



# ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## OUR MISSION:

TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

TO MAKE DISCIPLES

TO EMBODY GOD'S LOVE

### Introduction

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.

Thanks be to God!



FEBRUARY 8, 2026

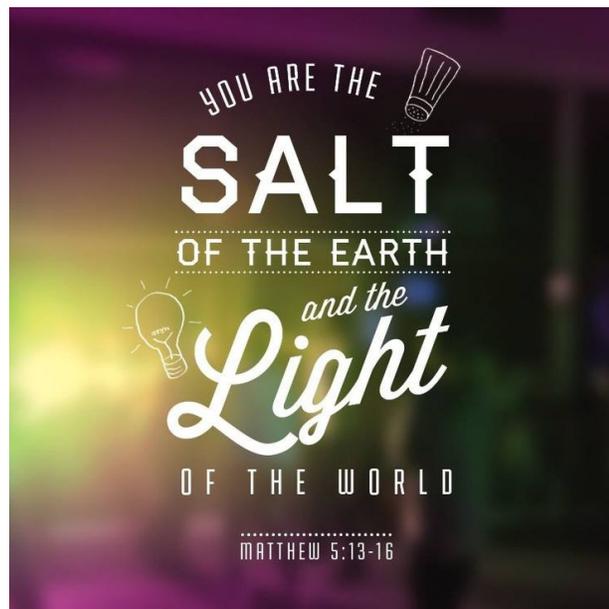
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM

YOUTUBE LIVE STREAM 10:00 AM



### Assisting in Worship Today

Preaching: Pastor Quentin Surace

Organist: Emily Schuttenberg

Acolyte:

Lay Reader: Carol Schaefer

Greeters: Linda Hewitt

Ushers:

Assisting Minister: Carol Schaefer

Crucifer:

Communion Assistants:

Council Duties:

Attendance last Sunday, February 1st was on **You Tube**. Service cancelled due to snow.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10:00 AM

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

\*Please stand as able

P: Pastor; A: Assisting Minister; C: Congregation

GATHERING

Setting 2 ELW

GATHERING MUSIC (9:45AM)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (9:55AM)

TEMPLE TALK

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES BY ACOLYTE

Instrumental

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the wind stirring the waters. C: Amen.

P: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely. *Silence is kept for reflection.* Mighty God, lover of justice,

C: **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

P: The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace. 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. C: Amen.

**\*OPENING HYMN**

**"Rise, Shine, You People!"**

ELW #665

**\*APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

C: **And also with you.**

**\*KYRIE (Setting 2) Pastor sings the verses, assembly sings the refrain.**

ELW p.120-121

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: 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.**

WORD

LESSONS

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12], 1 Corinthians 2:1-12[13-16]

Carol Schaefer

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**"Alleluia"**

ELW p.124

**GOSPEL READING**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

**Matthew 5:13-20**

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Pastor Quentin Surace

**SERMON**

Pastor Quentin Surace

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

**"Christ, Be Our Light"**

ELW #715

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW p.127

**\*PRAYERS BY ASSISTING MINISTER**

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.....Merciful God, C: **receive our prayer.**

**\*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

MEAL

THE OFFERING

Special Instrumental

**OFFERING PRESENTATION/RESPONSE "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"**

ELW #885

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

P: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

**\*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 our thanks and praise.**

**\*PROPER PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY**

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (sung)**

ELW p.130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION: II**

ELW p.134

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER** P: Lord, teach us to pray . . .

**DISTRIBUTION**

*We welcome all who believe Jesus is Lord to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. An usher will guide you to the center aisle to receive communion. You may return to your seat by the outer aisle. If you are not able to come forward, please notify an usher by raising your hand and communion will be brought to you. After communing all who wish may go to the altar for prayer. You may also come forward for a blessing.*

**AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)**

ELW p.135

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.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

**"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"**

WOV #763

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION BY ASSISTING MINISTER**

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.**

SENDING

**\*BLESSING** P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise ✠ bless you now and forever. Together let us proclaim our mission:

**C: To proclaim the Gospel. To make disciples. To embody God's love. Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

**"Lord of Light"**

ELW #688

**\*Dismissal:** P: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

## **Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]**

Shout 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. 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. “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. 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. 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? 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? 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? 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. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.” [If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, 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. 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. 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.]

## **1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. 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. But we speak God’s wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 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”—God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 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. 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. [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. 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. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else’s scrutiny. “For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.]

## **Matthew 5:13-20**

[Jesus said:] “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. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 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. 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. “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. 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. 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. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

### **Church Staff**

Pastor: Pastor Quentin F. Surace  
Music Director: Emily Schuttenberg  
Family Ministries Director: Wendy Hefner  
Finance Secretary: Deanna Butcher  
2026 Church Council President: Terry Hefner

Custodian: Larry Smyre/Mark Oakley  
Secretary: Patricia Hoke  
Preschool Co-Director: Randyl Abernathy  
Preschool Co-Director: Maria Wright