

**ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
FEBRUARY 8, 2026
5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
HOLY COMMUNION**



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Blended Worship Service

9:45 am - Sunday Church School

9:45 am - Children's SS and Choir

11:00 am - First Sunday of Each Month

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: 878-295-2173

Pastor's Email: revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com

Karen Fisher, Office Manager

Karen's Cell Phone: 717-580-7507

Church Office: 717-766-4482

Office Email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com

Office Hours: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM - Monday through Thursday

Denise Hirn, Director of Children's Choir

Denise's Cell Phone: 717-802-1064

Email: denisehirn@hotmail.com

Brad Hull, Director of Music

Brad's Cell Phone: 202-738-2795

Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com

www.stmarkmburg.com

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St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

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INTRODUCTION TO TODAY

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs

Saturday, February 14, 2026

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

*The asterisk in the margins of the bulletin indicates please stand as able.

PRELUDE

Siyahamba (We Are Marching in the Light Of God)

R. Farlee

JOHN 1:14

P This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.

C ALLELUIA!

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Silence for reflection and self-examination. Please kneel or be seated.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

*GATHERING SONG

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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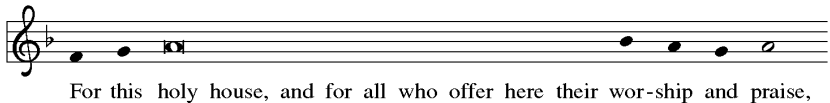
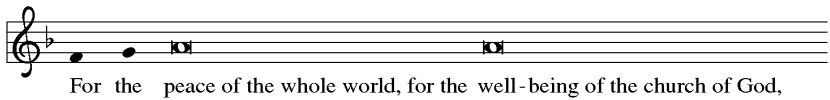
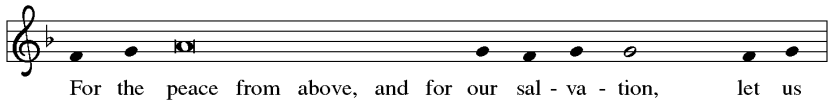
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*GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*KYRIE



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

(Continued next page.)

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you,
 C and also with you.

P Let us pray.
 Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 C Amen.

ANTHEM

Light of the World

Words by J.P. Williams/Music by J. Martin

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-12

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

R A Reading from Isaiah.

¹Shout out; do not hold back!
 Lift up your voice like a trumpet!
 Announce to my people their rebellion,
 to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually

and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: 112:1-10

*(Please sing the Psalm responsively. Choir the regular print;
congregation the bold print.)*



¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who [|] fear the Lord
and have great delight in [|] his commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty [|] in the land;**
the generation of the upright [|] will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be [|] in their house,
and their righteousness will [|] last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness [|] for the upright;**
the righteous are merciful and full [|] of compassion.

⁵ It is good for them to be gener- [|] ous in lending
and to manage their af- [|] fairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will nev- [|] er be shaken;**
the righteous will be kept in everlast- [|] ing remembrance.

⁷ They will not be afraid of any [|] evil rumors;
their heart is right; they put their trust [|] in the LORD.

⁸ Their heart is established and ¹ will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- ¹ on their enemies.

⁹ They have given freely ¹ to the poor,
and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their ¹
head with honor.

¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth
and ¹ pine away;
the desires of the wick- ¹ ed will perish.

SECOND LESSON: 1st Corinthians 2:1-16

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

R A reading from 1st Corinthians.

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed.

⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God,

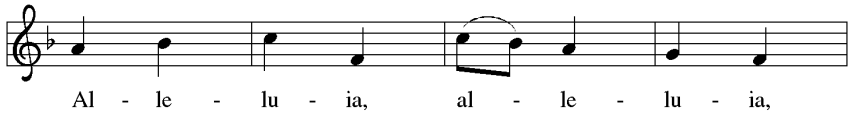
so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

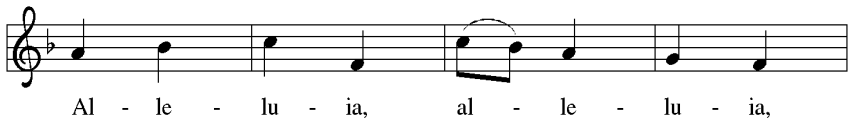
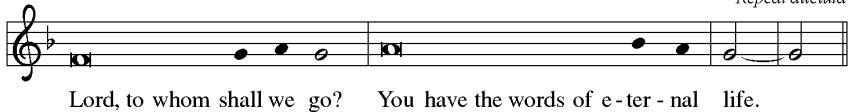
¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?"
But we have the mind of Christ.

