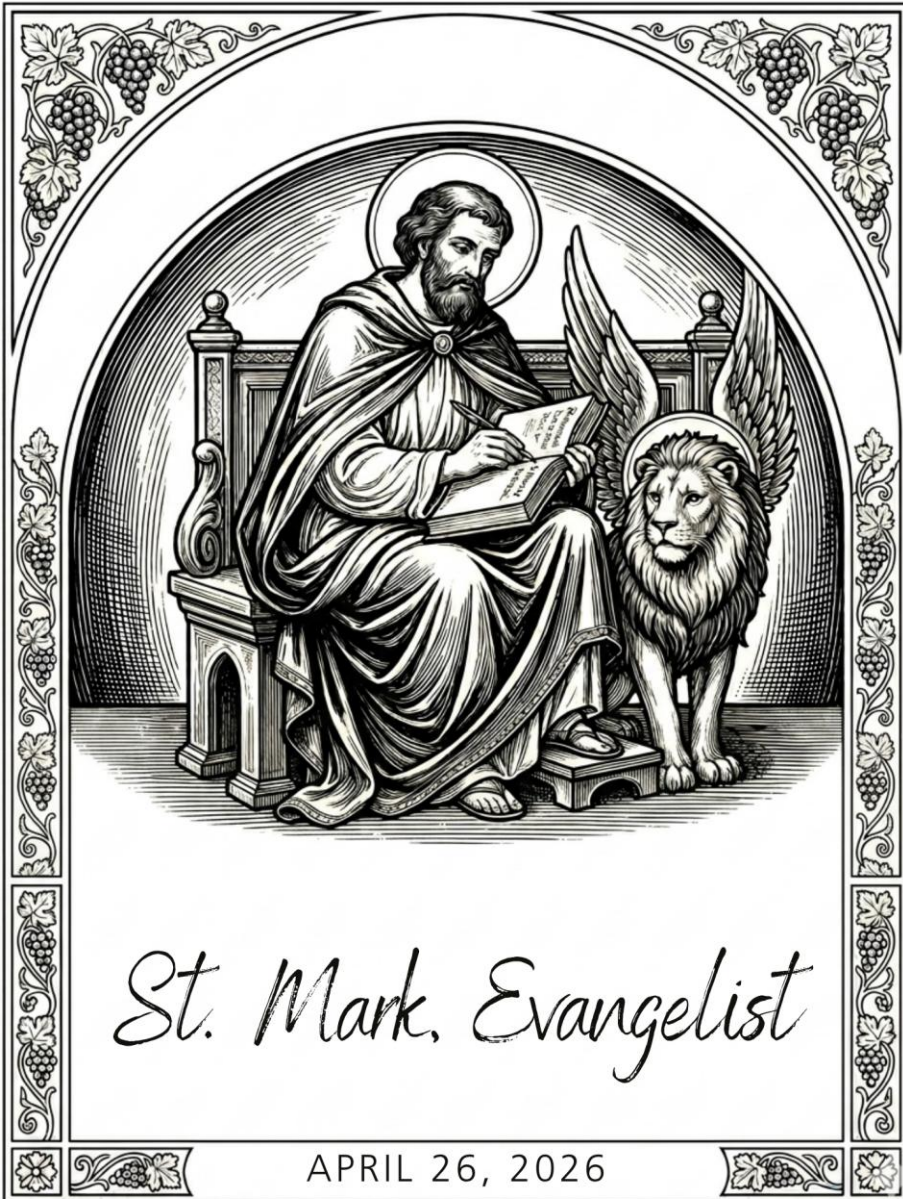




FIRST LUTHERAN
CHURCH AND SCHOOL



St. Mark, Evangelist

APRIL 26, 2026

"The inspired writer of the second Gospel was Mark. He was often referred to as John Mark. His Jewish name was John; his Roman name was Mark (Acts 12:12, 25; 15:37). His mother's name was Mary, and she owned a house in Jerusalem where many Christians gathered (Acts 12:12). When Peter was imprisoned, they prayed for him there. Peter went to the same house when he was set free (Acts 12:12-17). Barnabas and Paul (Saul) took Mark along on their First Mission Journey (Acts 12:25), but at Perga, Mark left them and went back to Jerusalem (Acts 13:13).

"On the Second Mission Journey, Barnabas again wanted to bring his cousin Mark (Colossians 4:10), but Paul sharply disagreed (Acts 15:39). That broke up the team of Paul and Barnabas. Barnabas took Mark and went to Cyprus, while Paul went on with Silas through the territory he visited on his first journey (Act 15:39-40).

"Mark was with Paul much later (Philemon 1:24), and Paul spoke well of him (Colossians 4:10). In fact, near the end of his life, Paul wrote from Rome to Timothy, 'Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is useful to me for ministry' (2 Timothy 4:11). Apparently, Mark arrived in Rome and spent some time with Peter, who refers to Mark as his spiritual son (1 Peter 5:13).

