



**St. Mark's**

LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Reformation Sunday*

October 27, 2024



*Growing together in faith to abundantly  
nourish our community*

200 Longwood Drive SE

Huntsville, AL 35801

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

# *In Worship Today...*

Prelude: Partita on "Thy Strong Word" - Benjamin M. Culli

Welcome | Thanksgiving for Baptism | Gathering Song: **Good Grace**

Prayer of the Day | Children's Message

Scriptural Introit: **Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying**

Jeremiah 31:31-34 p.642 | Romans 3:19-28 *Pew Bible* p.915

Gospel Processional & Acclamation: **Alleluia** ELW p. 205 | John 8:31-36 *Pew Bible* p.871

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **The Church's One Foundation** ELW 654

Affirmation of Baptism | Sharing of the Peace | Prayers of Intercession

Offering: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty; Handbells

Communion Liturgy with **Te Deum**

Distribution: **Hymn of Heaven** | Song of Remembrance; Choir

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Hymn: **A Mighty Fortress is Our God** ELW 504

Dismissal | Postlude: Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice arr. Donald Busarow

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

## *Worship Assistants*

Assisting Minister: Leah Gradl | Lector: Madeline Wirtz | Acolyte: Annika Williams

Ushers: Mike & Michelle Price | Tech Volunteer: Todd Phillips

Communion Assistants: Andrew Caple, Daniel White, Trey Lear, Madelyn Vandevreire

Crucifer: Andrew Caple | Bible Bearer: Daniel White

Torch Bearers: Trey Lear & Madelyn Vandevreire

Coffee Host: Karen Cunningham

## *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.

## *Affirmation of Baptism*

In Holy Baptism, God makes promises to us, and we make promises to God. God's promise to us is an irrevocable "yes"; God claims us and calls us "Beloved," and there is nothing that can take away God's love for us. Secure in God's "yes," we make promises as well: to gather with the community of believers, to learn God's word and participate in the sacraments, to share the Good News of God's love, to follow Jesus' example in serving others, and to work for justice and peace in the world. Since Lutherans most often baptize infants, our parents and sponsors usually make these promises on our behalf. Confirmation is the time when a person claims these promises for themselves. Today, Zeah, Katie, and Payton affirm their baptismal promises, taking responsibility for continuing to learn and grow in their faith as a response to God's "yes" for them. As we celebrate with these siblings in Christ, may we all reaffirm our own commitment to walk in God's ways and work for God's Beloved Community.

## *Altar Flowers*

The flower arrangements on our Communion Table today are given by the White Family in celebration of Mason's Birthday and our confirmands. And by Bob & Louise Boller in Celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary!

## *By the Numbers: Sunday, October 20, 2024*

### Attendance

In Person Worship: 121 | Online Views: 48

Child & Youth Sunday School: 24 | Adult Sunday School: 8

### General Offerings

Last Week: \$7,185.90 | YTD: \$527,626 | 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...*

Cancer patients, survivors, and their caregivers | Our confirmands as they affirm their baptismal promises | The safety of children and those trick or treating that they may find more treats and less tricks | The alive and ever reforming Church | And those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Sandra, Mike, Martha, Ciera, Vicki, Aaron, Larry, Jeanette, Suzy, Frank, Susan, John, Aly, Jack, Mija, Elwin, 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](mailto: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](mailto:prayer@stmarkshsv.org) or call the church office at 256.539.4361*

## *Celebrate our Confirmands!*

Following the service today, 'flower' the confirmands, sharing love and congratulations with fresh, cut flowers, before enjoying a delicious luncheon in the back parking lot.

## *Office Closed Tomorrow*

Following a fun-filled weekend of adventures and excitements, the church office will be closed Monday, October 28 so the staff can have a day of rest!

## *Hidden Scriptures: The Writings of the Apocrypha*

Join Pastor Will in the Gathering Place during the Sunday Learning Hour starting November 3 to learn more about the writings which were produced between the Old and New Testaments and the way they shaped the Jewish world of Jesus.

## *Fall Worship Walks - November 3, 10, & 17*

Come spend an afternoon at the Madison County Nature Trail on Green Mountain! Together we will breathe in the fresh air and connect with God in a contemplative worship walk. We will meet at the picnic tables at 3pm to pray and then will hike the main loop trail, concluding in the chapel. Please sign up in Communication Central so we know how many to expect!

## *Holiday Food Drive*

It is that time of year again! Together with four other Lutheran churches in our area, we are collecting holiday meal items to pack 100 bags to distribute the week before Thanksgiving. This year, St. Mark's is tasked with collecting 200 cans of green beans AND 100 3-5 lb. hams. All donations are requested by November 17. Please put cans in the bins in Communication Central; put hams into one of the freezers in the upstairs kitchen. Other volunteer opportunities are detailed in the newsletter and Communication Central.

## *Hurricane Relief Efforts*

SMLC Member, Hannah Vandeviere, is leading an effort to collect various new and gently used "warm" items (any size: sweaters, sweatshirts, coats, gloves, or boots– think mud!) to deliver to the Red Cross for use in the Eastern Tennessee and Western North Carolina areas. Any donations can be placed in Communication Central by November 13.

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## *St. Mark's Staff*

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