

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428
stmarksconshy.org

Second Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2019

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Herzliebster Jesu

setting by Robert Lind

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us,
anoint us,
and make us new.

Amen.

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin,
and receive God's promise of mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God at the margins,

We have wandered far from your home;

again and again, we lose our way.

We turn inward, afraid of the world around us.

**We forget that you have saved your people before
and promise to do so again.**

Do not remember the deeds of our past,

but turn our faces toward the future,

where your forgiveness is sure,

your welcome is clear,

and your love overflows. Amen.

Like a hen who gathers her chicks,
God embraces you in tender care.
Like manna in the desert,
God feeds you with surprising mercy.
Like a loving parent,
God runs to meet you again this day,
forgiving your sins for the sake of † Christ,
leading you from death into life.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW 321

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church

OLD 124TH

Greeting

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Litany for Lent

Leader

O Christ, out of your fullness we have all received grace upon grace.
You are our eternal hope;
You are patient and full of mercy;
You are generous to all who call upon you.

Assembly



Save us, Lord. Save us, Lord.

O Christ, fountain of life and holiness,
You have taken away our sins.
On the cross you were wounded for our transgressions
And were bruised for our iniquities

Refrain

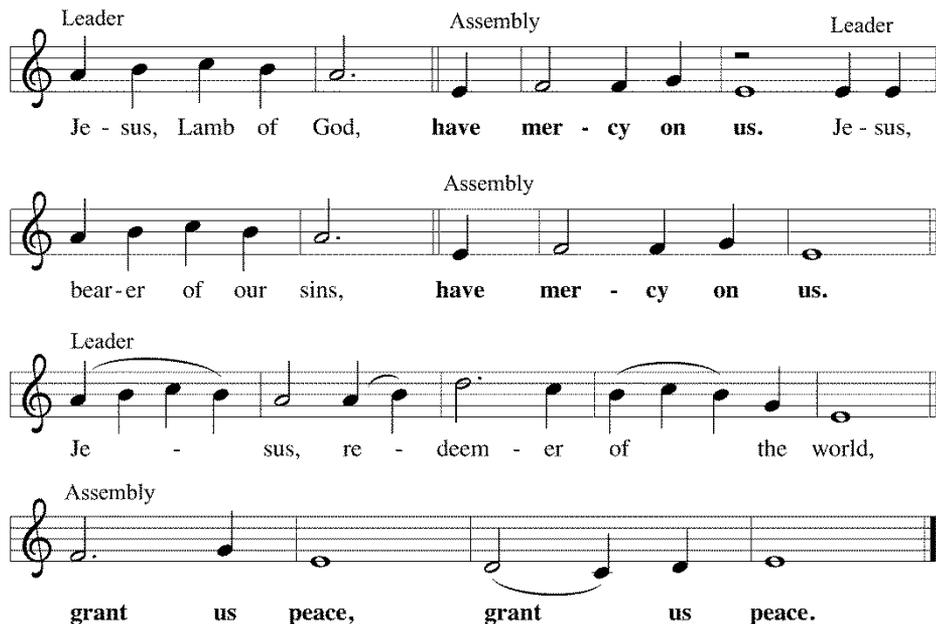
O Christ, obedient unto death,
Source of all comfort, our life and resurrection,

Our peace and reconciliation

Refrain

O Christ, Savior of all who trust you,
Hope of all who die in your and joy of all the saints:

Refrain



Leader Assembly Leader

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus,

Assembly

bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Leader

Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world,

Assembly

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: Taizé Community, alt. *Book of Common Worship*, © 1975, 1993 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.
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Music: Carolyn Jennings, © 2009 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister prays the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading:

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

God promises a childless and doubting Abram that he will have a son, that his descendants will be as numerous as the stars, and that the land of Canaan will be their inheritance. Abram's trust in God is sealed with a covenant-making ceremony, a sign of God's promise.

The First Reading is from the 15th chapter of Genesis:

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵The LORD brought Abram outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then the LORD said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And Abram believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then the LORD said to Abram, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹The LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰Abram brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody (*Read responsively by whole verse*)

Psalm 27

¹The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then | shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

**²When evildoers close in against me to de- | vour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stum- | ble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart | will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will | not be shaken.

**⁴One thing I ask of the Lord; one | thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my
life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God | in the
temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will | give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high
up- | on a rock.

**⁶Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies | who
surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary,
sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music | to the Lord.**

⁷Hear my voice, O Lord, | when I call; have mercy on me
and | answer me.

**⁸My heart speaks your message— | “Seek my face.”
Your face, O Lord, | I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- | vant in
anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not,
O God of | my salvation.

¹⁰Though my father and my moth- | er forsake me,

the Lord will | take me in.

¹¹Teach me your | way, O LORD;

lead me on a level path, because of | my oppressors.

