



St. Mark's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 15, 2024



*Growing together in faith to abundantly
nourish our community*

200 Longwood Drive SE

Huntsville, AL 35801

256.539.4361 | stmarkshsv.org | [@stmarkshsv](https://www.instagram.com/stmarkshsv)

In Worship Today...

Narrative Lectionary: God's Promise to Abraham

Prelude: Creator of the Stars of Night arr. Richard Warner

Welcome | Gathering Hymn: **Blessed Assurance** ELW 638

Confession & Forgiveness | **Entrance Psalm** | Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Scriptural Introit: **Psalm 63**

Luke 3:8 *Pew Bible p.834* | Genesis 15:1-6 *Pew Bible p.10*

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **Creator of the Stars of Night** ELW 245

Apostle's Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: **Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**

Communion Liturgy with **Te Deum**

Distribution: **New Wine**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Song: **Glorious Day**

Dismissal | Postlude

Our Liturgical music comes from: *In the Morning, I Will Sing* by Marty Haugen

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Deb Williams | Lector: Kris Strobe | Acolyte: Oliver Sieja

Ushers: Klaus & Diane Dahl | Tech Volunteer: Denise Williamson

Communion Assistants: Oliver Sieja & Doug Bloomberg

Coffee Host: Kris Strobe

St. Mark's Celebrates Open Communion

which means none are turned away from Christ's table. We believe Christ is fully present in the bread and wine, and no less present in our gluten-free and alcohol-free options. If you wish instead to receive a blessing, you may signify this by crossing your arms over your chest.

We Welcome the Joy, Laughter, Sights, and Sounds of Children in Worship!

There are children's activity bulletins and worship activity bags available - just ask our ushers. If a moment out of the sanctuary is needed, a toy-filled nursery and changing table are available too, however, we ask that an adult family member stay present at all times.

Why the Creed?

Many weeks (though not every week), our worship involves the speaking of a creed. From the Latin word "credo," which means, "I believe," creeds are statements of faith. The Lutheran Church traditionally affirms three creeds: the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, and the Athanasian Creed. While we don't often use the Athanasian (it's a bit on the long side), both the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds affirm that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and recall the ways that God provides for us, saves us, and sustains us in faith. And while these are the most common and most widely accepted, there are other statements of faith that can be used when appropriate. The Creed is an opportunity to remember that we are not alone in our faith, but we gather with a community who believes with us and for us.

Altar Flowers

The flower arrangements on our Communion Table today are given by Allen & Penny Krell in celebration of their 23rd Wedding Anniversary!

By the Numbers: Sunday, September 8, 2024

Attendance

In Person Worship: 131 | Online Views: 55

Child & Youth Sunday School: 33 | Adult Sunday School: 39

General Offerings

September 8, 2024: \$17,197.75 YTD: \$462,862 | 2024 Budget: \$768,340

For your convenience, online giving can be accessed through this QR Code:



Ready to Get Online?

Wi-Fi is available using the SMLC Guest network with password: GrowingTogether

This Week We are Praying for...

For victims of gun violence and for all those working to ensure our schools are safe places of learning | The St. Mark's youth groups and their leaders as they grow together in fellowship and faith | Those experiencing natural disasters, especially those affected by Hurricane Francine and the wildfires in western states | And those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Pat, Sandra, Marilyn, Martha, Ciera, Vicki, Tess, Aaron, Biruta, Mary, Butch, Jeanette, Suzy, Karin, Frank, John, Larry, Peg, Mija, Ed, Elaine, and Kim.

A Prayer Ministry email filled with joys, concerns, and sorrows is sent weekly on Wednesday; if you would like to receive this email, please contact prayer@stmarkshsv.org Prayer cards are available in the pews to share your joys and concerns and can be placed in the offering plate. You may also email prayer@stmarkshsv.org or call the church office at 256.539.4361.

Senior Youth - Today at 2pm!

Sr. High are invited to get together at Botanical Gardens for a walk down the Scarecrow Trail. There will be a sign up in Communication Central to let us know who plans to attend. All will meet at the venue.

Tweeners & Quarters (3rd–6th Grade)

Tweeners and Quarters will meet Sunday, September 22 at 1pm in the Gathering Place for some fall-themed fun!

Rocket City Pride - Sunday, October 13

Join us as we represent St. Mark's at this year's Rocket City Pridefest at the Orion. Volunteers are needed to host our booth by greeting and talking to participants; offering SMLC coozies; and having silly fun with our "Pick-A-Pop" game. If you are interested in helping, please sign up in Communication Central. Unfortunately, we do not know the exact times for working our booth; once we know, we will contact you for your availability.

Trunk or Treat – Saturday, October 26, 1-3pm

Taking place in our back parking lot, all are invited to celebrate our community with some fall fun! We'll have "trunks" to visit, treats to collect, and games to play! For those who would like to help out, we are looking for decorated "trunks" - you can pick a theme (Pinterest has great ideas!) and host your own space. In the past we've seen "Where's Waldo?," "Harry Potter," and "Baby Shark" in addition to more traditional Halloween and fall themes.

We do ask you to sign up on the "What's Next?" board in Communication Central, so we know who is volunteering. All volunteers are asked to arrive at noon to set up. Not feeling the trunk life? You can still help out by donating candy for the kiddos (drop off in CC).

What's Next? - Sign Up in Communication Central

Check out the sign up board for info on upcoming events. Something new and exciting is always on the horizon! Supper Club, Faith & Fiction, WELCA, Free Spirits, and more!

St. Mark's Staff

Rev. Will Starkweather, Pastor | pastorwill@stmarkshsv.org

Traci Billman, Director of Christian Education | traci@stmarkshsv.org

Patrick Marchant, Minister of Music | patrick@stmarkshsv.org

Shelby Billman, Multimedia Coordinator | shelby@stmarkshsv.org

Heather White, Office Manager | heather@stmarkshsv.org

Connie Jaramillo, Office Assistant | connie@stmarkshsv.org