R The word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

*ALLELUIA VERSE



Repeat alleluia



***GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20**

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: ¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

***APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the
church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the
earth, our home.

A Merciful God,
C Receive our prayer.

P Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers
us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness
made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

C Amen.

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.

P Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

K. Thomerson

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness, Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

A God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them to the Lord.

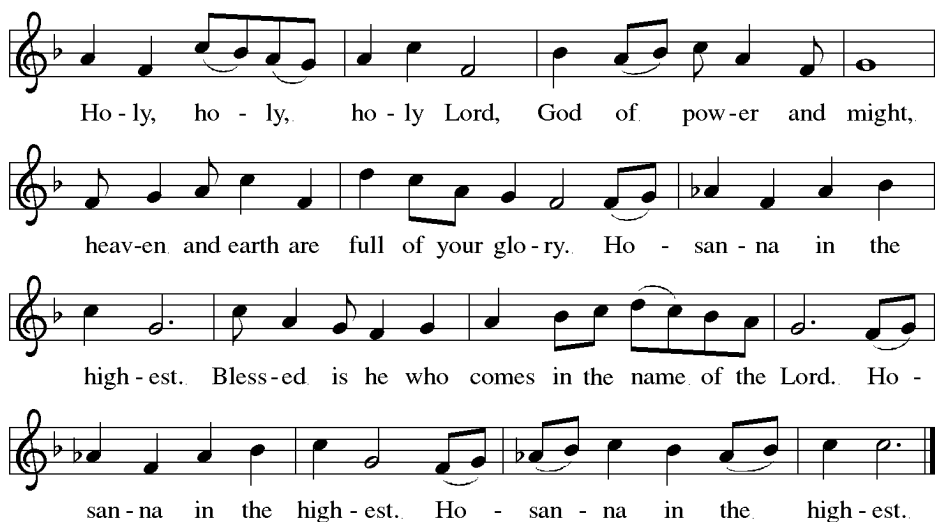
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

*P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready!

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

Congregation may be seated. Please follow the directions of the ushers for the distribution of Communion.

All baptized, communing Christians are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament.

We have gluten free bread available and white grape juice (in addition to our traditional homemade bread and red wine) for those who need or prefer those. Simply let the pastor or assisting minister know if you prefer something other than bread and wine.

Remember that we are promised that Christ is truly present in, with, and under each element.

P The body of Christ given for you.

C Amen.

A The blood of Christ shed for you.

C Amen.

-COMMUNION-

Please sing the following hymns during the distribution.

HYMN OF THE DAY

This Little Light of Mine

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh, oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935

Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Jesus, the Light of the World

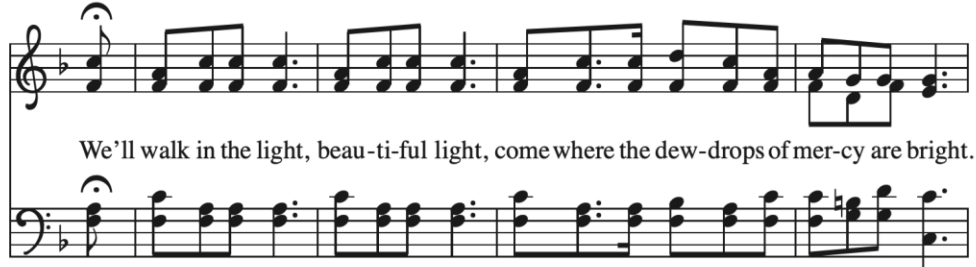


1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
 2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je-sus, the Light of the world;
 3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;