¹²**Subject me not to the will | of my foes,**

for they rise up against me, false witnesses | breathing violence.

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness | of the Lord in the land | of the living!

¹⁴**Wait for the Lord| and be strong.**

Take heart and wait | for the Lord!

Second Reading:

Philippians 3:14-4:1

Although Paul's devotion to Christ has caused him to be persecuted, he does not regret the course he has taken. Writing from prison, he expresses confidence in a glorious future and encourages other Christians to follow in his footsteps.

The Second Reading is from the 3rd chapter of Philippians:

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹The Lord will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel. We sing following the direction of the Music Director.

Open my heart, Open my heart. Open my heart, Open my heart.

Text and music: Ana Hernandez, adapted from a traditional Chinese mantra.

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Gospel:

Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13th chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²Jesus said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon

We invite our children forward for a lesson before either returning to their seats or heading off to the nursery.

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day

Around You, O Lord Jesus

ELW 468

O JESU AN DE DINA

The Creed

Together with the whole church let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles 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

Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

A brief silence is kept.

Each petition ends:

God of Mercy,
Hold us in love.

The prayers are concluded:

Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Announcements

Announcements are made on behalf of the community

Offering

An offering is gathered to support the mission of the church. Funds gathered today will help sustain our ministry efforts at St. Mark's, support the wider national church and help those in need. You can also contribute electronically via our "Give+" giving app on your phone, available in the Apple Store and Google Play. If you give electronically we invite you to take one of the green slips and place it in the offering plate as a way to include your electronic gifts in the offering time.

Offertory

Teach Me, O God
Adult Choir

by J. Paul Williams and Douglas Nolan

Musical selections are offered to the glory of God. The conclusion of which gifts of bread, wine, money and other gifts are brought forward.



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
 all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Offering Prayer

Generous God,

you feed us with the harvest of the land,

and you provide for our every need.

Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor,

and transform them into a feast that welcomes all,

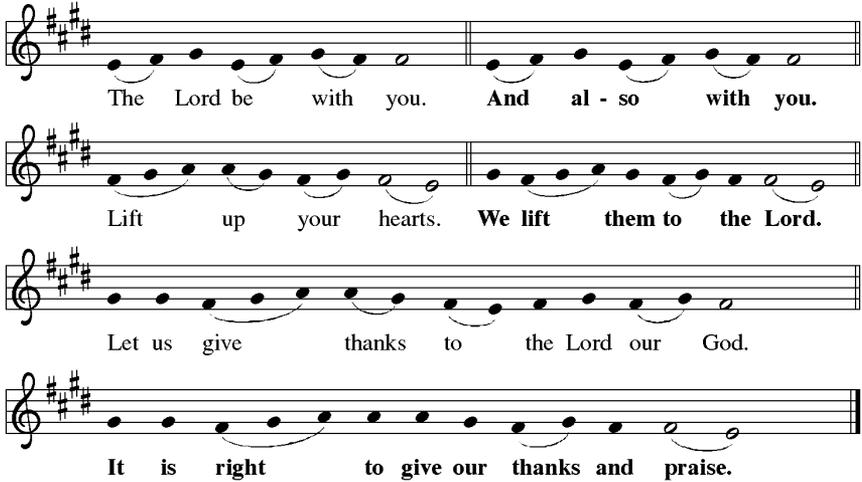
in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW pg 152

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus

ELW p. 153

“Holy Holy Holy”

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Great Thanksgiving concludes:

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
 your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
 Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
 and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

Invitation to Communion

Here at St. Mark's we invite all people to the Lord's Table no matter where you are on your faith journey. This is Christ present for you – freely offered in bread and wine – all are welcome to commune.

Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

The bread may be broken for the communion

Agnus Dei

MMC 36

We sing following the Director of Music

Lay me low, where the Lord can find me.

Lay me low, where the Lord can hold me.

Lay me low, where the Lord can bless me.

Lay me low Lord, lay me low.

Distribution of Communion

Today we will receive communion around the altar rail. At the direction of the usher you are invited forward to receive communion. To focus our attention on the distribution of communion during Lent, there will be no communion hymns and we are invited into a time of silent reflection and prayer as focus on the meaning of Holy Communion.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond -- Amen.

Post Communion Blessing

When all have communed, the Assembly stands.

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Tender and merciful one,
at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing,
turning our emptiness into joy.
Filled with your abundant grace,
send us now to be ministers of reconciliation,
mending broken hearts, working for justice,
and striving for peace among all people,
in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and send us in mission to the world

Blessing

God, who fills the creation with abundance,
Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness,
Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us,
✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.
Amen.