"The early church consistently ascribed this second Gospel to Mark. Due to Mark's close connection to Peter, the early church regarded this Gospel as essentially the apostle Peter's account, though Mark was the divinely inspired writer."

The Wartburg Project. (2019). Holy Bible: Evangelical Heritage Version Study Bible (Mk). Northwestern Publishing House; Wartburg Project.

The minor festival, which falls on April 25th, highlights both the highs and lows of Mark's discipleship to Jesus. Our first lesson highlights Mark's failure to put the kingdom first. Our second lesson highlights the ministry of reconciliation. The Gospel ties it together, showing what discipleship to Jesus entails. Jesus continually calls us to serve him in his kingdom by putting aside pure human concerns and to keep in mind the concerns of God. The minor festival of St. Mark the Evangelist causes us to give thanks to God that he would invite us all to participate in the proclamation of Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Opening Hymn

895 Preach You the Word



1 Preach you the Word and plant it home to those who
2 We know how hard, O Lord, the task your ser - vant
3 The sow - er sows; his reck - less love scat - ters a -
4 Though some be snatched and some be scorched and some be



like or like it not, the Word that shall en -
bids us un - der - take: to preach your Word and
broad the good - ly seed, in - tent a - lone that
choked and mat - ted flat, the sow - er sows; his



ture and stand when flow'rs and mor - tals are for - got.
nev - er ask what pride - ful prof - it it may make.
there may be the whole - some loaves that peo - ple need.
heart cries out, "Oh, what of that, and what of that?"

- 5 Of all his scattered plenteousness
one-fourth waves ripe on hill and flat,
and bears a harvest, hundredfold:
"Ah, what of that, Lord, what of that!"
- 6 Preach you the Word and plant it home
and never faint; the Harvest Lord
who gave the sower seed to sow
will watch and tend his planted Word.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder D. Martini Lutheri, Leipzig, 1589
Text: © 1971 The Franzmann Family. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282
Tune: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory to God in the Highest

Tune: IN BABILONE



1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our



loves so well. On the earth let all his peo - ple
sin a - way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed -



speak his grace, his won - ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your
for your mer - cy, Lord, we pray: Je - sus Christ, most high and



glo - ry, might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; hear our joy - ful
ho - ly, Sav - ior, you are God a - lone in the glo - ry



ad - o - ra - tion and ac - cept the thanks we bring.
of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

Text: Michael A. Perry
Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse ... Contradansou, Amsterdam, c. 1710
Text: © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282
Tune: Public domain

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O almighty God, as you have enriched your church with the precious gospel proclaimed by the evangelist Mark, grant us firmly to believe your good news of salvation and daily walk according to your Word; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Acts 15:36–41

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 146



1	Praise the LORD!	Sing hal - le - lu - jah!	Come, our
2	Hap - py are	the ones pro - fess - ing	Ja - cob's
3	Food he dai -	ly gives the hun - gry,	sets the
4	Praise the LORD!	Sing hal - le - lu - jah!	Come, our

great Re - deem - er praise. I will sing the glo - rious
 God to be their aid. They are blest whose hope of
 mourn - ing pris - 'ner free, rais - es those bowed down with
 great Re - deem - er praise. I will sing the glo - rious

prais - es of my God through all my days.
 bless - ing on the LORD their God is stayed.
 an - guish, makes the sight - less eyes to see.
 prais - es of my God through all my days.

Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor on
 Heav'n and earth the LORD cre - at - ed, seas and
 God our Sav - ior loves the right - eous, and the
 O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er; through all

hu - man help de - pend. They shall die, to dust re -
 all that they con - tain. He de - liv - ers from op -
 stran - ger he be - friends, helps the or - phan and the
 a - ges he is King. Un - to him, your God, O

turn - ing; all their thoughts and plans shall end.
 pres - sion; right - eous - ness he will main - tain.
 wid - ow, judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.
 Zi - on, joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.

Text: Psalter, 1887, alt.
 Tune: Lovell Mason
 Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:5–18

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

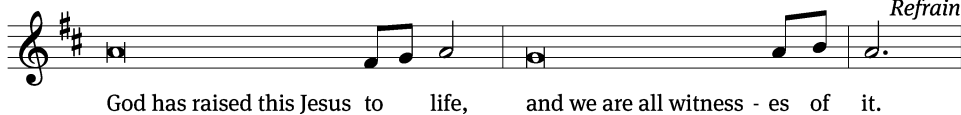
Acts 2:32



Refrain



Tone



Tune: © 2010, 2021 GFTSMUSIC Publishing Company, Inc., admin. Music Services. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 712282

Gospel

Mark 8:27–38

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

892 By All Your Saints Still Striving



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
2 For Mark, O Lord, we praise you, the weak by grace made strong,
3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther and wor - ship God the Son



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed.
whose la - bors and whose Gos - pel en - rich our tri - umph song.
and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



You rose, our King vic - to - rious, that they might wear the crown
May we, in all our weak - ness, re - ceive your pow'r di - vine
till all the ran - somed num - ber who stand be - fore the throne



and ev - er shine in splen - dor re - flect - ed from your throne.
and all, as faith - ful branch - es, grow strong in you, the vine.
as - cribe all pow'r and glo - ry and praise to God a - lone.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823-1913, alt.
Tune: Finnish
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Father in heaven, you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus, to bring peace and hope to our fallen world. Already in eternity you planned to overturn the tyranny of Satan and the ravages of sin and you kept your promises to restore the perfection of paradise.

