
St. Mark's Lutheran Church



IN-PERSON SUNDAY SERVICE
AT THE TABLES NEAR THE GYM
March 7th, 2021
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER LENT
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Hacienda Heights

SERVING TODAY

PASTOR: the Reverend James Mericle
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY: Karla Devine
CANTOR: Holly Wolfe
LECTOR: Lynn Yann
CHILDREN'S SERMON: Norm Rumpf
*CONGREGATION READS

PRELUDE There in God's Garden – Young

WELCOME AND THEMES OF THE DAY

Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Hacienda Heights. We are blessed to have you join with us in worshipping God today. This is Third Sunday of Lent. Our Lenten worship theme is "Promises Made, Promises Kept" and today we will focus on God's third covenant, The Mosaic Covenant, especially in the Law he gave to Moses and the Israelites, known as the Ten Commandments. These continue to impact and guide us today. Lent is a time of reflection, repentance and renewal and we hope you have opportunities for all of these today and throughout this season. We will also be

serving Holy Communion today. If you wish to receive Christ and his grace through this meal, we invite you to partake of the meal. Please have your communion kit or bread/cracker and wine/juice ready for this time in the worship.

For those who are visiting with us online, we would invite you to share that you are watching via Facebook or YouTube comments or via our contact page from the Website. Welcome and blessings to you!

+ BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
Amen.

Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN There in God's Garden (ELW 342)
Stanzas 1–3

- 1 There in God's garden
stands the Tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth
the healing of the nations:
Tree of all knowledge,
Tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.
- 2 Its name is Jesus,
name that says, "Our Savior!"
There on its branches
see the scars of suff'ring;
see where the tendrils

of our human selfhood
feed on its lifeblood.

- 3 Thorns not its own
are tangled in its foliage;
our greed has starved it,
our despite has choked it.
Yet, look! it lives!
its grief has not destroyed it
nor fire consumed it.

+ GREETING

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

*And also with you.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Amen

READING Exodus 20:1–21

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

1 Then God spoke all these words:

2 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; 3 you shall have no other gods before me.

4 You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, 6 but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

8 Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work. 10 But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work — you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. 11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

12 Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

13 You shall not murder.

14You shall not commit adultery.

15You shall not steal.

16You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

18When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, 19and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." 20Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." 21Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON Norm Rumpf

+ GOSPEL John 2:13–22

The holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

*Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jewish people was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸The Judeans then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰The Judeans then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But Jesus was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

+ SERMON The Promise of the Law Pastor Mericle

+ HYMN OF THE DAY Bless Now, O God, the Journey (ELW 326)

1 Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,

the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.

2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors,
your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound;
together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.

3 Divine eternal lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for land of promise
where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.
Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.

+ APOSTLE'S CREED

*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,
was 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 THE PEOPLE

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

The petitions conclude:

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen.

PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God,
you walk beside us in desert places,
and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.
Accompany us in this meal,
that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

LITURGY FOR HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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.

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of steadfast love,
at this table you gather your people
into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit,
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord
*Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ BLESSINGS

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you + that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
*Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN There in God's Garden (ELW 342) Stanzas 4-6

- 4 See how its branches
reach to us in welcome;
hear what the Voice says,
"Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness,
give me all your sorrow,
I will give blessing."
- 5 This is my ending,
this my resurrection;
into your hands, Lord,
I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for;
now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.
- 6 All heav'n is singing,
"Thanks to Christ whose passion
offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations,
take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!

+ DISMISSAL

P: So that we may be
C: the visible presence of Christ in this community.
P: Let us Go in Peace.
C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE There in God's Garden – Organ

+ 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.

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Printable Children's Bulletin

PRAYER LIST:

HEALING: Johanna Locke, Rosie Scott, Kenna Dutil-Baker (Francoise's daughter), Rubi Thomas (Irv's sister-in-law) broken leg, Francoise Dutil (back injury)

ILLNESS: Helena Peidrahita (Adriana Garrett's mother), Rev. Anne Whitfield

SAFETY & HEALTH: Health care workers and families affected by COVID.

TREATMENTS: Jamie (John Guerriero's nephew), Larry Birtja (Chris Birtja's father), 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)

RECOVERING FROM SURGERY: Nancy Carnehl (Janna Barnhart's friend) lung lobe removed due to cancer, Denise Thomas– knee surgery, Lance Maters (friend of Pastor Mericle) major hip surgery

HOSPICE: Virginia Gussler (Sunny O'Hara's mother-in-law), Julio Collosi, Faye Heinrich

GRIEVING: Family of Gorden Rozen (Brother of Pastor Lee Rozen)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Mark's Lutheran



**St. Mark's Lutheran School,
preschool – 8th grade,
now accepting applications.**

We understand how important choosing the right school is for your student and the family. St. Mark's is open for enrollment. To apply, go to the St. Mark's School website, www.stmarks.ws, click "About" on the top bar, scroll down to "Enroll", create your account and you will be guided through the

application process. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the school office at (626) 968-0428

Attn: Wanna-be detectives

MISSING 🕵️ 🕵️ 🕵️

Two sets of altar cloths have disappeared. Did another church borrow them? Are they at some cleaners? Where could they have gone 😊? It's a mystery. The **red** and **purple** sets can not be found 🕵️ 🕵️. Anyone with information please contact Lynn Yann



at (626)347-4519 or lynnnann43@gmail.com. Altar guild members will be eternally grateful 🙏.



