

**Spring Flower Time:** This year we are offering Lilies, Tulips, Daffodils and Hyacinths. *Deadline to order is March 9<sup>th</sup>.* Prices are:

**Lilies** 6" pot--\$11.00

**Hyacinths** 7" pot--\$9.00

**Tulips** 6" pot--\$9.00

**Daffodils** 6" dwarf yellow--\$9.00

**Daffodils** 7" standard yellow--\$9.00

Order envelopes are in the gathering place, elevator and cloak room.

## 2025 St. Mark's 127 Garage Sale Year!

During these cold winter days, if you are cleaning out or re-organizing your closets, storage areas or garage, remember the St. Mark's 127 Garage Sale is coming up in August. Please consider setting aside your "good" but no longer needed items (*sorry, NOT accepting clothes*) for donation to our garage sale. Future Sunday bulletins will inform you when to start bringing items to the church. The Garage Sale proceeds support "Kids Against Hunger" rice kits.

Thank you, Joan, Karan & Sue

**5 MINUTES A DAY. 5 DAYS A WEEK.** That's all it takes to go through the New Testament, Matthew to Revelation, in one year. Read it or listen to it. Free copies of 2025 New Testament Reading Plan are available on the Gathering Place information table.

**Offering Envelopes for 2025:** The table by the Nursery has the new 2025 offering envelopes available to be picked up anytime. Additionally, giving records are done by numbers so even if you give online, please pick up your box.

**ONLINE GIVING REMINDER:** If you do online giving and you made any changes to your pledge, you will need to update the St. Mark's online banking information to reflect your change. Elaine Rhoades

**Don't forget to mark your calendars one week from today!** All are welcome to the card game/Euchre tournament fun event beginning at 2:00 p.m., Sunday, February 16 hosted by the High School Youth. Bring a snack to share! The High School Youth will provide beverages and some other goodies. See you there!

**Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>-Ash Wednesday-Lent Begins.**

7:00—9:00 AM

**Ashes 2 Go.** Parking lot between Collins' Deli and St. Mark's

Noon & 7:30 PM

**Holy Communion Service**

## ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer Request e-mail: [stmprayer@stmarkslutheranvw.com](mailto:stmprayer@stmarkslutheranvw.com)

Church Website: [www.stmarkslutheranvw.com](http://www.stmarkslutheranvw.com)

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

Prelude

*"A Dance Prelude"*

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit (10:30 service)

Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!" # 413

Kyrie and Hymn of Praise (pages 98-100; 10:30 service)

Prayer of the Day

Noah's Ark Children's Church (10:30 service)

Isaiah 6:1-8 and Psalm 138 (pgs. 2 & 3 of bulletin)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 and Luke 5:1-11 (pgs. 3 & 4 of bulletin)

Message

Hymn "Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult" # 696

Apostles' Creed, Intercessory Prayers, The Peace (pages 105-106)

Musical Meditation (8:00 service) *"I Know Who Holds Tomorrow"*

Offering: offering boxes, website, text 419-273-9947

Offertory (10:30 service)

Adult Choir

Holy Communion

8:00 service on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. (pages 107-109)

Lord's Prayer (page 112)

Blessing & Dismissal (pages 114-115)

Hymn "Let the Whole Creation Cry" # 876

Doxology Sung by the Congregation HYMN #884

Postlude

*"Pipings"*

Get to Know Us on:



## Prayer of Illumination

- R: Before reading from the Bible,  
we seek the illumination of the Holy Spirit that  
we become receptive to the life-giving Word  
which comes to us through both  
the reading and proclamation of Scripture.
- C: **Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power  
of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy  
what you say to us today. Amen.**
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## Isaiah 6:1-8

### Isaiah's Commission

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. <sup>3</sup> And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." <sup>4</sup> At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." <sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. <sup>7</sup> With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH FRIED PIES:** Thank you all for your support of our Fried Pie sales events. Upcoming Fried Pie Sale dates are *next Sunday, February 16*, March 16, April 13 & May 18. We greatly appreciate your support with our fundraising efforts and look forward to sharing a few other fundraising events happening in April & May, stay tuned!



**The Call Process.** Church Council met Tuesday evening, February 4<sup>th</sup>, with Assistant to the Bishop Deacon Sherry Krieger and Call Process Facilitator Pastor Deb Monnin of our NW Ohio Synod. Deacon Sherry and Pastor Deb reviewed the multiple phases of the upcoming call process for St. Mark's.

**Phase 1: The Ending Well Phase.** Council establishes a Farewell Committee to assist the congregation with the upcoming transition period of pastor's retirement and the arrival of transitional/interim pastoral leadership.

**Phase 2: The Discovery and Transition Phase.** Council establishes a Transition Committee to work through Five Focus Points with the congregation: heritage, leadership, mission, connections, and future. These Five Focus Points help discern God's mission for St. Mark's and the qualities of the pastor best suited to accomplish that mission. This process will produce the information needed for our congregation's Ministry Site Profile (MSP), i.e. our church's resume. This phase is to be completed by the end of summer.