Sending Song

ELW 328

Restore in Us, O God

BAYLOR

Dismissal

Go in peace, remember the poor.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Herzliebster Jesu

setting by David P. Dahl

Leading us in Worship

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Bryan Penman	
Director of Music	Emily Ballentine Erb	
	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
Assisting Minister	Sheldon Erb	Kim Kriebel
Communion Asst.	Nate Ramsden	Joanne Copestick
Reader	Joe Dryburgh	Theodora Morley
Nursery	Liz MacNeal	The Ramsdens
Acolyte	Theodora Morley	Gavin Kriebel
Altar Guild	Kathys Bell and Turner	Stephanie Conklin Sandy Portzer
Ushers	Dolores Lush Joanne Copestick	Donna Kobi Theodora Morley
Counters	Stephanie Conklin Debbie Eskate	Lauren Parkin Joanne Copestick
Offering Recorder	Pam Keebler	Jennifer Schreiter
Fellowship Hour	Open	Open
Faith Formation	Stephanie Conklin Sue Inderbitzen	Kim Kriebel Lara Hoffman
Altar Flowers	Given by the Lauren Parkin in memory of grandparents, Lois Wilson and Thomas Parkin	Open

Worship Ministry Announcements:

Ways we gather in praise of God

Help us purchase more hymnals for the sanctuary

We need some more hymnals to fill the pew racks, and we're inviting members of the congregation to purchase a hymnal to place for use in worship. You're invited to include your dedication (for example, in memory of a loved one, to the Glory of God, for blessings received)--a book plate will be set in the hymnal identifying the giver and dedication. The cost is \$25 per book. Place your check or cash in one of the white pew envelopes and label it HYMNAL. On the back of the envelope, write your name and what you'd like to have included in the dedication.

Dinner Church @ 6PM on Thursdays

"Dinner Church" has great roots in the Christian tradition. Dinner Church is a very relaxed worship experience; some come right from work, some right from the gym, some from just picking the kids up. The Sign-Up sheet to bring a main dish, soup or salad is in the "sign-up hallway" across from the McCarney room. No matter where you are on your faith journey you are welcome here at Dinner Church.

Easter Flower Orders

Please help us create a joyful sanctuary for our Festival Easter worship service! Purple order forms are in the back of the sanctuary by the bulletins to purchase either lilies or tulips to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. Due by April 8th.

Altar Flower Sponsorship

We have openings for Altar Flowers in March. Cost is \$40.00 for the week and please indicate if you would like to keep this as an annual memorial, or just a memorial for this year.

Faith Formation Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can deep your faith life

Faith Formation Classes after worship

We offer two faith formation opportunities after worship today, a class for young disciples and their families and an adult forum (for disciples young at heart!) Today, both classes meet following worship downstairs in the auditorium, our young persons' class begins following communion and the adult forum starts shortly after the fellowship hour.

Theology on Tap – This Week at Great American Pub

Join us Thursday March 21st, after Dinner Church around 7:30pm. This month we will explore what it takes to build a Christian community, what other communities of faith are popping up around the country, and how our faith lives are nurtured in community at St. Mark's.

Service Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can do God's work with your hands

Pipe Organ Appeal

Our congregation continues to raise funds to repair and rebuild our Pipe Organ. The instrument is in major need of refurbishment and new parts, the cost of which is \$53,000. To date we have raised a little over \$24,000 for this work with more to go. Please consider making a donation to the Capital Appeal to support this work; we have until June to raise the rest of the funds for this work. We are also planning two upcoming fundraisers to help support the capital appeal – Friday May 17th for a Trivia Event and Sunday June 2nd for a Hand Bag Bingo event.

Knitters & Crocheters

We're still collecting 12" knitted or crocheted squares to be assembled into blankets that we'll take to the Coordinated Homeless Outreach Center (CHOC) in Norristown. If you have any questions, please speak to Kathy Pokalo or Karen Hanna.

Cradles to Crayons Donations Discontinued

We want to thank everyone who so faithfully and generously supported Cradles to Crayons over the years helping to provide children birth through age 12 with the everyday essentials they need to thrive at home, at school and at play. Because the organization has closed their Conshohocken location leaving the nearest drop off center in Philadelphia, we will no longer be accepting donations for them here at St. Mark's. If you have questions, please speak to Karen Hanna or Kathy Pokalo.

Items Needed at Our Local Food Bank

Our local food bank run by our friends over at Colonial Neighborhood Council have a special need for Chef Boyardee products and canned fruit. Collection baskets in the back of the sanctuary. Items are delivered to CNC weekly.

Homework Help @ Conshy Library

Our congregation will continue to staff the Homework Help Club at the Conshohocken Public Library. The program is offered on Thursdays from 3:45pm – 4:30pm. If you are interested in helping to tutor, please see or contact Jenn Schreiter (jeschreiter@yahoo.com).

