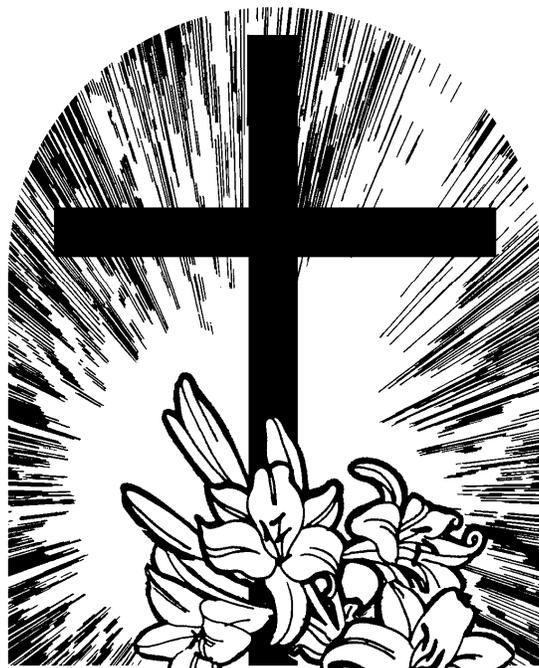


St. Mark's Lutheran Church



**"HE HAS
RISEN!"**

Luke 24:6

April 16, 2017
10:30 a.m.
Easter Day Worship

St. Mark's is a member of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod



Pastor Aaron Nitz
Principal Nathan Bitter
2220 Anne St NW, Bemidji, MN 56601
(218) 444-3939
www.stmarksbemidji.org

Welcome to Our Guests!

Good morning and a blessed Easter to all of you! Welcome to this celebration of Jesus' resurrection! We consider it a privilege to worship the living Lord with you this morning. If you have any questions regarding our Sunday services, weekly programs, or Christian day school, please talk with the pastor. We look forward to meeting you. Please come again and worship with us very soon!

A few notes:

- The order of worship is found in this folder
- Restrooms are located in the entry
- Our fellowship hall is equipped with a speaker and child-friendly toys
- Our service lasts about 65 minutes

Who is Easter for?

Today is the highlight of our year! Today is the day that makes all the difference in life and in death! The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the most important event in all of history, for it proves that Jesus is truly God, that our sins are forgiven, and that we will rise from the dead someday, too. What awesome blessings are ours since Christ lives! Today in our worship we will focus on the question: Who is Easter for? We'll do so in the series of three sermonettes. Blessings on your Easter worship!

Prayer before Worship

O Risen Savior, fill me with Easter joy! Remind me that You have been amazingly gracious to me, that I might be filled with Easter-confidence for this life and look with eager anticipation to life forever. In Your name I pray. Amen.

Preservice music will be used to help in quiet preparation for worship.

We Come into God's Presence

OPENING HYMN ¹

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (CW 157)

INVOCATION

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Amen.**

AN EASTER DIALOGUE

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed! ²

M: Let us rejoice and give thanks to God for the victory our Lord Jesus Christ won by his death and resurrection. It is for us that he has triumphed.

Christ died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: For God, who created light to shine out of darkness, made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live

¹ Easter marks the return of the most joyous word in the Church's vocabulary: Alleluia! It means "Praise the LORD!" At the beginning of Lent, seven weeks ago, the Church put that word away. Our worship was more muted and solemn as we focused on Christ's suffering and death. Now that Christ is risen, the Alleluias return.

a new life.

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

M: Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

C: Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Romans 6:4; 14:18; 1 Corinthians 15:54,55,57; 2 Corinthians 4:6; 5:17,17; Ephesians 5:8)

HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns (CW 341 v.1,3)

All sing: **Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

2 This is known as the *Paschal Greeting*, one of the oldest and most wide-spread traditions in the Christian church. Throughout the weeks of the Easter Season, whenever the minister says to the people, "Christ is risen!" they automatically respond, loudly and boldly, "He is risen indeed!"

M: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in the newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be dominion and praise now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated

CHOIR ANTHEM

“This Is Our Day of Praise!”

We Listen to God’s Word

EASTER GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 24:1-12 (NIV2011)

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” ⁸ Then they remembered his words.

⁹ When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹² Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 118A (see insert)

The choir will introduce the refrain and lead the congregation in singing the psalm.

This is a test psalm for the WELS Hymnal Project. Your feedback is welcome.

FIRST SERMONETTE

Mark 16:1-7 (NIV2011)

Who is Easter for? It's for the guilty

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ²Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

⁶"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.'"

