

Service Participants

Asst. Minister: Mary Soop

Acolyte: Madelyn Vandevaire

Lector: Carol Tevepaugh

Lay Communion Asst.: Carolyn Vandevaire & Jake Thornton

Greeters/Ushers: Bob Dornbos & Wayne Falkenberg



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 26, 2021

10:00a.m. Unity Worship Service

First Sunday of Christmas

The Altar Flowers are given by the Sykstus family in celebration of Ron's birthday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unity Worship will be at 10:00 am on Sunday, January 2.

The Church Office will be closed the week of December 27-31.



Public Internet Access: StMarks_Guest Password: Connect123!

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 morning! 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.

Prelude *Sing We Now of Christmas*

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand

Call to Worship:

My soul magnifies the Lord!

C: My spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

For unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given.

C: You shall call Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

He will give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

C: He will guide our feet into the way of peace.

Gathering Song *Joy to the World*

Hymn 267

- 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.

Sending Song

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Hymn 836

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird, and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.
- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine!

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Hymn to Joy

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!

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Hymn 290

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

Please stand

Prayer after Communion (unison)

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

C: Amen.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us power through your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

C: Amen.

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

Gracious God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of Christ's Church and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

Response: from *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray.
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell.
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel.

Prayer of the Day (unison)

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, Lord God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your Word. In all things may we think and act according to your good will as we live in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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.

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9 (Pew Bible pp. 584-585)

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-17 (Pew Bible p. 958)

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation- from *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

The Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52 (Pew Bible pp. 833-834)

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

**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.**

Please be seated

Invitation to Communion

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

C: Thanks be to God.

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

Hymn 296

- 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!

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.

Preface for Christmas/Holy, Holy, Holy

Leader:

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

All:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.

Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

...We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

...Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

**C: 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,**

Proclamation of the Word

Pastor Gary Soop

Silence for reflection on the Word.

Please stand

Song of the Day

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hymn 270

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

- Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"
- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*
- 3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us together confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

In accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

As we rejoice in the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Petitions will be concluded with:

Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you live to make intercession for us. Hear our prayers and help us to entrust all of our ways and days to you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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 Song

God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

Please stand

Song of Thanksgiving

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Hymn 184

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

C: Amen.