



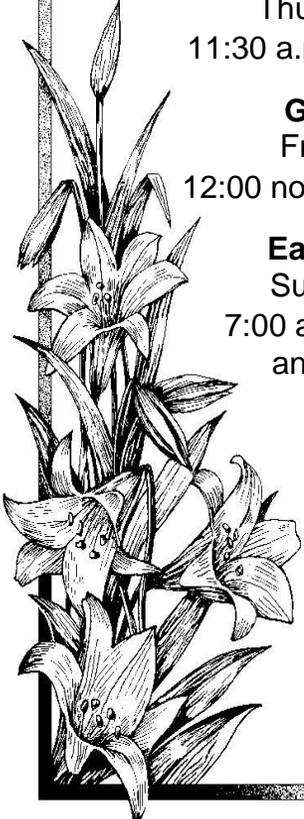
The Light



St. Mark Lutheran Church

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Maundy Thursday
Thursday, April 1
11:30 a.m.* and 7:30 p.m.*

Good Friday
Friday, April 2
12:00 noon* and 7:30 p.m.*

Easter Sunday
Sunday, April 4
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.*,
and 11:00 a.m.



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VISION STATEMENT

St. Mark Lutheran Church glorifies God and makes disciples by making caring connections with the people of our community.



Announced by Angels

“He is not here, for he has risen...” Matthew 28: 6

“He is not here, but has risen.” Luke 24: 6

“He has risen; he is not here.” Mark 16: 6

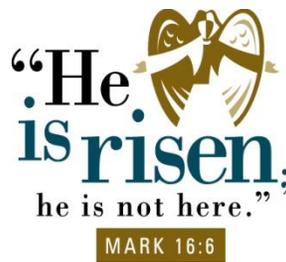
The angels found at Jesus’ tomb on Easter had very good news to announce, and it is intriguing to note how they did it. Matthew, Mark, and Luke each record what these heavenly messengers said. In all three accounts, the angels give most of the same crucial information, but in different orders.

In Matthew and Luke, the angels say first that Jesus is not here in the grave anymore. Then, second, they say “He has risen.” By pointing out first that Jesus is not in the grave, they state the obvious, but move immediately to the explanation. “He is not here, because He is alive!”

But the way the angel says it in Mark carries an interesting shift in emphasis. There, the angel is recorded as having said, “He has risen.” Then he follows that with the statement, “He is not here.” Think about what that means. The angel is suggesting something about the ongoing reality of the resurrection. “Oh, He’s definitely alive. That means He is not around here, in a grave. He is out there—with you!”

Because Jesus is ‘out there’ among the living, He can come to us. He comes to us in spoken and sung words; in words that raise believers to new life. He comes to us in the washing of baptismal water. He comes to us, hidden in bread and wine. Jesus lives to feed and nurture us. Among His people, we connect with a living God. He comes to forgive and strengthen and teach us, and in return we praise Him, pray to Him, give back to Him, and serve Him. This rhythm of giving and receiving is the vital heartbeat of the Church, made possible by the resurrection of our Lord.

Pastor Matzke



NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT THE CONGREGATION (AND BEYOND!)

From the Newsletter Editor



A reminder to all who send articles for *The Light*: the easiest (let's face it, the only) way for me to add your information to the monthly newsletter is if you send it to me as either an email or as a Word attachment to an email. Either way, I know how to copy and paste; pdf documents are a strange new world to me that I have yet to conquer. As an FYI, *The Light* is written using Arial font, 10 point. That's not as important (I can change the font, etc.) as receiving your information!

Thanks for your help, and thanks for getting your information to me by the evening of the third Sunday of the month.

-- the church elf



- Patrick Atwara, Michael Atwara's father
- Boise Bouton School in Haiti
- Building Hope in the City
- Joshua Burke, studying at Bowling Green
- Donna Cartwright, mother of Diana Monaghan
- Dan Cicchella
- Ardis Danicic
- Carol Deau
- Ruthann Dular
- Dale and Bobi Fellinger
- Grace School in Haiti
- Gerry Grubec
- Erik Hanson
- John Holt, Tim Holt's brother
- Ted Holt
- Nancy Johnson
- Betty Judkins
- Emily Lazio, aunt of Jackie Rychel
- Gloria Leagan
- Lois Locher
- Love and Hope Children's Home in El Salvador
- Ron Meister
- Ministry in Mission
- Stan Moczulski
- John Monaghan
- Barb Nicholson
- Jim Podojil
- Beth Reksten
- Steppin Out Missions
- Ed Stone
- Trinity Lutheran, Ohio City

- Capt. Matt Webb, continuing his residency in neurosurgery
- WomenSafe
- Grace Wright, studying at Ohio State
- Allison Zelznick



We rejoice with **Daniel and Julie Wallenhorst** on the birth of their daughter, **Hayden**, on February 26, and pray God's continued blessings on them all.



