

2nd Sunday of Lent

March 16, 2025

Service of Holy Communion – ELW Setting 2



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St. Mark's Lutheran Church, ELCA
Called by the Holy Spirit. Equipped to serve. Sent to love all!

WELCOME TO ST. MARK'S!

WELCOME! It is good to be together for worship today.

–We ask all in attendance to please sign in on the clipboard by the front door as this helps our office with attendance record keeping. If you are a visitor, please also complete one of our blue welcome cards and place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher, as we want to come to know you better.

–We stand quite often during our service; please feel free to remain seated as necessary.

–**Worship Aids:** Please ask an usher if you need a listening device to assist with hearing the service, or a large-print bulletin for those with reduced vision. We also have special earbuds, that work with the TimeKettle app you can install on your phone for free, to translate the service into other languages; we have simple bulletins in Spanish too.

–**Bibles:** There are Bibles in every pew; the translation in the pew (Good News) is different from what is printed in the bulletin and read by the lector (NRSV), and the contrast can be interesting.

–**Offering:** Those who wish to give cash or check donations are invited to secure your gift in an offering envelope (please provide at least your name on the envelope) and place the envelope in the collection plate located at the back of the sanctuary as we enter. If you wish to wait to give following the service, a second collection plate will remain in the back following the bringing forth of the offerings during the service. You may also give electronically, via Tithely, at bit.ly/St-Marks-Tithely or by scanning this QR code:



–**Holy Communion** is the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ given with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sin and strengthening of faith. The Lord welcomes all to the Table. All visitors are welcome at the Lord's Table. Grape juice (white) and gluten-free wafers are available. We also provide pre-packaged communion sets, available at the entry to the church, for those who prefer a reduced contact experience. *All who proceed to the railing for communion are encouraged to make use of the available hand sanitizer to help us keep each other healthy.*

–All are invited for coffee and fellowship after worship.

–Please turn off or silence your cell phones during worship. Thank you!

GATHERING

+Confession and Forgiveness

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence for reflection.

P Compassionate One,

C **you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.**

We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.

We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.

We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

P Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home.

In † Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

C **Amen.**

<p>P = Pastor, A = Assistant, C = Congregation ELW = <i>Evangelical Lutheran Worship</i> hymnal “+” in the bulletin indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able</p>

Gathering Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW 834



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love,
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee,
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908. alt.

Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

+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



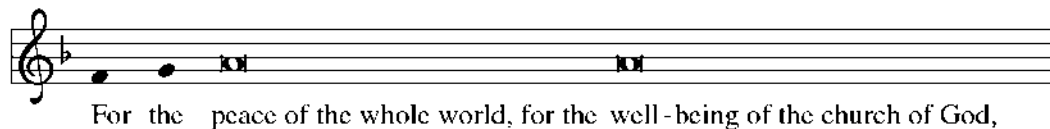
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**



For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



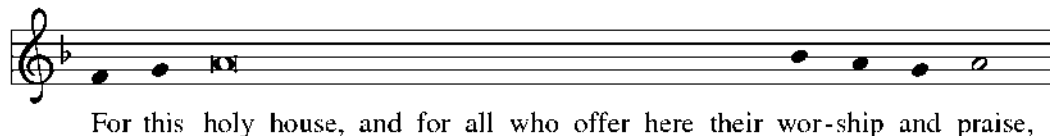
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

continues on next page



+Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORD

First Scripture ♦ Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.”² But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.”⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.”⁵ He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your de-

scendants be.” ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

L Holy wisdom, holy word.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? The Lord is
the stronghold of my life; of whom
shall I be afraid?

**²When evildoers close in against me
to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will
stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me,
my heart will not fear. Though war rise
up against me, my trust will not be
shaken.

**⁴One thing I ask of the Lord; one
thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the**

**Lord all the days of my life; to gaze
upon the beauty of the Lord and to
seek God in the temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give
me shelter, hide me in the hidden
places of the sanctuary, and raise me
high upon a rock.

