



St. Mark's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2025



*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...

Prelude: As With Gladness Men of Old arr. Wayne L. Wold

Welcome | Mission Moment | Opening Hymn: **Arise, Your Light Has Come!** ELW 314

Confession & Forgiveness | **Hymn of Praise** ELW 275 | Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Scriptural Introit: **Sing We Now of Jesus**

Isaiah 60:1-6 *Pew Bible p.602* | Matthew 2:1-12 *Pew Bible p.783*

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **Jesus, What a Wonderful Child** ELW 297

Apostle's Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: We Three Kings arr. Renfrow

Thanksgiving for the Word Prayer | The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: **We Three Kings**

Dismissal | Postlude: Marsch der heiligen drei Könige; Anton Wilhelm Leupold

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Jed Deason | Lector: Brenda Holsopple | Acolyte: Daniel White

Ushers: Andrew Wirtz & Brian Hackenberg | Tech Volunteer: Lara Sieja

Coffee Host: Julie Satterfeal

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.

Altar Flowers

The flower arrangements on our Communion Table today are given by The White family in celebration of Haiden's Birthday and by Mike & Michelle Price in celebration of Mike's Birthday.

Ready to Get Online?

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

Them Wise Guys

Over the last month, you may have noticed a trio of wise guys wandering the halls of the church. The magi from our nativity started far off their destination, and even on Christmas Eve, they had not yet arrived. There's an important reason for this; though we often lump the wise men in with the shepherds (which makes for a lovely children's pageant), they don't actually appear in the Christmas story. Rather, the Magi are part of the Epiphany story, which takes place around two years after the birth of Christ. Epiphany, meaning a manifestation or illumination, is a day when we celebrate the revealing of Jesus to these wise wanderers from afar. Also, like Christmas, Epiphany is both a day and a season, and during the Sundays after Epiphany, we dwell in stories that reveal Jesus to be the savior through his words and deeds.

By the Numbers: Christmas Eve, December 24 & Sunday, December 29, 2024

Attendance Christmas Eve:

6:30pm In Person Worship: 209 | 11pm In Person Worship: 76 | Online Views: 111

Attendance Sunday, December 29

In Person Worship: 59 | Online Views: 67

General Offerings

Last Week: \$21,341.86 | 2024 YTD: \$696,505 | 2024 Budget: \$768,340

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



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!

This Week We are Praying for...

Victims of violence, especially those in New Orleans | Those affected by extreme weather especially affected by tornadoes in Texas, North Carolina, and Louisiana and those who will experience the forecasted Arctic cold this coming week | St. Mark's Marketing Team as they share the love of St. Mark's with our community through advertising and social media | And those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Kim, Patti, Ciera, Polly, Vicki, Carrie, Jeanette, Suzy, Frank, Anabelle, Myra, Mija, Ed, Kim, and Kay.

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

Bible in a Year

Pastor Will is beginning a Bible in a Year reading plan on January 1, and you're invited to join! A calendar of readings is available to guide you through a few chapters a day. Every day, prompts will be posted to Pastor Will's Facebook to help you stay on track. Tuesdays at 10am, beginning January 7, he'll be leading a conversation in the Fellowship Hall about the readings from the past week. Come join the conversation and learn about how the story of our faith intersects with your story!

Children & Chit Chat

Families of preschoolers (infant-age 5) are invited to join us the second Saturday of every month for a play date. This month, we will go to EarlyWorks Children's Museum on Saturday, January 11 at 9am. Admission for toddlers is \$7 and \$12 for youth & adults. Please contact Madeline Wirtz with any questions.

Free Spirits—Thursday, January 16, 11am

This fun group of Seniors gets together every other month in the Fellowship Hall for a home made lunch and an interesting program. This month's program will be given by Jase Bakker, a member of the local police force (and St. Mark's!) on police jurisdiction and response designation in our area. Please sign up in Communication Central!

Thursday Reading Group

An eight-week series, beginning on January 9, our Thursday reading group meets via Zoom, at 6:30pm. (Look for the Zoom link in Monday emails). Our book selection: *The Wolf at Twilight: An Indian Elder's Journey through a Land of Ghosts and Shadows* by Kent Nerburn.

Lucy and Ethel's Chocolate Factory— WELCA Gathering

The first WELCA meeting of the new year will be Saturday, January 25 from 2 - 4pm in the Fellowship Hall. Participants will make chocolate truffles in assembly-line fashion, which can be taken home to share with others. There will also be a chocolate fountain and goodies for dipping during the business meeting in addition to a game of "Lucy and Ethel Bingo" while the chocolates set. Look for sign ups in the Narthex; no tickets will be sold, but a free will offering of \$10 would be appreciated.

St. Mark's Staff

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