



### **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.*

**Christmas Eve Service**

**DECEMBER 24, 2023, 10:00 AM**

St. Mark's Lutheran



2323 Las Lomas Dr. Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

(626) 961-2486

[Stmarkshh.com](http://Stmarkshh.com)

[church@stmarks.ws](mailto: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.

We invite you to let us know you are here today by completing a connect card or a visitor card in the pews and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. For those online, you can leave a comment or use the connect section on our website or App. We hope you will also let us know how this worship has touched you.

You may contact Françoise our church Office Administrator at [fdutil@stmarks.ws](mailto:fdutil@stmarks.ws) or email Pastor Mericle directly, [pastorjim@stmarkshh.com](mailto:pastorjim@stmarkshh.com). 626-961-2486. If you have questions, about the service or St. Mark's, please do not hesitate to ask one of the ushers.

## Holy Communion

Today we are also celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion. Please know that all who wish to receive Christ and his offer of forgiveness and new life are welcome to receive this meal. For those online, please have your bread/crackers and wine/juice ready for that point in the service. For those attending in person, if you want to receive Christ in communion you can do so in two ways: come up front and receive the bread and wine/juice or take a communion kit in the Narthex and receive the bread and juice at your seat. If you prefer not to receive communion, and are in person, please know you are welcome to come forward for a blessing- just let the pastor know. If you remain in your seat, please help make room for others to pass you, if they choose to go forward to receive communion.

## SERVING TODAY

**PASTOR:** the Rev. James Mericle

**WORSHIP PIANIST/CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR:** Graham Jackson

**POP-UP CHOIR:** Kim Brown, Terry Van Riper, Sondra Mericle, Mary Ann Mericle, Norm Rumpf, Lynn Yann, Philip Mautino, Betty Castaneda, Irv Thomas

**ALTAR GUILD:** Lynn Yann, Gwen Andrizzi

**ACOLYTE:** Mackenzie Milano

**LECTOR:** Janna Barnhart

**CHILDREN'S SERMON:** Pastor Mericle

**TECH CREW:** Dan O'Connell and Steven Chou

**CO-DIRECTOR OF USHERS:** Phil Barnhart & Frank Winn

**HEAD USHER:** Dan Guerrero

**USHERS:** Irvin Thomas and Frank Winn

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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.

# MERRY CHRISTMAS



**OFFERINGS:** You can 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. Zelle is a way to give with no fees. Just go to your online banking, find your access to Zelle, and type in church@stmarks.ws and follow the instructions. We thank you for your generosity.

**LADIES' PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Saturday, December 30th  
 at 8:00 AM  
 Mimi's Cafe  
 15436 E. Whittier Blvd.  
 Whittier, 90603  
 (562) 947-0339

**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Saturday, December 30th  
 at 8:00 AM  
 Denny's at 1150 S. 7th Ave., Hacienda Heights  
 (60 Fwy and 7th Ave.)

**SAVE THE DATE**

Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 28, 2024.

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**  
 Theme: Advent Seasonings/Christmas Joy

**December 31st - So...Do You Deliver? (Ginger/Share)**  
 Worship at 10:00 am  
 Happy New Year!



**Gathering + Word + Meal + Sending**

WELCOME AND THEMES OF THE DAY

PRELUDE

*Projection Screen*

+	GATHERING HYMN	<b>Angels, from the Realms of Glory Stanzas 1, 2 &amp; 4</b>	<b>ELW 275</b>
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+	WELCOME		<i>Projection Screen</i>
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+	WELCOME HYMN	<b>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</b>	<b>ELW 288</b>
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LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

ADVENT HYMN	<b>Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah Stanza 1- 4</b>	<b>ELW 240</b>
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CHILDREN'S SERMON		<i>Pastor Mericle</i>
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**Gathering + Word + Meal + Sending**

FIRST READING	The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	<i>Isaiah 7:10-15 - Janna Barnhart</i>
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ANTHEM	<i>Noel Pop-up Choir</i>
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GOSPEL *Luke 2:1-14*  
 The Holy Gospel according to Luke the second chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**  
 The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON *God Delivers* *Pastor Mericle*

+ HYMN OF THE DAY **Joy to the World** **ELW 267**

+ APOSTLES' CREED *Projection Screen*

Gathering + Word + **Meal** + Sending

PEACE *Projection Screen*

+ OFFERTORY

+ OFFERTORY RESPONSE **O Little Town of Bethlehem** **ELW 279**  
**Stanzas 1- 3**

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

+ BRIEF ORDERS OF CONFESSION

+ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *Projection Screen*

+ WORDS OF INSTITUTION *Projection Screen*

+ LORD'S PRAYER *Projection Screen*

+ COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** **ELW 276**  
**Away in a Manger** **ELW 277**

+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *Projection Screen*

Gathering + Word + Meal + **Sending**

ANNOUNCEMENTS *Projection Screen*

+ BLESSING *Projection Screen*

+ SENDING **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** **ELW 270**

+ DISMISSAL & VISION *Projection Screen*

POSTLUDE

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**PRAYER LIST:**

**HEALING:** Krystal Barnhart; Norma Collosi – significant health issues; Bradley Holmes (Frances Weigand’s grand-nephew) - healing; Patrick Fields (husband of school employee) - medical; George Trapani (Sharon Heck son-in-law) - medical issues; Hugo Hsu-Chen - recovery from surgery

**ILLNESS:** Pat Dickerman - cancer; Bob Mericle - lung cancer; Robert Dutil - dementia & neck pain; Erin Taylor (Nathan Magdaleno’s friend) - ALS; Charlotte Fugate (friend of Aaron Figueroa) - Alzheimer’s; Darlene Corgan (Mary Rosentreter’s sister) - liver transplant, cancer; Barbara Richards - leg surgery

**TREATMENTS:** Daniella Escalante - cancer treatments, surgery; Lorna Delgado (Ms. Dominique’s mom) - cancer treatments; Bill McDonnell (Krista Guerrero’s boss) - prostate cancer; Christine Tseng (friend of Chou family) - cancer treatments

**HOSPICE:** Faye Heinrich; Marty Green -Ponce (friend of Juliana Guerriero); Tom O’Connell (Dan O’Connell’s brother)

**COMFORT:** Family and friends of Vernon Weigand

**DIRECTORY**

It is the time of year again to update the Directory. Please contact the office at 626-961-2486 or email fdutil@stmarks.ws with any changes. Thank you for your help in this matter.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES BOXES**

The offering envelopes boxes will be available in the Narthex, Sunday, December 31st, and Sunday, January 7th. Please do not use until 2024. Thank you.

**OFFICE NEWS**

Office will be closed Monday, December 25th & Monday, January 1st. Pastor will be on vacation December 26th & 27th. Françoise will be on vacation January 4th & 5th.

**NO ZOOM BIBLE STUDY ON TUESDAY**

**YEAR END OFFERINGS**

If you are planning to make year-end donations which you plan on deducting on your tax return for 2023, please make sure your offering is given or postmarked by Sunday, December 31st. **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.

**TO ST. MARK'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL STAFF WHO PARTICIPATED IN PROJECT CHRISTMAS WISH**

Your Christmas donation is a gift of hope and happiness and your kindness is changing lives.

Thank you for your incredible generosity! You have made two families very happy!

Merry Christmas! Sharon Bradford, Terry Van Riper and Carolyn Collosi, Social Ministries