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Wednesdays: We will worship using the Holden Evening Prayer and the message will be a study of the Letter of 1 John, one chapter a week. This week is Chapter 3: **Love One Another. The worship is prerecorded and will be available online at 1pm Wednesday.**

Lenten Devotional: Amazing Mystery from Luther Seminary is available to download from here: **Lenten Devotional**. You may also find it on our App: St Mark's Lutheran Church HH (download from Apple, Amazon or Google Play Stores)

SOCIAL MINISTRIES



PERSONAL CARE KITS

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- All items should be new and in good condition.
- Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

- ☐ **ONE** light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- ☐ **TWO** or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- ☐ **ONE** adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging*
- ☐ **ONE** sturdy comb, remove packaging
- ☐ **ONE** metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

* Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

HOW TO PACK YOUR KITS OF CARE

- Fold the towel in half width-wise. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string or rubber bands.
- Pack completed kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents

Lenten Project

Completed kits may be brought to the church or church office, by Easter Day
APRIL 4th.

~Or~Dropped at our Food Drives Feb 20 or March 20th

Goal = 60 kits

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:



*Toothbrush multi packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap



Announcing our 32nd St. Mark's Auction –
 "Leaving your Paw Prints for Generations to Come"
 Mark your Calendar for our 32nd St. Mark's Auction! April 23 – April 25, 2021.

This year, we will celebrate St. Mark's with a different type of Auction online and a special Virtual Auction Event at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 24th. And, this year, the whole family may sign in to view the online auction and the Virtual Event featuring our staff members, Booster Club members, and

maybe some surprise guests. Register online today at www.stmarks.ws/donate for one \$25 ticket which entitles you:

- To bid online for Auction items over a three-day period, Friday, April 23rd, Saturday, April 24th, and Sunday, April 25th
- To watch the SML VIRTUAL AUCTION EVENT on Saturday, April 24th with your family
- To one (1) Raffle Ticket for the SML Tuition Raffle (redeemable for one student's one month of tuition for the 2021–2022 school year)
- Register by February 28, 2021 for the \$100 Amazon Gift Card – the Early Bird Registration Raffle Prize.

Ruth Circle will meet Thursday, March 11, 2021, 7: 00 PM on Zoom. We will continue our Bible study titled "Journeys with Angels" which is printed in our *Gather Magazine*. Session three of the study appears in the March 2021 issue of the magazine, and Sharon Heck will lead the study.. All are welcome to join in our Women of the ELCA meeting. If you would like to receive the Zoom invitation, or have a copy of the study, contact Sharon



Heck - 562-698-0476 or Janna Barnhart - 562-699-2815. We hope to "see" many of you at our March 11 Ruth Circle meeting.

If you would like to make a donation to St. Mark's Lutheran Church just click the link below. Thank you for your generosity.

<https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/34WJTS>

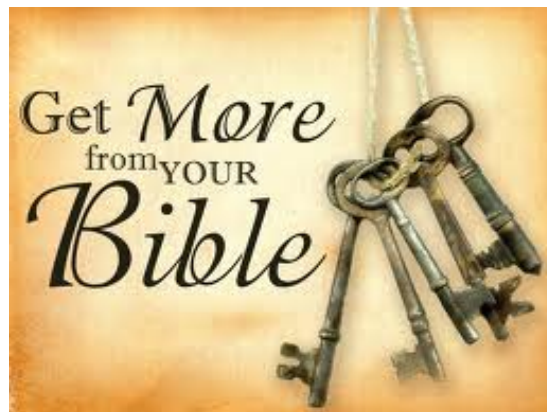
You can also give by text to St. Mark's Church. Just text Stmarksgive to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483) in order to receive a reply with the link to your giving interface. The code is not case sensitive. We would like thank you for your generosity.

You are also welcome to mail in your donation if you prefer not using the internet, our address is:

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
2323 Las Lomitas Drive
Hacienda Heights, CA, 91745



Thrivent Members: Please designate your Choice Dollars to St. Mark's Lutheran Church or your favorite non-profit. The Choice Dollars must be designated prior to March 31st. You can designate your Choice Dollars on Thrivent.com or contact your Thrivent representative. Any questions, please call Rob Burns or Matthew Burns at 714-525-4360 .



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.

TIMES:

Tuesday at 11am – Noon

Tuesday at 8pm – 9pm

Readings – Numbers 21:4–9 and John 3:14–21

St. Mark's Lutheran Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Bible Fellowship

Time: March 2nd, 2021 11:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/99843462711?](https://zoom.us/j/99843462711?pwd=UIIBOWw3UWR1NG5kTWZCUzVnTnI2QT09)

[pwd=UIIBOWw3UWR1NG5kTWZCUzVnTnI2QT09](https://zoom.us/j/99843462711?pwd=UIIBOWw3UWR1NG5kTWZCUzVnTnI2QT09)

Meeting ID: 998 4346 2711

Passcode: 6iWyEp

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,99843462711#,,,,*218573#

Topic: Bible Fellowship

Time: March 2nd, 8:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/93428264728?](https://zoom.us/j/93428264728?pwd=d00zNjFNbURUUIIN2MWhQUdIyUmFHUT09)

[pwd=d00zNjFNbURUUIIN2MWhQUdIyUmFHUT09](https://zoom.us/j/93428264728?pwd=d00zNjFNbURUUIIN2MWhQUdIyUmFHUT09)

Meeting ID: 934 2826 4728

Passcode: Vxqz5e

One tap mobile

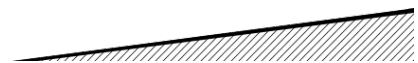
+16699006833,,93428264728#,,,,,0#,,578560# US

Dial by your location

Meeting ID: 934 2826 4728

Passcode: 578560

For any emergency or pastoral care please feel free to call Pastor Mericle at 651-249-6261.



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