HYMN

This Joyful Eastertide (CW 160 v.1,2)

All sing: **This joyful Eastertide Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified, Has sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.**

**Death's flood has lost its chill Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill My passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, who once was slain, Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain: But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.**

SECOND SERMONETTE

Job 19:23-27 (NIV2011)

Who is Easter for? It's for the hurting

²³ “Oh, that my words were recorded,
that they were written on a scroll,
²⁴ that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,
or engraved in rock forever!
²⁵ I know that my redeemer lives,
and that in the end he will stand on the earth.
²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed,
yet in my flesh I will see God;
²⁷ I myself will see him
with my own eyes—I, and not another.
How my heart yearns within me!

HYMN

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia (CWS 719)

THIRD SERMONETTE

I Peter 3:21-22 (NIV2011)

Who is Easter for? It's for YOU!

²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

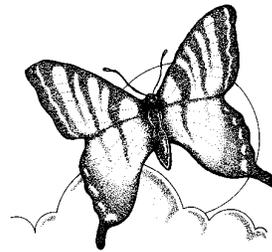
**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Be seated

We Respond to God's Word with
Thanks



OFFERING & FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS

The members of St. Mark's have joined together to spread God's message both in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. You are our guests, and we thank you for giving us the opportunity to share God's Word with you! Please take a moment to sign our friendship register.

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Minister: Heavenly Father, God of grace, you have brought us into a new and living hope by the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Congregation: Christ is risen!

M: For as in Adam all died, so in Christ all will be made alive.

C: He is risen indeed!

M: He was delivered over to death for our sins and raised to life for our justification.

C: Alleluia!

M: We marvel at the love you showed by your willingness to sacrifice your Son to pay for our sins; we bow down in adoration at your mighty power, which raised him from the dead.

C: We praise you for sending the true Life and Light into the world.

M: Lord Jesus, God of grace, you have filled our hearts with resurrection joy by your victory over sin, death, and the grave.

C: You have conquered the darkness and given us comfort and hope.

M: With the Church of every age, we offer you unending praise, for you have crushed Satan's head and have removed our guilt.

C: You are risen!

M: Dear Savior, we who are weary and burdened come to you for rest, knowing that because of your perfect redemption there is now no condemnation for us.

C: You are risen indeed!

M: Take away our doubts and fears, and daily renew in us the joy of our salvation.

C: Alleluia!

M: Holy Spirit, God of grace, you have called us by the gospel and brought us to saving faith in our risen Lord.

C: We glorify you for opening our eyes to see the light of life.

M: Keep us with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

C: He is risen!

M: As we journey through life, make us yearn for the day when you will give eternal life to us and all believers in Christ.

C: He is risen indeed!

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

M: Work through us as we proclaim the saving message of the crucified and risen Jesus near and far, so that many others may hear your call, obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, and join us before the throne of our God and of the Lamb.

C: Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Alleluia! Amen.

Be seated

HYMN

Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (CW 156 v.1,4,5)

All sing: **Awake, my heart, with gladness!
See what today is done;
Now, after gloom and sadness,
Comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid
Where our bed must be made
When to the realms of light
Our spirit wings its flight.**

(continued on next page)

**Now I will cling forever
To Christ, my Savior true;
My Lord will leave me never,
Whate'er he passes through.
He rends death's iron chain;
He breaks through sin and pain.
He shatters hell's dark thrall;
I follow him through all.**

**He brings me to the portal
That leads to bliss untold,
Whereon this rhyme immortal
Is found in script of gold:
"Who there my cross has shared
Finds here a crown prepared;
Who there with me has died
Shall here be glorified."**

Please stand

THE LORD'S PRAYER

M: Hear us, O Father, for the sake of him who is the firstborn of the dead and is now alive forevermore, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. It is in his name that we bring

this and every prayer to you, just as he taught:

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S BLESSING

M: Now may the glorious Father, who by his power raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, give you the Spirit of wisdom to know the hope to which he has called you. And may he preserve you in body, soul, and spirit until our own resurrection on the day of Christ Jesus.

M: Let all God's people say, "AMEN!"

C: AMEN!

M: CHRIST IS RISEN!

C: HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN

I Know That My Redeemer Lives (CW 152)



1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head!

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save.
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

(verse 3: Women)

3 He lives to bless me with his love;
He lives to plead for me above.
He lives, my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with his eye.
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears.
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

(verse 6: Men)

6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end.
He lives, and while he lives I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death.
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"

WELCOME!