Welcome Back, Choir!

We are so excited to welcome the choir back to our worship services! It looks different – with masks and socially distanced – but they sound wonderful. We are also thrilled to announce that **Leah Spisak** is our new choir director. **Hildred Tornberg** retired last year after many years of service. We want to publicly thank her for her many years of service and will do so just as soon as possible. Watch for that information to come just as soon as things start getting back to "normal."

[Spoiler alert from the church elf: the handbells will also be back soon!]



FYI Email List

If you are not receiving email about what is going on in the church, please contact **Chris Meister** (thecmeister@gmail.com) and ask to be added to the FYI email list. Important announcements go out through email.



Have You Thought About Serving?

We have several opportunities to give back to St. Mark that don't require any additional time other than what you are already doing – during each worship service we have ushers, greeters, readers, prayers, nursery workers and worship tech. None of these require any special skills other than a heart for giving. If you would like to learn more about any of these roles, please contact the church office at mail@stmarkchester.org.

Facebook Live Videos

Pastor Mark and Vicar Chris are streaming LIVE every day (except Saturday) on Facebook at facebook.com/stmarkchester. The schedule is sent out via FYI emails. If you do not have Facebook, you can watch the videos after they are done, at www.stmarkchester.com/videos.

Operation Christmas Child

Do you or your friends have any used coloring books for either children or adults that your family has outgrown or no longer uses? We have learned that we can repurpose these by cutting out the unused pages and adding them as coloring pages to OCC shoeboxes.

Please place any coloring books that you would like to donate on the shelf near the food pantry, tagged for OCC. If you are interested in being one of the "cutting crew," which is a task that can be done at home, please contact **Debbie Turk**.

Well-made, home-made items are also appreciated in the OCC shoeboxes. If you, or one of your friends, are blessed with the talent of sewing or wood-working and are interested in making items to donate to this ministry, please reach out to Debbie. She can help provide you with ideas on what is most needed along with pattern suggestions for some items. Aprons, cinch-sacks, pencil packs, wooden cars, dresses, and doll clothes are some of the most popular homemade items.



Quiz: Name that Bible Story from Liturgy

[Editor's note: this quiz originally appeared in the most recent issue of *in tempo*, a publication of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. The editor hopes you have as much fun with this as she did. Answers will appear after the Group Ministries articles.]

Most of the liturgy in the Lutheran hymnal is actually words directly from Scripture. Can you name the *earliest Bible story context* of the following short excerpts from Lutheran liturgy?

1. "*Gloria in Excelsis Deo!*"
 - a. Isaiah's vision of heaven
 - b. The greeting of the angel Gabriel to Mary
 - c. The shepherds' proclamation to those gathered at the manger
 - d. The "Angelic Hymn," as Luther called it, announcing Jesus' birth
 - e. Eggshells and day-old chicks gathered under a glorious hen
 - d. a cry of praise to God and for God's salvation at Christ's entry into Jerusalem
 - e. c. and d. above
2. The salutation "The Lord be with you!"
 - a. Boaz greeting reapers
 - b. Jezebel greeting Daniel
 - c. Gabriel greeting Daniel
 - d. Gabriel greeting Zechariah
 - e. Gabriel greeting Mary
 - f. c., d., and e. above – Gabriel repeats himself a lot
3. "Hosanna in the highest!"
 - a. Isaiah's vision of heaven
 - b. Hosanna, Gloria, and Agnes Dei were Moses's sisters, who sang after crossing the Red Sea
 - c. a cry of praise to God and for God's salvation
4. *Angus Dei*
 - a. a ram offered by Abraham instead of his son Isaac, foreshadowing Christ
 - b. Isaiah's prophecy of the wolf and lamb at peace together
 - c. John the Baptist referring to Jesus
 - d. John's vision of a lamb on the heavenly throne
 - e. all of the above
 - f. none of the above
5. *Benedicamus*
 - a. God's blessing and command in Genesis to be fruitful and multiply
 - b. Noah praising God, sometime after the Flood
 - c. Aaron blessing the Children of Israel
 - d. Christ blessing the bread and wine in the Upper Room
 - e. a Hebrew holy day meal made with poached eggs, hole-y bread, and ham

