, Huntsville, AL 35801

Phone: 256.539.4361

Web: www.stmarkshsv.org Email: info@stmarkshsv.org

We are glad to have you worship with us this evening! Please let us know you are here by signing in on the white Pew Pads. You may also add a prayer request and/or share your Joys and Gratitude.

GATHERING

Call to Worship Bell

Gathering Song

Light of the Stable

Hail hail to the newborn King

Let our voices sing Him our praises

Hail hail to the guiding light

That brought us tonight to our Savior

Halle hallelujah halle hallelujah

Halle hallelujah halle hallelujah

Come now where it shines so bright

To the knowing light of the stable

Kneel close to the Child so dear

Cast aside your fear and be thankful

Elizabeth Rhymer | Steve Rhymer

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Welcome and Announcements

Please stand

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,

the fountain of living water,

the rock who gave us birth,

our light and our salvation.

C: Amen.

A reading from Second Corinthians: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! (2 Corinthians 5:17)

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

Joy to the World (vv. 1-3)

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her king;

let ev'ry heart prepare him room

and heav'n and nature sing,

and heav'n and nature sing,

and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let all their songs employ,

while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat the sounding joy,

repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow

nor thorns infest the ground;

he comes to make his blessings flow

far as the curse is found,

far as the curse is found,

far as, far as the curse is found.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Behold, I Make All Things New music by Benjamin Splichal Larson © 2015 Renee Splichal Larson Used with Permission Materials prepared by the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC), published in Praying Together © 1988: the preface dialogue, the canticle texts "Glory to God in the highest," "Holy, holy, holy," and "Lamb of God." Kyrie Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Gospel Acclamation Text: Lutheran Book of Worship, based on John 6:68. Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Prayer after Communion

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

Blessing

The God of hope
fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through ✠ Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

C: Amen.

Please light candles.

Sending Songs

Silent Night, Holy Night!

1 Silent night, holy night!

All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

3 Silent night, holy night!

Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

2 Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

A moment of silence & reflection.

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.

C: Amen.

Almighty God,
who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
and forgives us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness
and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Song of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High

1 Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains. *Refrain*

Refrain:
Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, **you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

Children's Message

All children and their parents are invited for a brief message.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 (Pew Bible p. 555)

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise and light candles for the Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation*

One: Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20 (Pew Bible pp. 832-833)

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated and extinguish flame

Proclamation of the Word

Silence for reflection on the Word.

Please stand

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,
from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.
- 3 And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!
- 4 For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years
shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

Please stand

Rev. Jason R. Davis

Celebration of Holy Communion

Please follow the guidance of the ushers and make every effort to give others distance as we commune together. Please receive both elements and then unmask to partake in this meal. Also, please know you are welcome to receive a blessing instead of partaking in communion as a reminder of God's love, forgiveness, and grace for you. These are the gifts of God for all.

Communion Songs

What Child is This

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!
- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

Song of the Day

Emmanuel (Hallowed Manger Ground)

What hope we hold this starlit night
A King is born in Bethlehem
Our journey long we seek the light
That leads to the hallowed manger ground

What fear we felt in the silent age
Four-hundred years can He be found
But broken by a baby's cry
Rejoice in the hallowed manger ground

Emmanuel Emmanuel
God incarnate here to dwell
Emmanuel Emmanuel
Praise His name Emmanuel

The Son of God here born to bleed
A crown of thorns would pierce His brow
And we beheld this offering
Exalted now the King of kings
Praise God for the hallowed manger ground

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash
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Prayers of Intercession

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space,
let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Petitions will be concluded with:

Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you,
confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you.

Please extend a greeting of welcome and a word of grace to those around you.

Please be seated

MEAL

Offering

Christmas Offering

Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star
While angels sang to lowly shepherds
Three wise men seeking truth traveled from afar
Hoping to find the child from Heaven
Falling on their knees
They bowed before the humble Prince of Peace

I bring an offering of worship to my King
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing
Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due
Oh Lord I bring an offering to You
I bring an offering to You

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love
There is no shadow in Your presence
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne
Before the Holy One of Heaven
It's only by Your blood it's only through Your mercy
Lord I come

Paul Baloche
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Please stand

Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts,
prepare us to receive the grace and truth
you offer at this table
and renew in us the song of your salvation,
in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader:

...We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest

Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer

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

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

...These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please be seated