



St. Mark's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 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: More Than a Prophet

Prelude: Beautiful Savior arr. Gregory Hamilton

Welcome | Gathering Hymn: **On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry** ELW 249

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

Children's Message

Psalm 146:5-10 *Pew Bible p.507*

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia** ELW p.171 | Luke 7:18-35 *Pew Bible p.839*

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **Come Now, O Prince of Peace** ELW 247

Apostle's Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: Bagatelle; Hook– Tess Gradl, Piano

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

Distribution: **Goodness of God | Here All Will Be Fed**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Song: **The Blessing**

Dismissal | Postlude: March; John Marsh

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Rob Caple | Lector: Rachel Cutter | Acolyte: Zach Gastler

Ushers: Marlin Williamson & Madeline Wirtz | Tech Volunteer: Edith Sieja

Communion Assistants: Zach Gastler & Rachel Cutter

Coffee Host: Julie Satterfeal

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: Candles

While some of the items in the sanctuary have symbols on them, like the paraments or the pastor's vestments, other items are, themselves, symbolic. Candles are a great example. We light candles for worship as a sign of God's presence with us. When we light the candles, we remember that Jesus said "I AM the light of the world." Not only that, but he has called us to be the light for others as well. In addition to the candles on the communion table, there is a tall candle near the baptismal font; this special candle is called the "paschal candle," and it has special uses during the season of Easter and in baptisms and ordinations. Another special candle hangs from a chain at the front of our sanctuary; the eternal candle remains lit even when all the other candles are out and no one is in the room. This reminds us that God's presence never leaves us, but "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." Other candles may be used in worship during seasons like Advent or Lent, or in services of remembrance or healing. In every case, the light from the candle reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world.

Altar Flowers

The flower arrangements on our Communion Table today are given to the Glory of God.

By the Numbers: February 9, 2025

Attendance

In Person Worship: 126 | Online Views: 54

Child & Youth Sunday School: 25 | Adult Sunday School: 19

General Offerings Last Week

Last Week: \$18,664.75 | YTD: \$76,637 | 2025 Budget: \$787,899

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



This Week We are Praying for...

Healthcare workers and health research as well as those affected by flu, COVID, RSV, norovirus, and other heightened illnesses | All organizations whose mission and work centers on migrants, elders, those living in poverty, those seeking behavioral health services, foster care and adoption services, employment assistance, hunger relief, and other ministries of societal care | St. Mark's thriving social group, Supper Club, as they fellowship together | And those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Dorothy, Don, Roy, Elaine, Ciera, Carrie, Suzy, Frank, Mija, 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.

New Member Class—Today!!!

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.

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.

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!



Spring WELCA Cluster Meeting

March 1 from 10-3 at Faith Lutheran in Clay, AL. Please sign up in Communication Central to let us know you can attend and would like to carpool.

Ash Wednesday & Lent

Our Lenten season kicks off with Ash Wednesday, March 5 services at 12 & 6:30pm. We also invite you to join us for a new Lenten mid-week experience! On Wednesdays, March 12 - April 9, we will gather around the table to share a meal and worship together in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be at 6pm and flow into worship at 6:30. If you would like to help with dinner, a sign-up is available in Communication Central.

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

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