Sharing God's Love with Blessing Bags

Thanks to the many who helped put together 75 “Blessing Bags”. “Blessing Bags” are bags filled with energy & granola bars and other items that can be eaten right away. In addition, the bags contain dry socks – an especially prized item during the winter months. The bags can be placed in your car, tote or briefcase to distribute to those experiencing homelessness. We have all experienced that strange feeling of embarrassment mixed with guilt when we encounter folks on the streets and these bags are a tangible way to show concern and compassion and give the encouragement that they, too, are both a blessing and blessed by God.

Special Envelope Collection This Month

The Lutheran Settlement House is a multifaceted service organization offering a variety of programs to empower individuals and strengthen communities across the city of Philadelphia. Established in 1902, LSH is a non-profit, community-based organization committed to serving children, adults, and families living in Philadelphia offering a variety of programs such as domestic violence, homelessness, senior services, community education, employment and advocacy. (More info at: <https://www.lutheransettlement.org>)

Evangelism Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can share your faith with others

Easter Egg Industry Continues

Our annual Easter Egg Candy making fundraiser production continues! Volunteers needed on Monday and Wednesday evening for candy making and chocolate coating as well as Friday mornings to assist with packing. This is St. Mark's largest fundraiser and we need lots of help to make the 101st year another successful season in the longstanding Conshohocken tradition.

Monday Evenings 6pm – 8pm: Volunteers are needed to help roll / cut fondant centers. We are in special need of folks who can volunteer from 5pm – 7pm in the kitchen to assist with making the candy batches.

Wednesday Evenings 6pm – 8pm: Volunteers are needed to help coat the candies in dark chocolate, each candy is hand coated so we need lots of hands to help coat the candies!

Friday Mornings 9am – 11am: Packers are needed to help pack and weight the candies in boxes.

To place orders: you may order in person during production, fill out an order form (available in the back of the sanctuary) and turn it into the church office, or you may contact our order coordinator Donna Kobi 610.825.3021, or you may place an order using our website (www.stmarksconshy.org)

Council Corner:

News from the leadership of the Congregation

Newly Elected Council Officers & Ministry Leads for 2019

Each year from our elected Council members, the group elects executive officers and appoints ministry leads over our key ministry areas. At a recent Council meeting the following people were elected as executive officers of the church council:

- **President:** Kathy Pokalo
- **Vice-President:** Joe Ruggiero
- **Treasurer:** Aaron Moul
- **Secretary:** Liz MacNeal
- **Worship:** Becca Casey
- **Service:** Brooke Logan
- **Faith Formation:** Stef Conklin
- **Evangelism and Fellowship:** Brooke Kenn

Please help congratulate these Council members and thank them for their willingness to serve this year. But more importantly, pray for them and help support them as they continue to move our ministry forward on behalf of the whole congregation. Members of the congregation are invited to attend meetings. Upcoming dates are March 19, April 16, May 21, June 11; meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

This Week at St. Mark's

Monday Office Closed	6-8pm Easter Egg Industry	6am: Meals on Wheels 7pm: Boy Scouts
Tuesday 3pm – 7pm	7pm Church Council	6am: Meals on Wheels 7 pm: Cub Scouts
Wednesday 10am – 12N	6-8pm Easter Egg Industry	6 am: Meals on Wheels 8:00pm: AA Group
Thursday 3 – 7pm	6-7 pm Dinner Church 7 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm Theology on Tap 7:45pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	6am: Meals on Wheels
Friday 10am – 12N	9-11am Easter Egg Industry	6am: Meals on Wheels 7 pm: AA / Al-Anon 8:30 AA Group
Saturday		7 pm: AA Group
Sunday	9:30 am – Worship Service 10:30am - Faith Formation	7 pm: AA Group

Welcome to St. Mark's, We're so glad you are with us today!

No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you have a place here. ***This is Christ's Church. There is a place for you here.*** We are a church that shares a living and daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person - questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Children are always welcome to participate in worship. To help our youngest worshippers, "Little Lutheran Activity Bags" are located in the rear of the sanctuary which have crayons and worship appropriate coloring pages. We offer a "Soft Space" for infants and toddlers to spread out a bit in during worship. Worshiping with children is important to us, and so we hope you find these things helpful so that you may worship together as a family.

Restrooms are located through the back left – exit the sanctuary, go up the stairs, through the first room to the end of the hallway. If you need assistance, please see the attendants (ushers) at the back of the sanctuary.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are welcome to be used to Post, Tweet and Instagram the "Good News" you hear today, but we kindly ask you to turn the sound off on them so that they do not cause a distraction to other worshippers.

Our team of ushers is available throughout the service to be of any assistance you might need. Assistive Listening devices are available. Please see an usher.

Are you new or visiting St. Mark's? If you would like to receive more information about St. Mark's, we have several methods where you can leave your information with us: Visitor books at the entrance to the sanctuary Yellow Visitor Cards in the pew backs, just drop them in the offering plate We would be delighted to keep you informed about the many events and opportunities here at St. Mark's and hope you will join us again.