



**St. Mark's**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

***The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent***

March 16, 2025



***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...***

## ***Blessed By Empathy: Lament Over Jerusalem***

Prelude: Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters arr. Wayne L. Wold

Welcome | Gathering Song: **Good Grace**

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

Children's Message

Psalm 122 *Pew Bible p.498*

Gospel Acclamation: **Lenten** ELW p.189 | Luke 13:1-9, 31-35 *Pew Bible p.848*

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **There is a Balm in Gilead** ELW 614

Apostle's Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: **Broken Vessels**

Communion Liturgy with **Holy, Holy, Holy** ELW p. 207

Distribution: **Hymn of Heaven**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Hymn: **As Rain from the Clouds** ELW 508

Dismissal | Postlude: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

## ***Worship Assistants***

Assisting Minister: Jennifer Palmer | Lector: Janna Roome | Acolyte: Daniel White

Ushers: Karen Cunningham & Larry Partesotti | Tech Volunteer:

Communion Assistants: Daniel White & Alex Vandeveire

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.

## *Learn About Lent*

The liturgical season of Lent is a time of penitence and preparation. It spans 40 days (not counting Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Easter; a reminder of the 40 days during which Christ was tested in the wilderness before beginning his public ministry. In the early Church, this season was particularly dedicated to catechesis, teaching new Christians what they needed to know in preparation for baptism during the Easter vigil. The observance of Lent has tended to focus on three “pillars” of discipline: fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. These Lenten pillars are meant to help orient the practitioner toward right relationship with themselves (fasting), their neighbor (almsgiving), and God (prayer). As we walk the road together in this Lenten season, we invite you to consider how these practices might be meaningful in your own faith life, both during this season and throughout the year.

## *Easter Flowers*

Would you like to sponsor a potted plant to decorate our sanctuary on Easter morning? Plants will vary depending on availability; past flowers have included tulips, a variety of lilies, hyacinths, and geraniums. Each sponsorship is \$15. Please use an available “flower envelope” to place in the offering plate or online via St. Mark's giving page. Everyone is welcome to take their plants home following the worship service on Easter morning.

## *By the Numbers: March 9, 2025*

### Attendance

In Person Worship: 136 | Online Views: 42

Child & Youth Sunday School: 7 | Adult Sunday School: 25

### Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Noon Worship: 39 | 6:30pm Worship: 72 | Online Views: 28

### General Offerings Last Week

Last Week: \$11,114.40 | YTD: \$126,194 | 2025 Budget: \$787,899

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



## *This Week We are Praying for...*

The dignity, autonomy, and safety of women, and in thanksgiving for their gifts and contributions in the world | All whose civil rights are threatened or erased, especially our transgender neighbors | The safety and protection for migrants, and for justice for those who have been deported or forcibly relocated | And those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Dorothy, Ciera, Carrie, Suzy, Frank, and Mija.

*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](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.*

## *Worship Assistants*

Each Sunday's worship service includes approximately 30 volunteers before, during, and after the service! There's a place for everyone to serve and an opportunity for any talent or skill set – from lector, to greeter, to choir, to altar guild and so many things in between! Check out the bulletin board in Communication Central for more details and to sign up.

## *Lenten Dinner & Worship*

We 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.

## *Thursday Reading Group—It's not too late to join!*

Our Thursday reading group meets, via Zoom, at 6:30pm. (Look for the Zoom link in Monday emails) New book selection: *The Girl Who Sang to the Buffalo: A Child, An Elder, and the Light from an Ancient Sky* by Kent Nerburn.

## *Church Work Day*

Time to do some sprucing up! Hosted by the Board of Property, join us for a church work day on Saturday, March 29 from 9am - 1pm. Anyone with a pressure washer, rake, shovel, pruning shears, or wheelbarrow, your help would be greatly appreciated! Lunch will be provided. In case of rain or other inclement weather, we'll reschedule for Saturday, April 12. If you plan on coming, please sign up in Communication Central.

## *Community Free Lunch*

No foolin' - St. Mark's is providing a free lunch to the community on Tuesday, April 1 from 11am – 1pm...just because! Stop by for a hot dog, sides, and a drink. Sit and eat in the sunshine or if you're in a hurry, get it to go. All for free - while supplies last.

## *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](mailto:pastorwill@stmarkshsv.org)

Traci Billman, Director of Christian Education | [traci@stmarkshsv.org](mailto:traci@stmarkshsv.org)

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