

Welcome to St Mark Lutheran Church

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025 9:00 AM



We are grateful you have chosen to join worship with St Mark today. Many will worship in the sanctuary while others will be joining this service via *Facebook Live* from wherever they may be. The text in **Bold print** in this service outline indicates responses all persons are invited to speak together. Holy Communion will be celebrated during this service. The Lord's Table is open to believers of all Christian traditions. The songs may be found in the books located in the backs of the pews: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW), All Creation Sings (ACS), and With One Voice (WOV). Protective masks and hand sanitizer are available at the entrances to the building.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FOREGIVENESS

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

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ☩ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

the congregation is seated

GATHERING HYMN

"Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun"

ELW 557 vs 2,3,5

- 2 All praise to thee, who safe hast kept
and hast refreshed me while I slept.
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake,
I may of endless light partake.
- 3 Lord, I my vows to thee renew.
Disperse my sins as morning dew;
guard my first springs of thought and will;
and with thyself my spirit fill.
- 5 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God,
and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.
Open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

READING: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

A reading from the Book of Genesis

¹ 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, 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 descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and

the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Here ends the reading

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrew people of the Church

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Here ends the reading

GOSPEL- Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Thanks be to God.

[Jesus said:] ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to

return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Have No Fear, Little Flock!"

ELW 764

- 1 Have no fear, little flock;
have no fear, little flock,
for the Father has chosen
to give you the kingdom;
have no fear, little flock!
- 2 Have good cheer, little flock;
have good cheer, little flock,
for the Father will keep you
in his love forever;
have good cheer, little flock!
- 3 Praise the Lord high above;
praise the Lord high above,
for he stoops down to heal you,
uplift and restore you;
praise the Lord high above!
- 4 Thankful hearts raise to God;
thankful hearts raise to God,
for he stays close beside you,
in all things works with you;
thankful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jilson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4

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APOSTLES CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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,
as 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

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened (*places may be named*). Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need (*especially*). Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance (*especially Lawrence, deacon and martyr*). Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

We want to thank everyone who is financially supporting the ministries of this congregation. The sharing of financial gifts to support St Mark during the Summer months is especially needed as historically May through September are the months when giving is the lowest. This summer we have come upon a number of unexpected repair projects that need immediate attention in addition to our expected costs of ministry. All gifts will make a difference. If you have a financial gift you would like to share today:

- *You are invited to place it in the offering box found at the Welcome Center on Sundays.*
- *Mail or drop an offering off at the Church Office;*
- *Give online by going to www.stmarkstormlake.com/give ;*
- *or use the QR code to the side. Thank you for supporting our life together as St Mark.*



OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.**
**Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, he 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper will be distributed at this time. All followers of Jesus are welcome to receive this gift of grace. An usher will guide those who would like to receive, up the center aisle. You are invited to place your hands with palms up to receive the bread, wine or grape juice. After receiving the elements, you may kneel at the altar rail for a time of reflection if you desire. Please depart via the outside aisles and place your empty cup in the basket located along the outside wall. Thank you.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

ELW 502

1 The King of love my shepherd is,

whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

- 2 Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth
and, where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.
- 3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.
- 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me,
thy rod and staff my comfort still;
thy cross before to guide me.
- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so, through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit

✠ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN-

"Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer"

ELW 618 vs 1,2

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore. | 2 Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm. |
|--|---|

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preach and Preside- Pastor Dave Kebschull

Organist- Linda Glienke

Reader- Gloria Rolfson

Communion Server- Bob Rolfson Altar Guild-

Norma Williams & Carole Suhr.

Worship Tech-

PRAYERS- we are all invited to keep the following persons in our prayers:

Prayers for Healing and wholeness

Joan Hamilton, Nancy Newton, Pat Wilson, Paul Bengtson, Lisa, Tatum, and Noah Shepherd; Steve Berg, Mark Johnson, Carolyn Stille (mother of Kristi Bihrer), Gladys Eddie, Ed Anderson, Donna Schulz, Steve Korner, Alex Kron, Dick Mooney, Caleb Vander Broek, Kristine Taylor, Dianne White, Tony Bodholdt, Julie Eglund, Cheryl Lustgraaf, Kim Anderson, Harper Ledford (great granddaughter of Don and Carol Northrup), Cheryl Crampton, David Walker, Greg Kruse, all persons seeking healing and wholeness

Prayers for persons on active duty in the US Military Service

Aiden Deitering, SLPD Officer A.J. Chase, SLPD Officer Gerardo Bravo, Ed Bochtler



Life Together

ST MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

1614 West 5th Street, Storm Lake, Iowa 50588

Phone- 712-732-5255

Email- hello@stmarkstormlake.com

Website- www.stmarkstormlake.com

Facebook- www.facebook.com/stmarkstormlake/

You may log into Saint Mark Wi-Fi by using the password- **devotion**.

WORSHIP- We gather for worship each Sunday morning at 9:00. You can join us in-person in the Sanctuary, or via livestream on our [Facebook page](#). Recordings of services may be also found on the [St Mark Website](#).

