



St. Mark's Lutheran Church



IN-PERSON SUNDAY SERVICE
(AT THE TABLES NEAR THE GYM)
March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday in Lent
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Hacienda Heights

SERVING TODAY

PASTOR: the Reverend James Mericle
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY: Karla Devine
SOLOIST: Rylee Birtja
LECTOR: Shand Garrett
CHILDREN'S SERMON: Krista Guerrero
*CONGREGATION READS

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 worshiping God today. This is the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Our Lenten Worship Theme is "Promises Made, Promises Kept" and today we will focus on God's promise of salvation for those with faith, and to remember to be grateful for that which we have in life rather than grumble about that which we do not have. Lent is a time of reflection, repentance and renewal and we hope you have opportunities for all of these today and throughout this season.

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!

PRELUDE God Loved the World – Childs

+ 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 God Loved the World (ELW 323)
Stanzas 1, 2 & 5

1 God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.

2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.

5 All glory to the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

+ 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.

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Amen.

READING Numbers 21:4–9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

⁴From Mount Hor the Israelites set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people, ⁸And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

ANTHEM Bow Down Your Ear – Miller

CHILDREN'S SERMON Krista Guerrero

+ GOSPEL John 3:14–21

The holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

*Glory to you, O Lord

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son-of-Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God loved the world in this way, that God gave the Son, the only begotten one, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

+ SERMON The Promise of Life from Death –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.

PEACE

+ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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.

+ LORD'S PRAYERS

*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.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Faithful God, we bring these offering before you as a sign of our thanks to you and faith in you. Bless them and multiple them to do your work of love in this community through your people here at St. Mark's, In Jesus' name.

*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 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (ELW 779)

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found;
 was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear
 the hour I first believed!

- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
 I have already come;
 'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
 and grace will lead me home.

+ DISMISSAL & VISION

So that we may be

*the visible presence of Christ in this community.

Let us go in Peace.

*Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Amazing Grace – Cherwien

+ 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

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



Give

ACTION FOOD PANTRY FOOD DRIVE
Our next Food Drive is on 03/20/2021
From 11:00 AM-12:30 PM
We will collect food for the
Action Food Pantry.

We are asking for food donations, as well as any
comfort food you especially like for yourselves.

NO GLASS JARS PLEASE!!

Thank you to all who participate each month.



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.

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

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

Goal = 60 kits

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:



One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27"), dark color recommended



Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping



One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*



One sturdy comb, remove packaging



One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging



Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn.

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



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Today after worship we are having a yard work day to clean up leaves in the back of sanctuary. We will also clean the outside lights around sanctuary. Bring gloves and a rake if able.



It is not too late to sign up for Frist Communion Class, which will be Sundays, March 21 and 28, after worship outside the church office. Call Pastor Jim at 651-249-6261 to sign up for class.



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 4: **Testing and Abiding. 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)



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 .



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*)

Study ^{the} Bible
with us



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 – 2 Samuel 7:4, 8–16, Jeremiah 31:31–34 and John 12:20–33

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

Topic: Bible Fellowship

Time: March 16th, 2021 11:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/99843462711?](https://zoom.us/j/99843462711?pwd=UIIBOWw3UWR1NG5kTWZCUzVnTnl2QT09)
[pwd=UIIBOWw3UWR1NG5kTWZCUzVnTnl2QT09](https://zoom.us/j/99843462711?pwd=UIIBOWw3UWR1NG5kTWZCUzVnTnl2QT09)

Meeting ID: 998 4346 2711

Passcode: 6iWyEp

One tap mobile

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

Topic: Bible Fellowship

Time: March 16th, 08:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/93428264728?](https://zoom.us/j/93428264728?pwd=d00zNjFNbURUIN2MWhQUDlyUmFHUT09)
[pwd=d00zNjFNbURUIN2MWhQUDlyUmFHUT09](https://zoom.us/j/93428264728?pwd=d00zNjFNbURUIN2MWhQUDlyUmFHUT09)

Meeting ID: 934 2826 4728

Passcode: Vxqz5e

One tap mobile

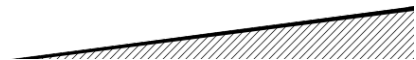
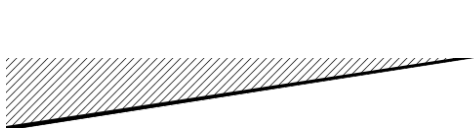
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Dial by your location

Meeting ID: 934 2826 4728

Passcode: 578560

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



CONNECT WITH US!



St. Mark's Lutheran Church | 2323 Las Lomas Dr., Hacienda Heights, CA 91745 @STMarksLCHH

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