**⁶Even now my head is lifted up above
my enemies who surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in
the sanctuary, sacrifices of
rejoicing; I will sing and make
music to the Lord.**

continues on next page

⁷Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call;
have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message—
“Seek my face.”**

Your face, O Lord, I will seek.

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not
away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away—you have been my
helper; forsake me not, O God of my
salvation.

¹⁰**Though my father and my mother
forsake me,
the Lord will take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me
on a level path, because of my
oppressors.

¹²**Subject me not to the will of my foes,
for they rise up against me, false
witnesses breathing violence.**

¹³This I believe—that I will see the
goodness of the Lord in the land of the
living!

¹⁴**Wait for the Lord and be strong.
Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

Second Scripture ♦ Philippians 3:17–4:1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

L Holy wisdom, holy word.

C **Thanks be to God.**

+Gospel Acclamation



Let your stead - fast love come to us, O Lord.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.



Save us as you prom - ised; we will trust your word.

+Gospel ♦ Luke 13:31–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.

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

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

Pastor Michael Mortvedt

We hear God's Word as it is spoken in the preaching.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day

Thy Holy Wings

ELW 613



1 Thy ho - ly wings, O Sav - ior, spread gent - ly o - ver me,
2 Oh, let me nes - tle near thee, with - in thy down - y breast
3 Oh, wash me in the wa - ters of No - ah's cleans - ing flood.



and let me rest se - cure - ly through good and ill in thee.
where I will find sweet com - fort and peace with - in thy nest.
Give me a will - ing spir - it, a heart both clean and good.



Oh, be my strength and por - tion, my rock and hid - ing place,
Oh, close thy wings a - round me and keep me safe - ly there,
Oh, take in - to thy keep - ing thy chil - dren great and small.



and let my ev - 'ry mo - ment be lived with - in thy grace.
for I am but a new - born and need thy ten - der care.
and while we sweet - ly slum - ber, en - fold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. composite

Music: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR, Swedish folk tune

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+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

Assisting Minister: God, in your mercy,

Congregation: receive our prayer.

+Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

MEAL

+Offertory Hymn

In Christ there is No East or West

ELW 650



- 1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
- 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
- 3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
- 4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham. 1852-1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE. African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burlleigh. 1866-1949

+Offertory Prayer

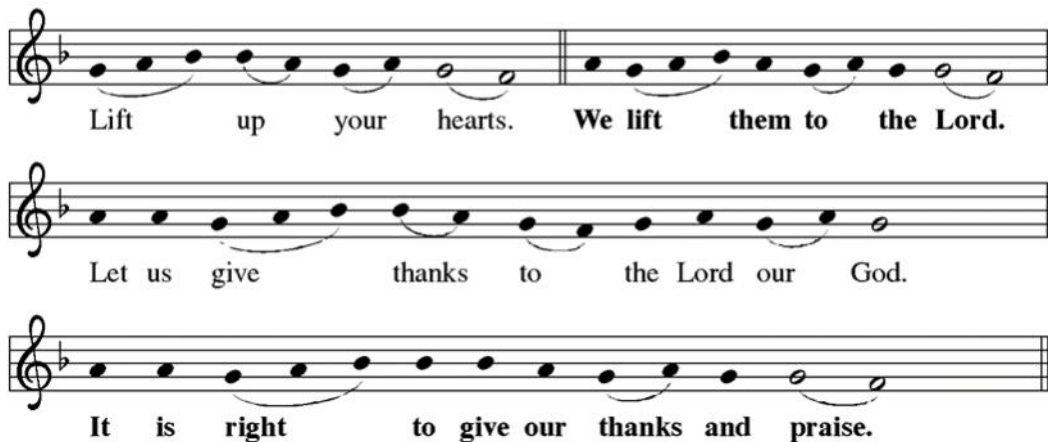
A Let us pray.

