

# ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
welcomes you!

March 10,  
2024



The Fourth  
Sunday  
in Lent

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (*1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays - Chapel*)

### SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

*in-person & streaming*

EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP HOUR: 10:30 AM

105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

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*The Reverend Brian M. Robison, Pastor*

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**PLEASE** wear a **mask/face covering** *if* you are **exhibiting any upper respiratory symptoms consistent with allergies, a cold, or COVID-19** (runny nose, cough, sore throat).

**To parents with small children:** We are glad your family is worshiping with us today! “*Quiet Bags*” (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to walk to the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is still audible over the speakers).

**Parish Hall and Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. A second **handicapped access** restroom is available next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level is located in the Welcome Area. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.

**Assistive listening devices** and **low vision items** are available. Please ask one of our ushers for assistance.

## PRELUDE

“Lenten Prelude”

by D. Janzer

## WELCOME

Blessed be the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit – the one God who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Held in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Please **KNEEL** or remain as you are. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God, **we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

### “Lift High the Cross”

ELW 660

*Please **STAND***

*Refrain*



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till  
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*

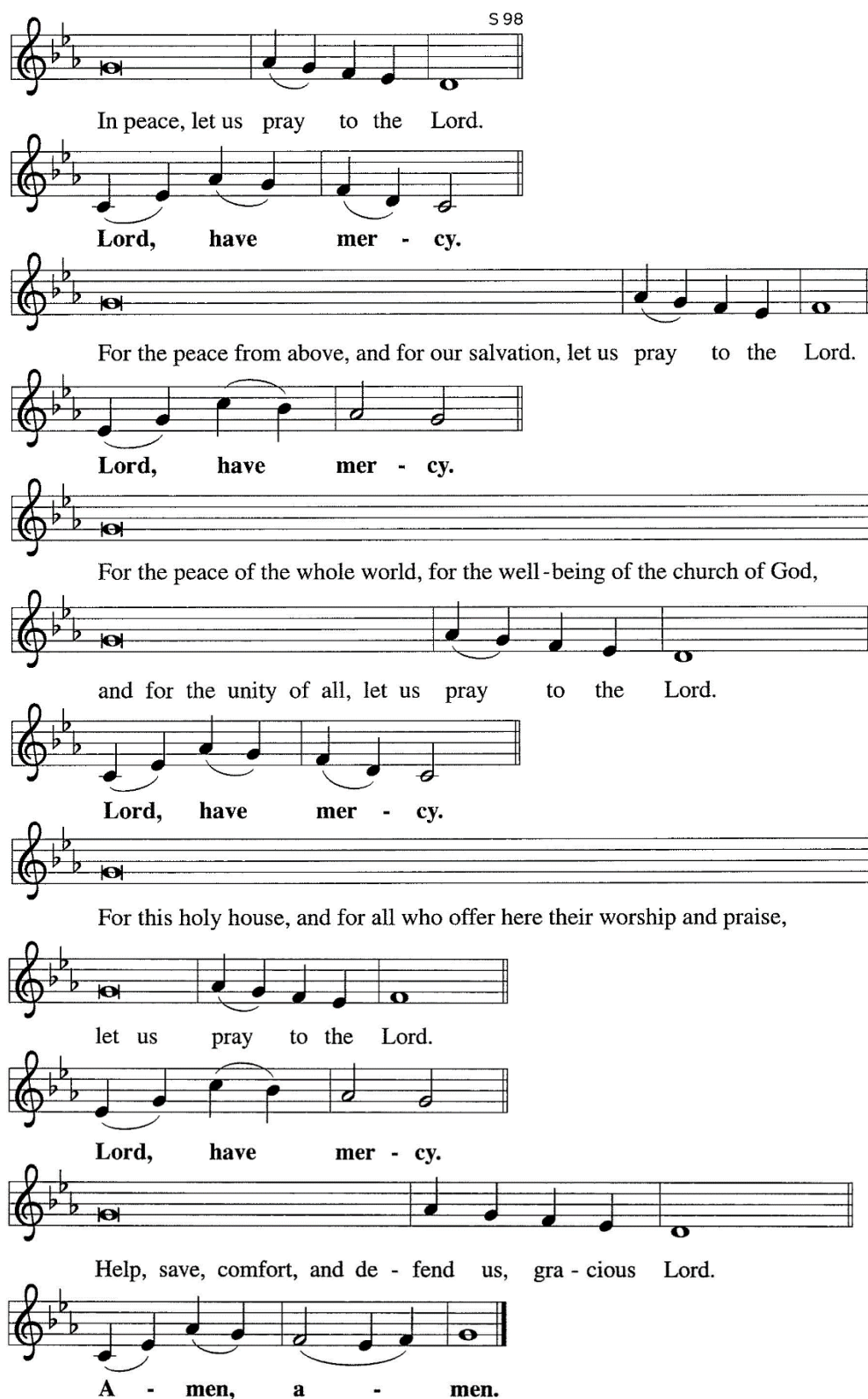
our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