Lead us to cherish your great mercy and hold to it as our priceless treasure.

Lord Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise and adore you for offering your perfect life and innocent death to redeem the world from death and hell. You proclaimed the good news that sins are forgiven and life with God is restored and you called your followers to share the gospel with all people.

Make us bold and confident to be witnesses to family and friends we know and love.

Holy Spirit, Lord, and giver of life, through Word and sacrament you create and strengthen faith that trusts the promise of the Father and the work of his Son. You break down the barriers of resistance and rejection and bring the lost into the family of God.

Empower and encourage us to speak about Jesus to neighbors and acquaintances.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, move us by your great love to enter the mission fields near our homes and neighborhoods. Help us always to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have.

Guide us, strengthen us, and bless us as we share the love of Jesus.

Amen.

Offering

The Sacrament

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy





Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman
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Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \dagger body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \dagger blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

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, grant us peace.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman
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Distribution Hymn

856 Built on the Rock

1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand e - ven when
2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, built for his
4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, tell - ing how
5 Grant then, O God, your will be done, that, when the

steeples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
High, is not dwell - ing; high a - bove earth his
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
God has re - ceived us. Th'al - tar re - calls Christ's
church bells are ring - ing, man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; bells still are chim - ing and call -
tem - ple stands, all earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
grace us owns heirs of his won - drous sal - va -
sac - ri - fice and what the sac - ra - ment gives
faith may come where Christ his mes - sage is bring -



ing, call - ing the young and old to rest,
ling. Yet he who dwells in heav'n a - bove
tion. Were we but two his name to tell,
us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
ing: "I know my own; my own know me.



but a - bove all the soul dis - tressed,
choos - es to live with us in love,
yet he would deign with us to dwell
Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
You, not the world, my face shall see.



long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
with all his grace and his fa - vor.
and ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
My peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.
Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

735 Before You I Kneel



1 Be - fore you I kneel, my Mas - ter and Mak - er, to of - fer the
 2 Be - fore you I kneel and ask for your good - ness to cov - er the
 3 Be - fore you we kneel, our Mas - ter and Mak - er; es - tab - lish the



work of my hands. For this is the day you've giv - en your
 work of my hands, for pa - tience and peace to shape all my
 work of our hands, and or - der our steps to seek first your



ser - vant; I will re - joice and be glad
 la - bor; your grace for thorns in my path.
 king - dom in ev - 'ry small and great task.



for the strength I have to live and breathe, for each
 Flow with - in me like a liv - ing stream; wear a -
 May we live the gos - pel of your grace, serve your



skill your grace has giv - en me, for the needs and op - por -
 way the stones of pride and greed, till your ways are dwell - ing
 pur - pose in our fleet - ing days, then our lives will bring e -



tu - ni - ties that will glo - ri - fy your great name.
 deep in me and a har - vest of life is grown.
 ter - nal praise and all glo - ry to your great name.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Stuart Townend, b. 1963
 Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Stuart Townend, b. 1963
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Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our
love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

563 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus'
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I



blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no
his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
in the rag - ing flood; when ev - 'ry earth - ly
then in him be found, clothed in his right - eous -



oth - er claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
prop gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore his throne.



Refrain
On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.
Tune: John Stainer, 1840-1901, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Presiding Minister: Pastor Derek Bartelt

Organist: Ben Warmuth | **Elder:** Jacob Pelas

Projectionist: Helen Hacht | **Altar Guild:** Kris Hills and Jan Lazzaroni

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAYS

Worship | 9:00am

1ST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

Worship with Lord's Supper | 6:30pm

OUR STAFF

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Principal Stephen Kamps
Office Manager Steven Davis

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OUR MISSION

As a family of believers, the mission of First Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God by growing in the faith of our Savior Jesus Christ and by sharing the good news of His Word with others.

OUR INVITATION

It is a privilege for us to share with you the assurance Jesus offers about how imperfect people like us can enjoy a right relationship with our holy Creator.

Our church services are designed to be Christ-centered worship and include three main elements: God speaks to us in His Word, we respond with praises and prayers, and we encourage each other.

We are eager to have you learn more about the Triune God and about our church. If you are looking for a spiritual family in which you can be at home, please speak with our pastor.