If this is your first time worshiping with St. Mark's, we pray it will be the first of many times! If you have questions, please feel free to speak with Pastor Nitz or one of the members. Materials are available in the entry; take as much as you'd like.



IN OUR PRAYERS

Janet Bitzer (with health concerns)
Sally Carroll (with health concerns)
Ruth Willberg (with health concerns—cancer)
Mary Estabrooks (surgery)
Kevin Peterson (with health concerns—cancer)
East Fork Lutheran School (Befriend-A-Mission in Whiteriver, AZ)

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Early: 79 Late: 71 Total: 150

YOUR GIFTS OF LOVE FOR JESUS

"Just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving." (2 Corinthians 8:7)

Contributions last week \$5,979
Contributions needed each week \$5,122
Contributions year to date \$73,067
Budget year to date \$71,708
Amount borrowed from savings to meet expenses \$0

SERVING THE LORD AND US

Organist: Julie Bengtson
Greeters: Brett & Sherry W., Brenda W., Al & Cate B.
Ushers: J. Mathweg, R. Kuehn, L. Tasa, A. Tasa, B. Matzke, B. Boe
Church cleaning for 4/22: Wyman (Group Leader), E. Holderbecker, Merseth

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Announcements

SPRING CLEANING

The church spring cleaning will be Saturday, April 22 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please come and lend a hand if you are able; many hands make light work! If you are unable to help that day, as usual there will be a list of tasks that could be completed at your convenience.

APRIL VOTERS MEETING

There will be a voters meeting on Thursday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m. with a congregational open forum on Sunday, April 23 after late service (before the Time and Talent Auction).

TIME AND TALENT AUCTION

The Stewardship Board is again sponsoring our annual Time and Talent Auction on Sunday April 23, 2017. Mark your calendar for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Please consider making a donation to the auction and let the Stewardship Board (Doug Kranich, Tom Carroll, Brent Matzke, Paul Pfeiffer) know what you are donating.

MEALS ON WHEELS TIME!

Please see sign up sheet for week of April 24th through 28th. Any questions? Call Gary or Pat Berget 759-1321.

SOFTBALL

The 2017 church softball season will be starting up again mid May. There will be a sign up sheet for anyone interested in playing. Any questions, please see Nate Barckholtz.

LWMS SPRING RALLY – Saturday, April 29th: There are still some food items that are needed (as well as volunteers to serve, set-up, clean-up) for the LWMS Spring Rally that we are hosting (most members have been contacted via phone or email). The sign-up sheet is on the counter in the narthex for you to sign-up. Thanks for your help. Also, we look forward to having you at the rally for fellowship with ladies from the other congregations in our circuit.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr 16 (Sun)...	7:00 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Worship
	8:15 a.m.	Easter Breakfast
	9:15 a.m.	Movie
	10:30 a.m.	Easter Worship
Apr 17 (Mon)...		NO SCHOOL
Apr 18 (Tues)...	7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study @ Country Kitchen
Apr 19 (Wed)...	9:00 a.m.	Moms & Tots
	4:00 p.m.	First year confirmation
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship meal (<i>Council serves</i>) & Bible study
Apr 20 (Thur)...	5:00 p.m.	Our Promise at Your Baptism @ Lueken's north deli
Apr 22 (Sat)...	9:00 a.m.	Spring cleaning
Apr 23 (Sun)...	8:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School & Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Worship with Communion
	11:30 a.m.	Congregational open forum
	<i>followed by</i>	Time & Talent Auction

*If you would like to have St. Mark's online calendar synced with your Google calendar, you can choose "Add a friend's calendar" and put in: stmarkbemidji@gmail.com.

CONTACT INFORMATION

St. Mark's church & school	444-3939	
Pastor Aaron Nitz	766-0400	pastor@stmarksbemidji.org
Principal Nathan Bitter	759-0398	principal@stmarksbemidji.org
Elder Bob Boe	243-2888	
Chairman Trevor Holderbecker	766-7487	tj@stmarksbemidji.org
Website Editor Phil Avery	497-0223	web@stmarksbemidji.org
Announcements (bulletin or newsletter)		announce@stmarksbemidji.org

St. Mark's Mission Statement

We, the members of St. Mark's, are a Christ-centered church family that will **glorify** God, **grow** in His Word, and **go** with it to all.
(1 Corinthians 10:31, 2 Peter 3:18, Matthew 28:18-20)