**Phase 3: The Search and Call Phase.** Council establishes a Call Committee to complete the congregation's Ministry Site Profile (MSP) with the information gathered from the Transition Committee. Our MSP is then sent to our NW Ohio Synod and made available to the other sixty-four synods of our national church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The Call Committee is then responsible for interviewing pastoral candidates and making a recommendation to Church Council. If approved, Council then makes a recommendation to the congregation.

**Phase 4: The Starting Strong Phase.** Council establishes a Starting Strong Committee to welcome our new pastor (and possibly family) acclimate to one's new home in St. Mark's, Van Wert, Van Wert County, our local synod conference, and the NW Ohio Synod for the first twelve to eighteen months.

You will be kept informed as updates become available.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS  
are given to the Glory of God and  
departed loved ones by Pauline Weldy.

**The Outreach Committee** will be seeking input from the congregation regarding potential recipients of Outreach Funds for hunger programs locally, nationally and globally. This will take place in the near future so please begin thinking of suggestions you can make to the committee. If you have questions about possible ideas you may have, please talk to Council Representative Karen Etgen or contact the church office. For national and global ideas, some suggested websites are (but not limited to):

[www.elca.org/hunger](http://www.elca.org/hunger), [www.elca.org/disaster](http://www.elca.org/disaster),  
[www.elca.org/globalmission](http://www.elca.org/globalmission), [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org), & [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

**Reminders:** *Bulletin deadline is Wednesday by 1:00 p.m.*  
*AND The deadline for March newsletter is **February 20<sup>th</sup>**.*

**Attention New Visitors to St. Mark's:** Located in the pews are blue Welcome Cards for our new guests. Please fill out this card and leave it on the pew when you leave the sanctuary. Greeters will be around to collect them after the service. This information is only to keep you informed of activities at St. Mark's and does not leave the office. We hope you will continue to join us for services and we are so glad you came to St. Mark's. We hope to see you again next Sunday.

**The PRAYER SHAWLS have a new home.** They are now located behind the accordion doors in the meeting room across from the office. The clipboard is hanging from a post ready for you to sign out a prayer shawl. If you know of someone who is hurting, from illness or grieving the loss of someone feel free to pick out a shawl, date and sign the clipboard and tell us who you are taking it to. If you knit or crochet, there are patterns and yarn in the hall next to the book cart. Help yourself and help others.

**During the Coffee Hour Next Sunday** the Learning Committee (Christian Education) will host the coffee hour in recognition of Monica Campbell's twenty years of service as the Children's Choir Director. All are invited.

## Psalm 138 Giving the Lord Our Praise

R: I will praise you, LORD, with all my heart;  
before the "gods" I will sing your praise.

C: **I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise  
your name for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,  
for you have so exalted your solemn decree  
that it surpasses your fame.**

R: When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

C: **May all the kings of the earth praise you, LORD,  
when they hear what you have decreed.**

R: May they sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for the glory of the LORD is great.

C: **Though the LORD is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;  
though lofty, he sees them from afar.**

R: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life.  
You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;  
with your right hand you save me.

C: **The LORD will vindicate me;  
your love, LORD, endures forever—  
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

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## 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 The Resurrection of Christ

<sup>1</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>2</sup> By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. <sup>3</sup> For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup> and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his

grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.  
<sup>11</sup> Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

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

**Gospel Acclamation (10:30 service)**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Good news in Luke's gospel.  
C: **Glory To you O Lord!**

**Luke 5:1-11 Jesus Calls His First Disciples**

<sup>1</sup> One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and listening to the word of God. <sup>2</sup> He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." <sup>5</sup> Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." <sup>6</sup> When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup> When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" <sup>9</sup> For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, <sup>10</sup> and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." <sup>11</sup> So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.

P: Word of God. Word of life.  
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHURCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service  
9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Gathering Place  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
**NO** Children's Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
10:40 a.m. Noah's Park

**TUESDAY**

9:00 a.m. Piecemakers  
**10:00 a.m. A.J.'s Group Mtg. at Steve Whitcraft home**  
**3:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice**

**WEDNESDAY**

6:00 p.m. Supper  
**6:30 p.m. The Anchor**  
6:30 p.m. Catechism  
6:30 p.m. Kid Min

**FRIDAY—HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2025**

**8:00 a.m. Worship Service with LPE**  
**9:00 a.m. Celebration for Monica Campbell/Coffee Hour**  
**9:00 a.m. Youth Fried Pie Sales**  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
**NO** Children's Choir Rehearsal  
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service  
10:40 a.m. Noah's Park  
**11:30 a.m. Youth Fried Pie Sales**  
**2:00 p.m. Euchre Tournament for adults & youth**

**ASSISTING MINISTERS THIS WEEK**

Greeters..... (8:00).... Bob Evans  
Lector..... (8:00).... Frank Rohrs  
Greeters.....(10:30) ... Roger Overholt  
Lector.....(10:30) ... Kevin Taylor  
Acolyte.....(10:30) ... Caleb Mohr  
Communion Servers ... (8:00).... Jana Ringwald & Randy Thompson  
Coffee Hour..... McClure