## GREETING

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

## KYRIE

S 98



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.  
A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** *The assembly is SEATED.*

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22** *spoken in unison*

<sup>1</sup>**Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever.**

<sup>2</sup>**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

<sup>3</sup>**gathering them in from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took rebellious paths;  
through their sins they were afflicted.**

<sup>18</sup>**They loathed all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door.**

<sup>19</sup>**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD  
and you delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>20</sup>**You sent forth your word and healed them  
and rescued them from the grave.**

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.**

<sup>22</sup>**Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.**

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

<sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.   **Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA VERSE** *The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*



**GOSPEL: John 3:14-21**

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Following the Gospel, please SIT.*

**SERMON**

**The Rev. Wayland Middendorf, guest preacher**



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

## APOSTLES CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 He descended to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come 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** *The names of those for whom we pray aloud are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the Mark Times newsletter. The response to Hear us, O God, is **Your mercy is great...***

**Eleanor** Benton, **Toni** Brendel, **Randi** Cardoza, **Gary** Dozier, **Jan** Dressel, **Evelyn** Duncan,  
**Mary** Hill, **Bruce** Martens, **Dwight** Ness, **Mae** Newsome, **Kim** Palmer, **Marilyn** Robinson,  
**Larry** Shurtleff, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol** Weshinskey, & **Barb** Wurdinger

## **MEAL**

**PEACE** *The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God's peace with one another. Please be respectful to those who wish to do so from a distance. Following **the Peace**, you may be **seated** for a few moments*

*Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.*

**ST. MARK CHANCEL CHOIR**

*"Jesus, Remember Me"*

by Nicholas Palmer

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Assistant:* Let us pray... **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*It is indeed right...we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:*

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *traditional*

**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.**



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts.

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *Please SIT*

*Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.*

- ✠ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✠ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✠ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✠ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✠ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

## "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

ELW 592



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was  
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,  
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,  
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry



shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,  
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,  
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,



O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



*After the distribution is complete, the assembly **STANDS** for the blessing.*

**TABLE BLESSING**

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

**CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION**

**“Now, Lord”**

**ELW 201**

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has  
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion  
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:  
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,  
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,  
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

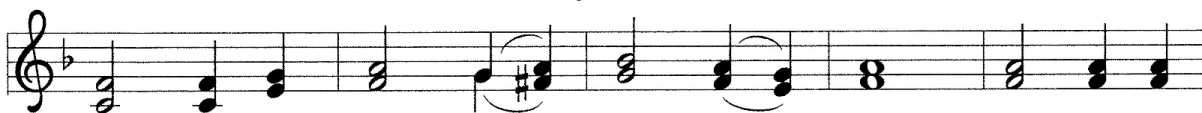
**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Assistant:* Let us pray together... **Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

Beloved, we are God’s own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace – in the name of the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit – now and forever. **Amen.**



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

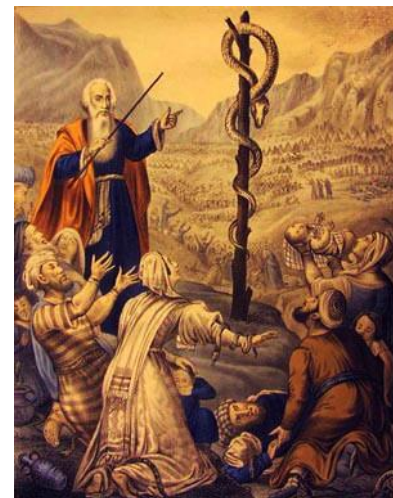
Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

“Voluntary on ‘Hyfrydol’”,

by J. Payne



## MINISTERS OF TODAY’S LITURGY

**Guest Presider & Preacher:** The Rev. Wayand Middendorf + **Assisting Minister:** Greg Martens

**Crucifer:** Frank Dressel + **Chalice Bearer:** Tom Partelow + **Camera Operator:** Melanie Robison

**Lector:** Aaron Fuchs + **Organist:** Evelyn Duncan

**Ushers:** Rick Crosby & Rex Rothgangel + **Safety Volunteer:** Missy Kimbrell

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# MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for March 10, 2024