GROUP MINISTRIES



Grace, peace and mercy from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ to you all in the Year of Our Lord 2021, and the Lenten season. It has been over a year since we closed our beloved church due to the pandemic. We have had quite a few months with the new service schedule of two services (8:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.) and a new communion procedure on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. As more of us are receiving the 1st and 2nd shots of the vaccine; the case numbers are on the downside; and there is hope of a diminishing pandemic, the Elders have decided that it is time to discuss our service times and education time to make them permanent later this year. Before we do this, we would like to know how you feel about the past year's experience and what you would like to see in the future here at St. Mark. We will be sending a short survey out in April to gain your opinion on this, and whether we need another forum to discuss this. In the meantime, you can discuss with your Elder, Pastor Matzke or Vicar Ryan how you see our services and education time in the future. Until further notice, we will continue to mandate masks, social distance, sit in every other pew, and use hand sanitizers as much as possible. We will continue between services to sanitize the pews and areas that are commonly touched. To keep you in the word, we will continue to live stream services and announcements on Facebook, as well as devotions, children's hour, At the Cross, and Bible studies. We will be looking into live streaming services by other means in the coming weeks. In conclusion, remember this from Ephesians 2:8-10: "For it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Never he less, not my will but yours be done. Amen.

-- David Toth, Chairman, Board of Elders



Do you have a question for **Erna Mabel**, our church treasurer? Please be sure to email her at treasurer@stmarkchester.org and not at her personal email address. She does not monitor her personal address as often as the church address. Thank you.



We are looking for help to be on the St. Mark mowing team this season. We have two tractors, two walk-behind, self-propelled mowers, and a weed-whacker. We have teams of two, and each team

typically spends about 2 ½ to 3 hours 4 or 5 times a year. Our mowing teams save the church significant costs of paying a landscaper to cut the grass. If you can help, contact **Frank Keehl**.

Also, Frank is meeting with two asphalt contractors to get updated estimates on repairing/repaving the parking lot; and the blue tractor is due for servicing this month.



We have resumed our in-class session. The children are excited to be back in school and continue to learn. We are also adding children every month. Currently we have 9 children. Please continue to keep our preschool in your prayers.



Planning is underway for Vacation Bible School 2021. There will be a variety of volunteer opportunities both before and during the last week of July, the week for VBS. If you can help, or would like to know more, please contact **Tracy**

Deets.



Another curve in the Race? The convention in Lexington, Kentucky, is only two and a half months away and deadlines are approaching. We persevere in "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus." Those bumps, bends/curves along the way are interruptions that can challenge us and slow us down. We don't want you or the guests at the convention to miss out on the joy of being with LWML sisters at the 39th Biennial LWML Convention, June 24-27, 2021. With God's blessings, we will reach the finish line with lots of workers/runners. Volunteers, both men and women, are still needed. Pray about being one of the 500 men and women workers. Please complete the Call for Workers! Volunteer Application Form found at the LWML Indiana website, www.lwmlindiana.org. Mark the application, first choice, second choice, etc. Workers receive a generous discount on their registration fee for working a minimum of eight hours, either in two-hour or four-hour shifts, or as needed. Send or email the Call for Workers form to Penny Letterman (see form for address) as soon as possible so the appropriate committee will be able to assign you to a position. When you receive the Worker's Packet, return the special worker's registration form with the registration fee discount coupon to the Convention Registrar. The Worker's Packet also includes work assignment details, special dress requirements, and other worker information. **DO NOT** use the registration

form in the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*. To pick up an LWML Convention Logo Polo Shirt at the convention, your order form must be received before May 15. Order at www.lwmlindiana.org. **NO** LWML Convention Logo Polo Shirts will be sold at the convention.

And yes, the convention will be **IN PERSON**. Some details to note: masks will be required; we will practice social distancing; there will **NOT** be any district photos taken; there will **NOT** be a choir; the exhibit hall and LWML store will be open. Please check the LWML website, www.lwml.org, for up-to-date information.



Northeast Zone
Ohio District

Northeast Zone Prayer Service Recap

The annual Northeast Zone Prayer Service was held on March 6 at Faith Lutheran Church, Mentor. The theme was "He Prayed with Them." 35 ladies and clergy were in attendance in person, plus others who attended virtually. Approximately \$360 was collected for Mites.

Northeast Zone Spring Rally

The annual Spring Rally will be held on May 8 at Faith Lutheran Church, Mentor (on Mentor Avenue, next to the Garfield Historical Site). The theme for this year's rally is "Good Morning, Lord," and we will be gathering breakfast items to be donated to Project Hope for the Homeless in Painesville. Items needed include: breakfast bars, Pop Tarts, 12 oz. coffee cups (WITH LIDS), juice, plastic spoons, cereal, and coffee. There will be a box next to the Women's League table for your donations. Contact **Beth Christopherson** for more information.