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

+The Great Thanksgiving



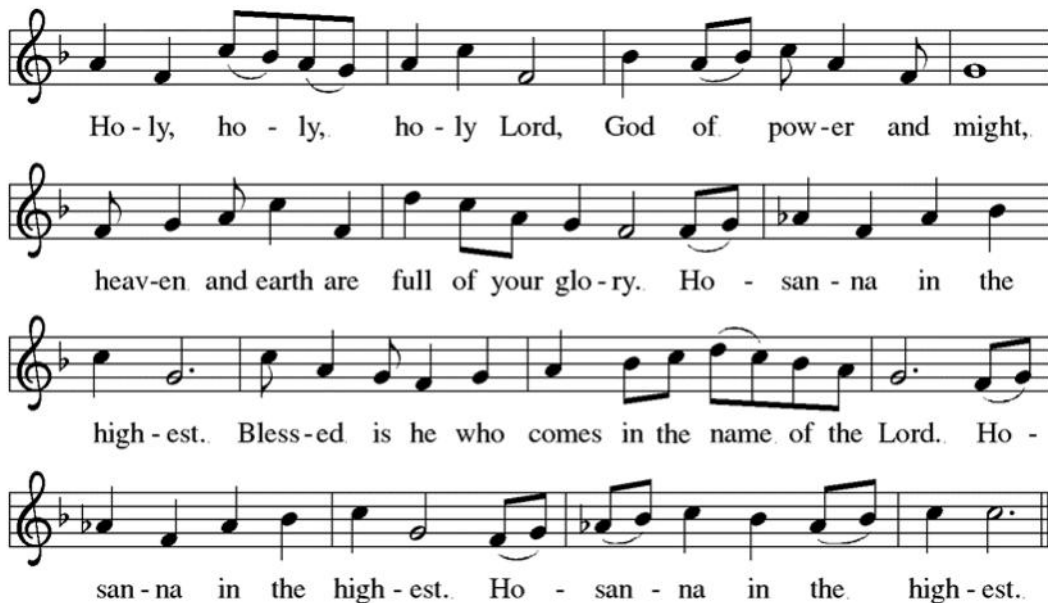


Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+Preface

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...
 ...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.

+Eucharistic Prayer

P Blessed are you, O God...

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup...

...Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P Reveal yourself to us ...

...burning with justice, peace, and love.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P With your holy ones,...

...holy Trinity, now and forever

C Amen.

+Lord's Prayer

Please feel welcome to pray in the language of your preference.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

Communion

P All who are hungry, come!
The feast of grace is spread.

Lamb of God



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 Hymns on next page

Communion Hymn

When Peace Like a River

ELW 785



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888

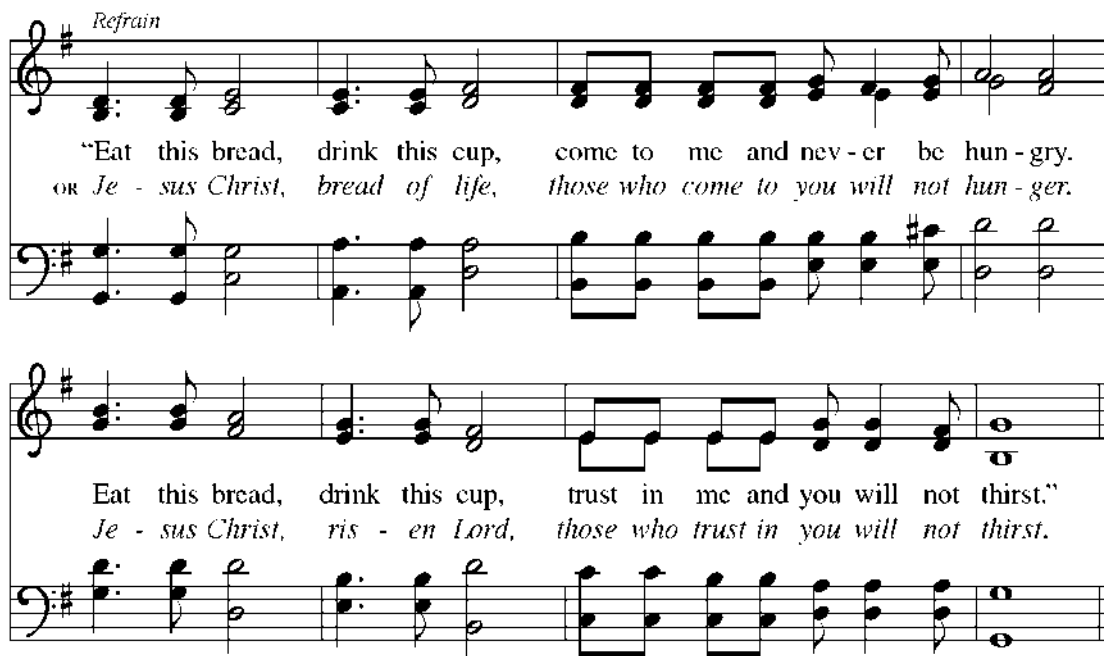
Music: VILLA DU HAVRE, Philp P. Bliss, 1838–1876

