

ADVENT



OUR MISSION

Reaching out to the community to share the Gospel through faith, fellowship, and service.

OUR VISION

Become the visible presence of Christ in this community

Third Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 12, 2021, 10:00 A.M.



2323 Las Lomas Dr. Hacienda Heights, CA 91745
(626) 961-2486

Stmarkshh.com

church@stmarks.ws

 [St.MarksLCHH](https://www.facebook.com/St.MarksLCHH)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are glad you are here! May this be a holy time for you to offer your praise to God as well as receive God's grace through word, sacrament, song, and prayer.

For those worshipping here in person, please fill out the Connect Card that you received and leave it in the offering plate. For those who are worshipping with us online, we would invite you to share that you are watching via Facebook or YouTube by making a comment.

You may contact Françoise our church Office Administrator at fdutil@stmarks.ws or email Pastor Mericle directly, pastorjim@stmarkshh.com.

If you have questions, about the service or St. Mark's, please do not hesitate to ask one of the ushers.

SERVING TODAY

PASTOR: the Reverend James Mericle

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Karla Devine

SINGERS: New Creation Choir

LECTOR: Kimberly Winn

CHILDREN'S SERMONETTE: Gwen Andrizzi

ALTAR GUILD: Anna & John Guerriero

TECH: Shand Garrett, Dan O'Connell

CO-DIRECTORS OF USHERS: Phil Barnhart, Frank Winn

HEAD USHERS: Frank Winn, Ron Amon

USHERS: Janna Barnhart, Phil Barnhart, Dan Guerrero, Bill Rosentreter, Renke Schroeder

Last Sunday Attendance

119

	Last Two Weeks	Weekly Goal	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Regular Offerings	\$5,760.	\$4,615.	\$191,698.	\$235,135.

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+ indicates to stand as you are able. If it is difficult for you to stand, please feel free to stay seated or sit back down at any time.

OFFERINGS

If you would like to make a donation to St. Mark's Lutheran Church, just go to the link below.

Thank you for your generosity. <https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/34WJTS>

You can also give by text to St. Mark's Church. Just text **Stmarksgive** to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483) in order to receive a reply with the link to your giving interface. The code is not case sensitive.

We would like to thank you for your generosity.

You are welcome to mail in your donation, if you prefer not using the internet.

Our address is:

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

2323 Las Lomas Drive

Hacienda Heights, CA, 91745

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Theme: **On the Way to Bethlehem**

December 19 - PEACE

Joseph has a dream!

Blue Christmas Healing Prayer and Candle lighting at Worship.

Choral Concert @ 2:00 PM in the Sanctuary by The Nightingale Ensemble of LA

December 24 - Celebrate!

Christmas Eve Worship at 4:30 PM!

Christmas Around the World!

Families worship together with special candle lighting and carols.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

December 26 - What's in a Name?

What is the meaning of a name?

Christmas carol singing

January 2 - A New Beginning!

What can the past say about the future?

New Year's Resolutions

January 5 - Epiphany/Three Kings' Day!

We will meet at 3:15 PM after school and celebrate the coming of the

Wise Men with gifts for Jesus!

Special Children's Choir Music

Kings' cake and more!

RUTH CIRCLE

Our Women of the ELCA Circle will meet at Sharon Heck's home on Monday, December 13, 7:00 PM. Sharon's address is: 6032 Comstock Ave., Whittier, CA 90601. Lynn Yann will lead the study entitled "Women of Advent." It begins on page 32 of the November/December Gather magazine. Everyone is welcome to attend, and carpools are a good suggestion. Parking on this block of Comstock is by permit, so parking tags will be available. The driveway will hold four cars, so feel free to park there. We hope to see many of you on Monday, December 13, 7:00 PM.

HOLIDAY CONCERT

Mark your calendars for a thank you gift to St. Mark's and the larger community in the form of a concert of Holiday and Classic Chinese Music by The Nightingale Ensemble of LA on December 19, 2021, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm, here in the St. Mark's sanctuary.

DINNER WITH PASTOR JIM

In October and November Pastor Jim hosted several small dinner groups at his home. He prepared delicious meals for 44, members never serving the same meal twice. Who knew when we called Pastor Jim that he was a man of many talents? He can deliver a great sermon on Sunday and prepare a scrumptious dinner during the week. Great Fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Zoom Bible Fellowship with Pastor Jim on Tuesdays

We will have time to share highs and lows and have a discussion on the Bible readings in the coming week's sermon/readings. Zoom links will be sent out Tuesday, at 10:00 A.M.

