



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 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...

Narrative Lectionary: Healing on the Sabbath

Prelude: Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

Welcome | Mission Moment | Gathering Hymn: **The Church of Christ in Every Age** ELW 729

Confession and Forgiveness | **Joyous Light of Glory** ELW 230 | Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Psalm 92 *Pew Bible p.478*

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia** ELW p.171 | Luke 6:1-16 *Pew Bible p.837*

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **As the Grains of Wheat** ELW 465

Apostle's Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: Abbot's Leigh; Handbells

Communion Liturgy with **Great Thanksgiving & Holy, Holy, Holy**

Distribution: **All Who Are Thirsty | Here All Will Be Fed**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Song: **Everlasting God**

Dismissal | Postlude: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise arr. J. Bert Carlson

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Josh Cutter | Lector: Susan Wright | Acolyte: Edith Sieja

Ushers: Jim French & Brian Hackenberg | Tech Volunteer: Rob Caple

Communion Assistants: Edith Sieja & Susan Wright

Coffee Host: Les Billman

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.

Revealing God in the Worship Space: Vestments

Just as the paraments on the pulpit, lectern, and communion table change with the season of the Church year, the color and symbols on the pastor's stole change seasonally as well. The stole is one piece of what are collectively referred to as vestments. The other pieces include the alb (the white robe) and the cincture (the rope belt). Some pastors also wear a chausible (something resembling a poncho that goes over the alb and stole), though this piece is traditionally used only during communion, if at all. Each piece of the vestments has symbolic meaning. The white alb is symbolic of being clothed in Christ's righteousness. The stole is a symbol of both the authority and the responsibility laid on the shoulders of clergy. The cincture is a symbol of spiritual preparation. The chausible is symbolic of the all-encompassing love of God that meets us at the table. Just like the paraments, the vestments worn by clergy are rich with symbolism of God's presence with us in worship.

Altar Flowers

The flower arrangements on our Communion Table today are given by Mike & Susie McCall in celebration of their 42nd Wedding Anniversary!

By the Numbers: Sunday, January 19, 2025

Attendance

In Person Worship: 129 | Online Views: 82

Child & Youth Sunday School: 21 | Adult Sunday School: 22

General Offerings Last Week

Last Week: \$9,827.75 | YTD: \$43,646 | 2025 Budget: \$787,899

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



This Week We are Praying for...

Immigrants, refugees, and all who work on their behalf especially as families are cruelly torn apart and living in fear in our community and throughout the country | Continued support and funding of the many organizations whose futures are in jeopardy, as they work to advocate for and assist all of God's children | Those grieving the loss of loved ones especially from the plane crash in Washington DC as well as for the safety of the first responders as they work through the wreckage | St. Mark's Fellowship Ministry as they provide opportunities to strengthen the bonds of Christian love between us | And those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Ciera, Don, Jeanette, Suzy, Frank, Mija, Elaine, and Kim.

A Prayer Ministry email filled with joys, concerns, and sorrows 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.

Mission Moment Follow Up- Greeter Ministry

We are starting up a new Greeter ministry in conjunction with our ushers on Sundays to warmly welcome visitors with a friendly face and a goodie bag. If you are interested, then please sign up in Communication Central (near the women's bathroom) by February 28.

Valentines Family Night—Next Saturday!

Come share Valentine's love with your church family on Saturday, February 8. Down in the Fellowship Hall, dinner and the dance floor open at 5:30pm, followed by bingo at 6:30pm. Fun and fellowship for all ages!

New Member Class

All prospective new members are invited to attend a new member class on Sunday, February 16 from 2 – 3:30pm in Room 8. Join us for some orientation, tour of the facility, opportunity survey, as well as a time for questions and answers. Please be prepared to fill out a brief questionnaire for family information, i.e. birthdays, baptisms, address, etc.

Now Hiring! Office Assistant

We have an opening for an Office Assistant. This is a part time position that will include reception and record keeping work, as well as collaboration with our food ministries. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Pastor Will.

Summer Camp Registration

Already making summer plans? Consider adding a summer camp (or two!) to your calendar! For 6th grade - college sophomores, spend a week at AFFIRM (June 15 -20), a youth event of the ELCA Southeastern Synod that St. Mark's youth and staff attend each year. For kiddos aged 4-11, St. Mark's offers TWO different day camps (June 23 – 27 AND July 14 -18) full of crafts, service projects, Bible stories, games, silly songs, and more! Scan this QR code to register and learn more!



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

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