PROCLAIM RADIO MINISTRY- Proclaim is a radio ministry of St Mark and is broadcast every Sunday morning at 7:30 AM via FM 101.7 KAYL. The message and music are from the previous weekend. This ministry is one of the ways St Mark reaches out to Storm Lake and Western Iowa with the love of Jesus. If you would like to support this ministry, in addition to your regular financial support of St Mark, the cost is \$38 per week and can be given online, or by check. You can sign-up for a Sunday online or by contacting [Jane Hartwell](#) in the church office.



Announcement of a Special Meeting of the Congregation

will take place on Sunday, August 17, in the sanctuary following worship (@10:00 AM). The purpose of the meeting is to approve building repairs and updates to the building (*carpet, technology, air conditioning, and steeple relocation*). A link to a detailed description has been included in this week's eNEWS and a paper copy can be picked up in the Church Office and Welcome Center. A letter describing the projects will also be sent out with the August newsletter. Most of all of the funds (memorials/ savings) needed for these projects have already been received.

FRIENDS WITH FOOD: *The next distribution is Thursday, August 21*

We are grateful for everyone who helps as we deliver to over 100 households in our community each month. Friends with Food is a partnership of St Mark, SALUD, Western Iowa Synod- ELCA, Food Bank of Iowa, and other persons from the Storm Lake area who work together to deliver a monthly food distribution to those who are permanently or temporarily homebound and with no easy access to transportation. If you know of someone who needs food, or you would like to help, contact Di Daniels 712-299-9863, Julie Cook 712-732-4968 or Jane Hartwell 712-732-5255.

SUMMER FINANCIAL GIFTS

We want to thank everyone who is financially supporting the ministries of this congregation. The sharing of financial gifts to support St Mark during the Summer months is especially needed as historically May through September are the months when giving is the lowest. This summer we have come upon a number of unexpected repair projects that need immediate attention in addition to our expected costs of ministry. All gifts will make a difference. If you have a financial gift you would like to share today:

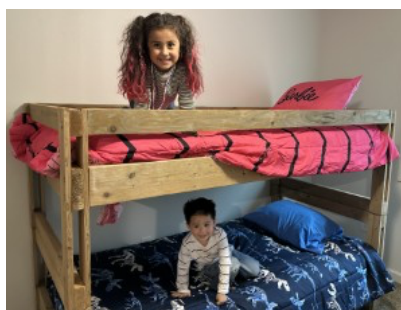
- *You are invited to place it in the offering box found at the Welcome Center on Sundays.*
- *Mail or drop an offering off at the Church Office.*
- *Give online by going to www.stmarkstormlake.com/give ;*
- *or use the QR code to the side. Thank you for supporting our life together as St Mark.*



LIFE SERVE BLOOD DRIVE:

Life Serve staff wants to thank everyone for donating and helping to save lives. If you would like to give blood at the next drive, this Tuesday, August 5th, you can register online or text LIFESERVE to 999-777 to make an appointment to Give Blood. If you would like to know any other info about donating blood and Life Serve Blood Center, just click on this link, or contact Jane Hartwell in the Church Office.

SEW & DO is needing gently used sheets for their projects. You may drop off in the church office.



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE UPDATE

We want to thank all who have been involved and supportive of this ministry. You are making a difference in the lives of children in this area! Beds continue to be delivered to children in the Storm Lake area. The smiles and excitement of children (and parents) upon the completion of the delivery are priceless! All are so appreciative. When our inventory of beds gets low, the Sioux City Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace brings more beds to us!

Fourteen beds have been delivered to children in the area since late May, for a total of 89 since we began this mission from Storm Lake late last year. Updates on this mission will continue to be posted in eNews, church bulletins and the monthly newsletter. More information on the local chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace located in Sioux City, or if you would like to know more about SHP in Storm Lake, go to <https://shpbeds.org/chapter/ia-sioux-city/>

THIS WEEK AT ST MARK

Sunday, August 10

7:30AM

Proclaim Radio broadcast on FM101.7

9:00AM

Sunday Worship Service- in-person and streamed live on [Facebook](#)

10:00AM

Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, August 12

1:30PM

Parkinson's Support Group (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday August 13

5:00PM

Western Iowa Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

6:00PM

Caring Paws (Board of Directors) (Room 128)

6:30PM

St Mark Congregational Council Meeting (Conference Room)

Thursday, August 14

12:00PM

AA-(Fellowship Hall)

Saturday, August 16

10:00AM

Lutheran Me in Mission (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, August 17

7:30AM

Proclaim Radio broadcast on FM101.7

9:00AM

Sunday Worship Service- in-person and streamed live on [Facebook](#)

10:00AM

Special Congregation Meeting (Sanctuary)

10:15AM

Fellowship Time (Fellowship Hall) following meeting

10:15AM

Pastor's Bible Study



*Please place all donations and gifts in the
BIG bin located in the main hall by the
Church Office.*