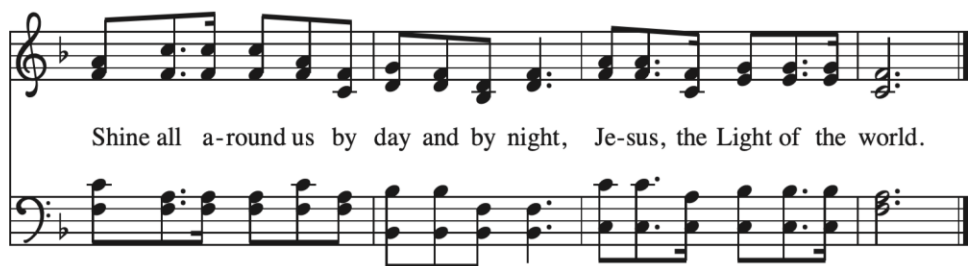


“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je-sus, the Light of the world.
 join the tri - umph of the skies; Je-sus, the Light of the world.
 Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je-sus, the Light of the world.
 Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.

Refrain



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

***P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

A Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
C Amen.

***BLESSING**

P The God of love, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, lavish you with grace, illumine your path, and increase your joy, today and always.
C Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

We Are Marching in the Light of God



Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. *Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



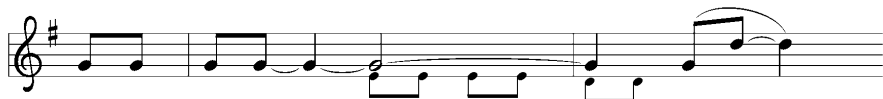
si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) oo
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) oo



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Hyfrydol (Love Divine, All Loves Excelling)

W. Wold



In honor of my granddaughter, Tessa Thomas' birthday, February 10, by her grandma, Karen Fisher.

In honor of my daughter, Kelley Weist's birthday on February 12, by her mom, Karen Fisher.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Ushers: Phyllis Mihalich, Karen Heath

Assisting Minister: Denise Hirn

Lay Reader: Dave Harnish

Acolyte: Brett Hirn

Altar Guild: Phyllis Mihalich, Sara Jane Miller

Council Money Duty: Barb Yost, Amy Gimbel

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, February 8

8:30 am
9:45 am
10:45 am
12:00 pm

5th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Worship Service-Communion
Brunch and a Movie
Youth & Family Ministry
Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Monday, February 9

2:00 pm
7:00 pm

Violin Lessons
German Group

Tuesday, February 10

6:30 pm

WinGS

Wednesday, February 11

11:00 am
1:00 pm
6:00 pm
7:00 pm

Bible Study
Finance Committee
Bell Choir
Adult Choir

Thursday, February 12

9:00 am
2:30 pm
7:00 pm

Property Committee
Violin Lessons
Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Friday, February 13

2:30 pm
5:00 pm

REMARKER DEADLINE
Violin Lessons
Dinner and Bandit Bingo

Saturday, February 14

6:30 pm

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY
Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Sunday, February 15

8:30 am
9:45 am
9:45 am
12:00 pm

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Worship Service-Communion
Sunday Church School
Children's SS and Choir
Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

LESSONS:

FIRST LESSON

PSALM

SECOND LESSON

GOSPEL

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalms 2

2nd Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

BRUNCH AND A MOVIE ARE BACK - TODAY

What: watch the first episode of the Amazon Prime series "House of David"

When: TODAY—during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45 AM)

Where: in the church Parlor

Come even if you did not bring food to share!

DINNER AND BANDIT BINGO

Join us in Fellowship Hall for dinner and Bandit Bingo on Friday, **February 13**. Dinner will be held at **5:00 PM** followed by Bandit Bingo—where “stealing” is encouraged. Please RSVP to Karen Fisher in the church office as soon as possible. Admission is 1 canned food item of your choice for New Hope Ministries.