Northeast Zone Fall Retreat Saturday, September 25



Always a fun event, the Fall Retreat is once again scheduled to be held at the YMCA in Perry. Mark your calendars now, as attendance is limited. More information to follow!



Stressed? Feeling Down? Need Encouragement?

Stephen Ministers don't just provide care for people experiencing a major crisis. They also provide care and support for people weighed down by the little things in life. If you're feeling down, lonely, stressed or discouraged, you could benefit from the care, support, and encouragement of a Stephen Minister. It's free. It's confidential. And it will really make a difference in your life! Our Stephen Ministers are there to care!

To find out more about Stephen Ministry, or to receive a Stephen Minister's care, contact **Sue Matzke, Ron Croucher or Pastor Matzke**. Please, do not report a friend's need without first asking his or her permission to do so.



Women's League

Report on This Year's Easter Baskets

At the beginning of this mission I wasn't sure how many baskets we were going to be able to fill during a pandemic. Last year we had to call a halt to our Easter Basket Mission because we didn't know how to distribute Easter Baskets safely. This year we figured out a curb side service way that would work.

I am happy to say that Larry and I delivered 113 Easter Baskets to Job and Family Services, and Lee Stone (thank you, Lee) delivered 25 Easter Baskets to WomenSafe this year. That's 138 Easter Baskets in a pandemic! All I can say is WOW

Thank you to all who helped with emails, signs, calls and deliveries. Thank you to all who brought back filled baskets that were stored from last year, and thank you to all who filled baskets this year. We couldn't do it without you.

Sara at Job and Family Services was thrilled that we were able to make up so many baskets this year, as were the recipients at WomenSafe.

And just as a footnote, I would like to tell you a story that I was told during all the planning and delivering of baskets. (I'm not going to mention any names because I don't want to put anyone on the spot.) One of our church members thanked me for doing the Easter Basket Mission and proceeded to tell me that they were a foster parent whose foster child received one of St. Mark's Easter Baskets. They wanted to let me know how much they appreciated receiving one of our baskets for their foster child and how all the foster children look forward to and are thrilled to receive a basket. They

have since adopted their foster child and made him a part of their very loving family.

In so many cases we only see the giving part of all of our missions at St. Mark. This is why I wanted to share this story, so we can all be part of the receiving part of our missions and know the appreciation of those that receive your wonderful gifts.

Thanks again, St. Mark for your generosity. God bless all of you.

Monica McGurer and Janie Palmer

Plant Sale

Spring is here and yes, we are having our annual Mother's Day hanging basket and plant sale! Basically, it



Answers to the Quiz

1. D. The "Angelic Hymn," "Glory to God in the highest" in Latin. *Luke 2:14*
2. A. Boaz greeting reapers, among them Christ's uber-great-grandmother Ruth. *Ruth 2:4*
3. C. *Psalm 118:25*. Kind of a trick question, since it is indeed shouted at Christ's entry into Jerusalem (D), however *Psalm 118:25* is the *earliest* Scripture reference.
4. F. None of the above. Trick question. Note the spelling. *Agnus Dei* is Latin for "Lamb of God." *Angus* is a breed of usually black beef cattle, originating in Scotland.
5. B. "We bless" or "Let us bless" in Latin. Blessing can be done *by* God or *to* God. "*Benedicamus*" is often liturgically titled *Benedicamus Domino*, "Let us bless the Lord." Noah's "Blessed be the Lord" in *Genesis 9:26* occurs before the many glorious examples of blessing the lord in the Psalms. In Lutheran worship, after receiving God's blessings through word, bread, and wine, we respond with "blessing" – praising, honoring, exalting – the Lord.



Those Serving Us in April

[Editor's note: Due to the on-going uncertainty caused by the coronavirus, volunteers will be scheduled on a week-to-week basis. The church secretary will be arranging volunteers, along with **Tom Holt** (Ushers) and **Karen Rudar** (Altar Guild and Coffee Hour). If you would be able to help, please contact Kim at the church office, or Tom or Karen (see your copy of the church directory for contact information).]