## THE WEEK AHEAD:

- Monday 3/11:** 9:00AM Health & Wellness team – conference room
- Tuesday 3/12:** 5:30PM Food Pantry meeting – conference room
- Weds. 3/13:** 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper  
7:00PM *The Pilgrimage Way of the Cross* - church
- Thursday 3/14:** 1:30PM Evangelism & Social Ministry meeting – conference room  
6:15PM Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:15PM Voice Choir Rehearsal

## Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Brian is on vacation **through Tuesday, March 12**. This morning, we welcome back Pastor **Wayland Middendorf** as our guest preacher and presider.

**In case of pastoral emergency**, please contact **Fr. Mark Ohlemeier** of St. George's at **785-220-5528**.

## Adult Forum: *Early Jewish Tombs in Jerusalem*

We continue with our video series on *The Holy Land Revealed*. This morning's video examines the history and archaeology of *Early Jewish Tombs in Jerusalem*.

## Noisy/Not-So-Noisy Change Collection TODAY

"Giving up" our loose change is a great way to observe Lent while serving our Franklin School families. As of February 16, students still owe \$3914.79 in past due lunch, snack and book fees. The Noisy/Not-so-Noisy change buckets will circulate today, **Sunday, March 10**.

All donations will go to reduce student past due fees. The school staff will determine which student's accounts will be credited. Not so Noisy offerings may also be mailed to the church office with Noisy Change written on the Memo Line or be made at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-14EWR>

## Ladies Lunch Bunch!

All ladies, come join the new "Lunch Bunch" in the St. Mark Parish Hall **THIS Tuesday, March 12** from **11:30A-1:00P**. Please bring your own lunch and beverage this first time only. This will be an organizational meeting to make plans for monthly gatherings at various local restaurants. If you need transportation, call Peggy A. at 618-791-0992 to find a volunteer chauffeur. The more, the merrier!

## Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers

Come enjoy a meal of **soup and salad at 6:00PM** in the **Parish Hall this Wednesday, February 28**, before joining us in the church for evening prayer.

## Wednesday Evening Prayer: *The Pilgrimage Way of the Cross*

During Lent we renew our commitment to the radical living out of our baptismal promises. The Pilgrimage Way of the Cross we pray on Wednesday evenings this year recall not only Christ's death and resurrection, but also the challenges we each face in living out the baptized life that binds us intimately to both. Join us **Wednesdays at 7:00PM in the church** for this thought-provoking journey with Christ.

## Church Decorating Day

The Altar Guild is holding a **workday** on **Saturday, March 30** at **9:00AM** to prepare the church and chapel for Easter Sunday. Come on down - many hands make work light and quick!

**Proclaim Christ's Resurrection with Easter Flowers!** Orders are now being taken for Easter flowers. Special envelopes can be found in the pews. Please complete the front portion of the envelope and return it, with a check or cash, to the offering box or to the office **by Monday, March 25**. All dedications will be printed in the bulletin.



**St. Mark Offerings for 3/3:** General Fund: **\$4745.00** (*incl. online offerings received by 2/23*); Franklin School Noisy Offering: \$242.94

## Prayer Intentions

### St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Toni Brendel, Randi Cardoza, Gary Dozier, Jan Dressel, Evelyn Duncan, Mary Hill, Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol Weshinskey, & Barb Wurdinger

### St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Phyllis Booker, Kathy Boxdorfer, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson, Christine, Catherine Davis, Brian Dinges, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Taiylar Foppe, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Jamie House, Debbie Jacobs, Austin Lickenbrock, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Fr. Mark Ohlemeier, Theresa Painter, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Michelle Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Dave Schaaf, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Ingrid Thompson, Toni Walston, Kris Whitley, Louise Wilson, Elisabeth Woodrome, Karen Woolf, Wilma Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

### Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Taiylar Foppe, Ryan McKenzie

*We pray for those who celebrate their birthdays this week:*

**Aria Hayes** (3/4), **Sue Patrick** (3/14), **Diane Kenly** (3/16), and **Nathan Partelow** (3/16)

*We pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones:*

The family and friends of **Dorothy Cheek** (Lucy Montgomery's friend)