TIMES:

Tuesday at 11:00 am - Noon

Tuesday at 8:00 pm - 9pm

Readings; Micah 5:2-5a and Luke 1:39-56

YEAR END OFFERINGS

If you are planning to make year-end donations, which you plan on deducting on your tax return for 2021, please make sure your offering is in the Church office NO LATER THAN Thursday morning, 12/30/21. This will allow us to make the deposit on a timely basis. We thank you for your generosity throughout the year, which will allow St. Mark's Church to continue it's missions. **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year** from the Finance Committee.



Gathering + Word + Thanksgiving + Sending

WELCOME AND THEMES OF THE DAY

Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran here in Hacienda Heights. It is a blessing to have you with us, whether here in person or joining us online. Today is the second Sunday of Advent which is a time of preparing and waiting for Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Christ. Our overall theme is "On the Way to Bethlehem," and each week we will meet people along the way with a focused theme for each week.

Today we focus on Joy, as Mary and Elizabeth meet and experience the Joy of their encounter and the call God has given to each of them. May we too find joy in our callings and see that we have the capacity to receive and share joy with others. We encourage those joining us online to go to our website and leave any comments and information you wish to share: <https://stmarkshh.com/connect-card>

PRELUDE	Indescribable	<i>Projection Screen</i>
+ GATHERING HYMN	Your Love Is Amazing	<i>Projection Screen</i>
+ GREETING		<i>Projection Screen</i>
+ WELCOME SONG	People, Look East	ELW 248
+ PRAYER OF THE DAY		

Let us pray together.

**Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

- + LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *Projection Screen*
- + ADVENT HYMN *We Light One Candle Burning* *Projection Screen*
Stanza 1 - Choir, stanzas 2 & 3 - ALL

Gathering + **Word** + Thanksgiving + Sending

- FIRST READING *Micah 5:2-5a pg. 849*
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**
- ANTHEM *Rejoice in the Lord Always* *Gieseke*
New Creation Choir
- CHILDREN'S SERMON *Krista Guerrero*
- GOSPEL *Luke 1:39-56 pg. 934*
The Holy Gospel according to Luke the first chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**
- SERMON *Joy: The Visitation* *Pastor Mericle*
- + HYMN OF THE DAY **The Magnificat** *Projection Screen*
- + APOSTLES' CREED *Projection Screen*
- + PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *Projection Screen*

Gathering + Word + **Thanksgiving** + Sending

- PEACE
- + OFFERTORY *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* *Burkhardt*
- + OFFERTORY RESPONSE **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** *ELW 257*
Stanzas 1 & 2
- + OFFERING PRAYER *Projection Screen*

Gathering + Word + Thanksgiving+ **Sending**

- ANNOUNCEMENTS *Projection Screen*
- + SENDING BLESSING *Projection Screen*
- + SENDING HYMN **Joy to the World** *ELW 267*

- + DISMISSAL & VISION *Projection Screen*
- POSTLUDE *Joy to the World* *Ore*
+++

PRAYER LIST:
 HEALING: Johanna Locke: Kenna Dutil-Baker - lungs (Francoise's daughter); Francoise Dutil (back injury); Vernon Weigand; Krystal Barnhart; Pastor Lee Rozen (better health); Nancy Carnehl (Janna Barnhart's friend) lung cancer; Emmy Swenson (Pastor Jim's aunt) - TIA, David Lau (Cindy Lau's father) - stroke,.
 ILLNESS: Nassar Sattar (Mary Rodriguez's friend) - cancer; Noris Maldonado - Alzheimer's (Natalie Pereda's mother); Donovan McLaughlin - cancer (Judy Willett's grandson); Deborah Morocco (Barbara Richards' friend, please pray for Deborah's family) - cancer; Dorothy Miller (Dr. Clark's aunt) - pancreatic cancer; Carol Adams (Linda Merchant's cousin) - hospitalized; Bernie Nord (Action Food Pantry)
 TREATMENTS: Tony Hernandez (Michael's brother) cancer, Nancy Richardson (Diana Hernandez's friend) cancer, Preslee Durston (Christine Birtja's niece) leukemia treatments, Bob Mericle - cancer (Pastor Mericle's father)
 HOSPICE: Faye Heinrich
 GRIEVING: Family of Robert Reitz (Gene Reitz's son)

DONATIONS NEEDED PLEASE!!!

The Action Food Pantry is asking for donations of beans and rice for their Christmas Baskets. You can make checks out to St. Mark's. On the memo line please write "Christmas Baskets."

St. Mark's Church Council Thank You Breakfast

Following the Santa Lucia program today, the Church Council will be hosting a Thank You breakfast. Everyone is welcome to come enjoy pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, and beverages. The Church Council extends their gratitude to:

- President Steven Chou who has guided us so ably and calmly through two very difficult years
- Betty Castaneda and Gwen Andrizzi who tirelessly prepare for and teach Sunday School
- The congregation for their flexibility over the last 20 months with changing restrictions and changing venues as well as their willingness to pitch in whenever needed.