FLOWER SPONSORS NEEDED

We are in need of flower sponsors for **February 15 (1 vase) and February 22—both vases and for all of March with the exception of March 1**. Please complete a form located in the back of the bulletins or the ReMarker. Please contact Connie Kuntz at 717-503-5244 with any questions. Thank you.

COLLEGE AND MILITARY CARE PACKAGES

The Youth and Family Ministry Committee will be assembling and sending care packages to our military personnel and college students. If you have a military person or student that you would like to receive a care package, please provide their name and mailing address to Michele Connor (via email to <mailto:crashdog68@aol.com> or text to 717-579-4640) **no later than February 15**.

COLLEGE AND MILITARY CARE PACKAGE DONATIONS

Due to rising shipping costs, we are in need of contributions to cover postage. If you would like to help, please mark your donation for Youth and Family Care Packages. If more is collected than needed for the postage, it will be designated for the Youth and Family Ministry account for upcoming activities.

We are also collecting items to include in the care packages. For a list and to sign up for an item (or more), please see the list here: <https://www.timetosignup.com/stmark/view/1381208>. **Paper sign-up sheets are available at entrances to St. Mark.** Donations can be placed in the Upper Room or given directly to Michele Connor no later than February 15. Thank you for your support and generosity!

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL TIME.

The Bell Choir will rehearse on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM beginning February 17 up until April 1 where we will return to Wednesdays at 6:00 PM.

LENT AND ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent begins on Ash **Wednesday, February 18, 2026**. Worship services will be held at **noon and 6:15 PM.**

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING

The Annual Congregation Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 22**, immediately after worship service in the Sanctuary.

An Invitation—

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

for

VELMA MUMPER

March 4, 1923—October 25, 2025

St. Mark members are welcome to attend a
Celebration of Life for Velma Mumper.

Saturday, March 7, 2026

Fellowship Hall from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.
Light refreshments provided.

BOOK CLUB READ

The Evangelism Committee is hosting a Book Club Read on **Friday, March 20, at 1:00 PM**, in the parlor. The **REDWALL**, by Brian Jacques, is One of **TIME Magazine's 100 Best Fantasy Books of All Time**. It is the book that inspired a legend—the first novel in the beloved, bestselling Redwall saga.

BREAD AND BROTH

Come share a soup meal at St. Mark **every Wednesday evening at 5:30 PM evening during Lent (February 25 through March 25)**. Stay and learn about Power Couples of the Bible during our worship/study time at **6:15 PM.**

SUMMER CAMP

Brochures for Summer Camp at either Camp Nawakwa or Camp Kirchenwald are available at the church office, or you can contact our camp person, Connie Kuntz, at 717-503-5244. You can also register or find additional information online at www.lutherancamping.org.

Our congregation will provide half the basic camp fee, and scholarship money is available if needed.

Both camps will again hold **OPEN HOUSE** on **March 15 and April 12 from 2:00 PM-4:30 PM**. Remember to get the camp person discount and if you register with your full payment before April 4, you are eligible for the full payment discount. The congregation will be billed later for half the basic fee.
Remember there are camps available for all ages with family camps and elder camp.

The Bible study theme this year is ***Wear Love***. The theme verse is: “As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience.” Colossians 3:12.

KEN SHUR COMING OUT OF RETIREMENT TO RUN ONE MORE BOSTON MARATHON

Ken Shur just couldn’t stay away from running the Boston Marathon—one more time!

He has put his sneakers back on and is training to run in his 12th Boston Marathon on **Monday, April 20, 2026**, on behalf of the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

As he has done in previous years, Ken would like to honor cancer survivors, those fighting cancer, and those who lost the battle by wearing the names of those individuals on his t-shirt. Let’s provide Ken with as many names as possible to adorn his shirt on his final (we will see) Boston Marathon run. It means so much to him and Donna. Please submit the names of cancer survivors, those fighting cancer, or those who lost the battle to Karen Fisher in the church office **no later than Wednesday, April 1**. If you would like to sponsor him, please contact Ken at 717-462-1549.



