



Welcome to St. Mark's! We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. For us as part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, this faith comes through the good news of Jesus Christ and gives us the freedom and the courage to wonder, discover and boldly participate in what God is up to in the world.

Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person — questions, complexities and all. We especially welcome those who are worshiping with us for the first time and invite you to join us again.

Attendance Register - Please sign and pass the black-covered "Attendance Register" found at the end of each pew. If you are visiting St. Mark's today, please include your address and contact information. Thank you!

Nursery - St. Mark's nursery is open for infants through 4 year old children whose parents are in worship or Faith Formation each Sunday morning from 8:15 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. We have two wonderful and devoted staff members, Sara Barone and Jenny Horton, assisted with many caring volunteers to watch over our youngest members and visitors. The nursery is located downstairs at the end of the hallway, near the back entrance (please ask ushers for assistance).

8:30 a.m.

GREETERS: Berry Carter

USHER(S): Mike Carter and Jeff Shoe

LECTOR: Don Mease

ACOLYTE: Macie Cline/Mackenzie Proefrock

10:30 a.m.

GREETER(S): Travis Tidwell

USHER(S): Terrie Tidwell / Carol Martz

LECTOR: Catherine Tyree

ACOLYTE: Keegan Tidwell/Wyatt Kraft

SHEPHERD OF THE WEEK: Susan Suther

***CONGREGATION STANDS**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
454 Fieldstone Road Mooresville, North Carolina
Church Office Phone 704-664-5474
Pastor Dave Keck
Associate Pastor Vern Kinard

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 2, 2022 - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

(The page numbers refer to the red ELW Worship Book found in the pews)

ELW HOLY COMMUNION SETTING 3

WELCOME

PRELUDE

GREETING AND KYRIE, Page 138-139

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing! Thank You for your presence and guidance in our lives throughout the past years and during 2021 too. It came and went with its own celebrations, concerns, and uncertainties. Yet You are our refuge and strength, our very present help in trouble, the Rock of Ages and the Light of the world. We begin this new year repenting of our sins from last year and asking you to guide our lives and faith.

Holy God, alpha and omega, the One who makes all things new, we confess our sin before you. Too often during the last year we replaced compassion with competition. We sought what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We were quick to anger but slow to forgive. Forgive us we pray, in Jesus' name. Lead us anew in 2022. Wrap us in the grace of your redeeming Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace that passes all understanding. And may all we do, in word or deed, reflect your love born among us, Jesus Christ. Amen.

As the angels declared: I bring you good news of great joy for all people!
God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. ☩ In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace.
AMEN.

HYMN 303, Brightest and Best, vs. 1-4

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

pew Bible p. 949

PSALM 147:1-4, 12-19 (*Read responsively by lector and congregation*)

¹ Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

² **How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!**

³ God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

⁴ **God counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.**

¹² Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³ **who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵ **God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

¹⁶ God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷ **God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

¹⁸ The Lord sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹ **God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel. Hallelujah!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, "Alleluia" Page 142

The Holy Gospel according to John the 1st chapter [1:1-5,14-18] pew Bible p. 862

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word... ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

THE SERMON

HYMN 417, In His Temple Now Behold Him

THE NICENE CREED P. 104

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, Page 144

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Page 144

THE LORD'S PRAYER, Page 145

THE LAMB OF GOD, Page 146

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

487 What Feast of Love

294 In the Bleak Midwinter

THE BLESSING

THE PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

HYMN 288, Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Happy New Year!

POSTLUDE



SAINT MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU!



Welcome
To St. Mark's

Welcome to Saint Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church!
Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ,
"Willkommen" in the language of Martin Luther.

Thank you for your presence and participation in worship
and in the body of Christ!

In worship today are people from Iredell, Rowan, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus and Lincoln counties, along with hundreds more on line from around the United States and Mexico. Some people here are "visiting" while others have worshiped here their whole life. Someone seated near you in this faith place is going through a transition in life – and that's why they are here – to pray for their expected baby, to be comforted following the death of a loved one, seeking hope or help for something stirring in their heart, and perhaps just to praise God and say thank you God.

So wherever you are from and whatever brought you to Saint Mark's (in addition to the Holy Spirit, your SUV or Santa's sleigh), welcome! Let's get to know one another better. Have a conversation with someone today. Meet someone new. Lift them up in prayer this week. After all, these Advent days here at the end of 2021, we are going through something. So we need one another along with the grace of Jesus, the love of God, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

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