CELEBRATIONS



- 1 Delilah Smith
Stanley Cooper
- 3 Tom Holt
Sydney Gembka
Mandi Petronic
- 4 Christina Schaffert
Lee Stone
- 5 Michael Hardy
Brian Kuchenbecker
Monica McGurer
Donna Pelligrini
Quinn Weber
- 6 Gerry Pretzlaf
- 7 Bonnie Moore
- 8 Marilyn Smith
- 9 Gayle Gifford
Yasmin Nehal
- 10 Kevin Gleske
Sean Peterson
- 13 Andrew Matzke
- 14 Pat Croucher
Cheryl Lee
- 15 Connie Boddy
Barbara Westover
Todd Zeitz
- 16 Allison Deets
- 17 Karen Springer
- 18 Lauren Molnar
- 19 Gracelyn Douglas
Carolyn Heuer
Ashley Schneider
Kane Stendalen
- 20 Charlie Chuppa
Mike Dugan
Susie Reed
Wendy Zimmerman
- 22 Dustin Paterniti
John Robinson
Grace Wright
- 26 Daniel Brown
Joshua Burke
Jack Turk
- 27 Benjamin Burke
Andrew Schneider
- 28 Ken Gross
Amy Jamieson-Petonic
Tibor Lakatos
- 30 Kelvin Bauermann



- 1 Lisa Feigle
Gerry Grubac
Jessica Ryan
- 2 Karen Tritt
- 3 Diane Keehl
Chris Powell
- 4 Pr. Ken Welsh
- 5 Gerhard Hickey
- 6 Elisabeth Peterson
- 7 Kelly Bidlack
Irene Gramc
- 9 Lori Clark
Tracy Deets
Jolee Hanson
- 10 Jonathan Gembka
Sydney Gembka
Larry McGurer
- 11 Brady Brown
- 13 Ryan Dvorak
Sophia Schaffert
- 14 Adam Douglas
Justin Meagher
- 15 Catherine Hyde
James Meagher
- 16 Stephanie Hyde
- 18 Jenifer Brenkus
- 19 Rodger Dunn
Bonnie Moore
Susie Reed
- 20 Charlie Chuppa
Caroline Hill
- 21 Ed Tornberg
- 22 Mark Ryan
- 24 Dan Chuppa
Jack Dvorak
Michael Repas, Jr.
- 27 Kathryn Hardy
Tom Holt
- 28 Mark Rychel
- 29 Chris Ryan
- 30 Cori Marsalis
Lori Marsalis
Tom Marsalis
Susan Matzke



- Joseph and Gretchen Sutter
April 4, 1981
- Pete and Debi Bucci
April 6, 2004
- David and Cindy White
April 7, 1982
- Matt and Rachel Webb
April 7, 2018
- George and Margot Fretz
April 11, 1970 (51 years)
- Randy and Catherine Hyde
April 19, 1984
- Robert and Gerry Pretzlaf
April 24, 1971 (50 years)
- Jeff and Toni Atchley
April 24, 1993
- Jackie and Mark Rychel
April 26, 1974
- David and Lori Clark
April 26, 1997
- Mari Jane and Joe Pavilonis
April 27, 1979
- Dustin and Cortney Paterniti
April 27, 2019
- Holly and Mort Myers
April 28, 1996

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 Palm Sunday 8:15am - Traditional 9am - Sunday School 9am - Sunday School 10am - Blended Service	29 9:30am - Devotions online	30 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study	31 9:30am - Children's Chapel 11am - Feed the Flock	1 Maundy Thursday 9:30am - Devotions online 11:30am - Maundy 7:30pm - Maundy Thursday	2 Good Friday 12pm - Good Friday Service 5:30pm - @ the Cross 7:30pm - Good Friday	3
4 Easter Sunday 7am - Easter Worship 9am - Easter Worship 9am - Sunday School 11am - Easter Worship	5 Office Closed 9:30am - Devotions online 7pm - Elder Meeting	6 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	7	8	9 7:30pm - @ the Cross	10 6pm - Private Event
11 8:15am - Traditional 9am - Sunday School 10am - Blended Worship 11:30am - Council Meeting	12	13 9:30am - Prayer Group 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	14 6pm - Youth Group	15 2pm - Red Cross Blood	16 7:30pm - @ the Cross	17 2pm - Trinity Lutheran
18 8:15am - Traditional 9am - Sunday School 10am - Contemporary 5pm - Newsletter Due	19 9:30am - Devotions online	20 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	21 9:30am - Children's Chapel 6pm - Confirmation Class 6pm - Youth Group	22 9:30am - Devotions online	23 7:30pm - @ the Cross	24
25 8:15am - Traditional 9am - Sunday School 10am - Blended Worship	26 9:30am - Devotions online 6pm - Stewardship Board 7pm - Education Board	27 9:30am - Prayer Group 11am - Bible Study 7pm - Handbell Rehearsal	28 9:30am - Children's Chapel 11am - Free Lunch 6pm - Confirmation Class 6pm - Youth Group	29 9:30am - Devotions online	30 7:30pm - @ the Cross	1