Date: Saturday, May 9, 2026

Place: St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church
Back Yard

Set Up: Starts at 7:00 AM

Sell: 9:00 AM
Trinkets and Treasures

Tables: Available from church to use.
You must carry outside and return.
*(We are asking for donations for use
of the tables towards the purchase of
a new sign for our back yard.)*

Refreshments:
Available for purchase.

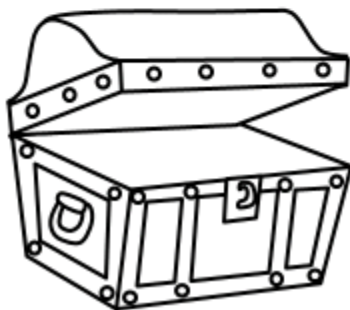


February 8	Brunch and a Movie
February 13	Dinner and Bandit Bingo
February 18	Ash Wednesday Service
February 22	Annual Congregation Meeting
February 25	Bread and Broth Begins
February 25	Lenten Services Begin
March 7	Celebration of Life for Velma Mumper
March 20	Book Club Read—Redwall
April 11	Easter Egg Hunt
April 20	Ken Shur-Boston Marathon
May 9	Community Yard Sale

-SERMON ON THE MOUNT WORD SEARCH-

D B I Q P B D E T R O F M O C
I R L W E R E J O I C E W I L
N A D E R H E A V E N F F N U
S S E N S U O E T H G I R H F
U D H W E S M R Q I L S Q E I
L R E H C A E T O L T Z V R C
T A V I U S U D E Y O U Y I R
P W Z X T M O D G N I K D T E
P E A C E M A K E R S L R E M
J R N O D P R O P H E T S M S

BEATITUDES
BLESSED
COMFORTED
FILLED
HEAVEN
INHERIT
INSULT
KINGDOM



MERCIFUL
PEACEMAKERS
PERSECUTED
PROPHETS
REJOICE
REWARD
RIGHTEOUSNESS
TEACHER

Altar Flower Sponsorship Form

Please check the one that applies to your sponsorship and complete the following statements:

- ☐ In memory of _____
- ☐ In honor of _____
- ☐ To the Glory of God

Sponsor Name: _____

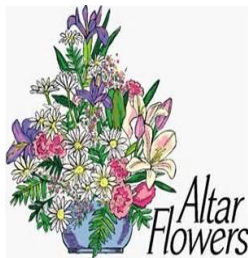
Sponsor Phone #: _____

Sponsor Email: _____

Date Requested: _____

- ☐ Willing to Share

Circle Payment Enclosed:



\$25.00 One Vase of Flowers

\$50.00 Both Vases of Flowers

Checks should be made payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church and note "Altar Guild" in the memo line. Place in the offering plate or mail directly to the church office.

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Please check any that apply!

- ☐ Flowers will be picked up by sponsor.
- ☐ Deliver one vase of flowers to shut-in or hospital
- ☐ Deliver both vases of flowers to shut-in or hospital

Please contact Connie Kuntz at 717-503-5244 with any questions.

THANK YOU!

## FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

### THE LAMP IS ALREADY LIT

“This little light of mine, I’m goin’-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine” (ELW 677). There’s nothing quite like the joyous call and response of a whole congregation singing together the words of this beloved African American spiritual. The text and tune make it very hard to keep any lamps under a bushel basket!

In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus calls us to “let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). Many congregations use these words during the rite of Holy Baptism. But “Let *your* light shine” doesn’t imply that the light belongs only to us or to the church. The first chapter of Genesis clarifies this. At the beginning of creation, God speaks light into existence, making light God’s first gift to the whole world. In that light, God creates everything, including humankind, which is made in the divine image, according to God’s likeness.

Living in harmony with God’s word, letting our light shine with “good works” that glorify God, is not about striving for perfection. Because God’s light has existed from the beginning, it is not something we earn or achieve for ourselves. We don’t provide the spark that lights the lamp—it is already lit by God. Our job is to let the light shine. To be light for the world, then, is to be none other than who we have been from the beginning. Therein lies not only the fulfillment of God’s word, but also our own fulfillment as God’s children and light-bearers in the world.