Communion Hymn

Eat This Bread

ELW 472

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev-er be hun-gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun-ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

A Let us pray.

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Announcements

SENDING

+Blessing

P God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

+Sending Hymn

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

ELW 596



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 Whendark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found.



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

+Dismissal

A Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C **Thanks be to God!**



Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Bernette Douin in celebration of her sister Claudette's birthday.

If you wish to sponsor flowers to commemorate a special occasion, please sign up on the calendar outside the library. Questions? contact Marlis Feller or the church office.

Of Note:

Visitors, welcome! We are so glad to have you with us today! The Welcome packet in the pew is for you. It has information about our faith community and the many ways we support our local community. Feel free to take it home and come back to worship with us again. For more information, call the church office at 303-366-9702 or email admin@stmarksaurora.org.

SUMMARIZED REPORT OF INCOME & EXPENSES

Submitted by Bill Stephenson, Treasurer

February 2025

<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Total Income	\$15,390.40	Total Income	\$24,236.73
Total Expenses	-\$15,094.69	Total Expenses	-\$31,662.20
Net Income	\$295.71	Net Income	-\$7,425.47

BUDGET COMPARISON OF ENVELOPE OFFERING

<u>Monthly Budget Amount</u>	<u>Actual Current Month</u>	<u>Budget Year to Date</u>	<u>Actual Year to Date</u>
\$12,842.68	\$7,460.33	\$25,685.36	\$13,797.66
Over/Under Budget	-\$5,382.35		-\$11,887.70

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Assisting with Worship:

Pastor	Rev. Michael Mortvedt
Music Leader	Stephen Geisler
Assisting Minister	Susan Tami Whitcomb
Lector	Susan Tami Whitcomb
Acolyte	Patrick Stephenson & Ann Howell
Communion Assistants:	Roberto Tello-Molina & Laura Garcia
Usher	Ken & Anne Barger
Assisting with Virtual Worship	Laura Garcia Villalpando
Cameras	Arturo Sales

*If you are willing to help with worship at future services, please visit
bit.ly/Mar25_SMLC-Worship
to sign up for available roles in March
or contact the church office for assistance in signing up. Thank you!*



ELCA

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 111 Del Mar Circle, Aurora CO 80011

Called by the Holy Spirit. Equipped to serve. Sent to love all!

Important Information About St. Mark's

Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Office: 303-366-9702

Website: www.stmarksaurora.org

Interim Pastor: Michael Mortvedt

OHANA Youth Group Directors:

Roberto Tello Molina & Laura Garcia Villalpando

Office Hours: 12:00–4:00 p.m. M–Th

E-mail: admin@stmarksaurora.org

E-mail: pastor@stmarksaurora.org

For pastoral emergencies call: 720-591-3112

E-mail: OHANA-Youth@stmarksaurora.org

St. Mark's Land Acknowledgement

St. Mark's Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Arapahoe, Lipan Apache, Ute, Cheyenne, and Dakota peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.