



November 12, 2017  
Second Sunday of End Time  
Christian Education Sunday

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



Pastor Aaron Nitz  
Principal Nathan Bitter  
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## **Welcome to God's House of Worship!**

We consider it a privilege to worship our living Lord with you this morning! If you have any questions regarding our congregation, please talk with the pastor. We look forward to meeting you. Please come again and worship with us very soon!

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

## **Lord Keep Us... Passing the Truth on to the Next Generation**

We have entered a new season in the church year called "End Times." For the next three weeks we will take a look at what God tells us concerning things that will happen before Jesus returns in glory. Today we will set our eyes and hearts on that phrase of the Apostles' Creed: "He will come to judge the living and the dead." The day when Jesus will return as Lord of lords, King of kings, and Judge of all is most certainly coming. This day could come at any moment. On this day we will receive our salvation. Knowing that the end is coming helps motivate us to continue to share the truths with others - especially our children. Today we'll focus on growing in God's Word and passing on the truths of God's Word to others.

## **Prayer Before Worship**

Gracious Lord, Judge of all, forgive me for times when I've lived as if you would never return in judgment. Assure me this morning that because of what Jesus has done for me I know my verdict will be not guilty and heaven is my home. Help me to live alert, self-controlled, and longing for the day of my redemption. Amen.

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

## **We Enter God's Presence**

### **OPENING HYMN**

**Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending**

*Christian Worship Supplement 704*

*(printed on pages 12-13)*

*Please stand*

Minister: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our Heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**The King Will Come at Age's End (CWS 731)**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have committed to your Church the task of making disciples of all nations. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** *(sung)* **Amen.**

*Be seated*

## **We Listen to God's Word**

**FIRST LESSON**

**Deuteronomy 6:1-12, 20-25 (NIV2011)**

*The Lord wants us to impress the truths of His Word on our children.*

These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, <sup>2</sup>so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. <sup>3</sup>Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup>Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup>These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

<sup>7</sup>Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup>Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup>Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

<sup>10</sup>When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, <sup>11</sup>houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, <sup>12</sup>be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>20</sup>In the future, when your son asks you, “What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees and laws the LORD our God has commanded you?” <sup>21</sup>tell him: “We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. <sup>22</sup>Before our eyes the LORD sent signs and wonders—great and terrible—on Egypt and Pharaoh and his whole household. <sup>23</sup>But he brought us out from there to bring us in and give us the land he promised on oath to our ancestors. <sup>24</sup>The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today. <sup>25</sup>And if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness.”

## PSALM OF THE DAY

**Psalm 90**

*Page 99 in the front of the hymnal*

## SECOND LESSON

**Ephesians 6:1-4** (NIV2011)

*Fathers are given the responsibility to bring their children up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup>“Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise—<sup>3</sup>“so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”

<sup>4</sup>Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**Proverbs 2:6 cf. (NIV)**

**M:** Alleluia. The Lord gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. Alleluia.

**C:** *(sung)* **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Please stand for the highlight of the service: the Gospel.*

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV2011)**

*Jesus directs us to continue teaching His Word to all nations.*

<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**M:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** *(sung)* **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**O Lord, Our God, Your Gracious Hand**  
*Christian Worship 511*

**SERMON**

Theme: Taught Lifelong to Teach Lifelong

Text: **Psalm 71:17-18** (NIV2011)

<sup>17</sup> Since my youth, God, you have taught me,  
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

<sup>18</sup> Even when I am old and gray,  
do not forsake me, my God,  
till I declare your power to the next generation,  
your mighty acts to all who are to come.

*Please stand*

**CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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 FOR VETERANS DAY

**M:** Everlasting Protector and Defender, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 the guns of World War I went silent. To celebrate this armistice a holiday was made of this date. But, the world soon learned that the War to end all Wars did not. A series of wars followed with increased efficiency in killing. Thus the holiday was changed to honor everyone who has served in our nation's Armed Forces. We now call it Veterans Day.

**C:** **We thank you, Lord, for our military veterans. Through them you have provided us with blessings that people around the world envy.**

**M:** But the presence of our veterans reminds us of your warning that wars and rumors of wars will continue until the end of time.

**C:** **In your mercy, keep war from our shores, and frustrate the plans of all**

**those who would cause us terror.**

M: Lord of the Nations, we ask that you would continue to bless our country with men and women who are willing to go to distant and dangerous places to protect us from those who would do us harm.

**C: We pray that you will continue to bless us with veterans who have served faithful and true.**

M: Be with our veterans as they continue their march through life. Protect them from the ambush of sin and the firepower of Satan. Give them the health and strength they need to carry out the missions in life that you have laid before them.

**C: Be, Lord, their shield and strength, their guide and their rearguard. Give to them the peace that surpasses all understanding as they place their trust in Jesus.**

M: When their tour of duty in the world is over, give them the order to come home. Bring them to where there are no more wars.

**C: Grant unto them this blessing: when we are listening to taps being played over their grave, they may be listening to the joyous trumpet call of God and the music of heaven's choirs. Grant this for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

*Be seated*

**HYMN**

**Preach You the Word**

*Christian Worship 544*

*Please stand*

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(sung)* **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: *(sung)* **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**Forever with the Lord**

*Christian Worship 213*



*Following the final hymn the church bell will be rung concluding our worship hour.*





#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## WELCOME!

If this is your first time worshipping 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)  
Kevin Peterson (with health concerns—cancer)  
Milo Holderbecker (with health concerns)

## ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Early: 45    Late: 127    Total: 172

## 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 \$3,281  
Contributions needed each week \$5,122  
Contributions year to date \$222,315  
Budget year to date \$225,368  
Amount borrowed from savings to meet expenses \$0

## SERVING THE LORD AND US

Organists: Marjorie Gildersleeve, Jan Jason  
Greeters: John & Katrina S., Jan B., James & Rachel J.  
Ushers for November: T. Carroll, B. Wyman, N. Barckholtz, K. Peterson,  
P. Jones, T. Holderbecker, G. Berget, P. Ekhoﬀ  
Church cleaning for 11/18: N. Barckholtz, J. Barckholtz, Jewett, J. Johnson

# Announcements

## LUTHER PREP VISIT

Students from Luther Preparatory School (the high school where Pastor Nitz and Mrs. Joy Holderbecker attended) have been visiting Concordia Language villages. They will join us for worship today and present during the Bible class hour sharing about the ministry of Luther Prep.

## SAINTS TRIUMPHANT (NOV. 19)

Next week we will celebrate Saints Triumphant Sunday. Please submit names of loved ones (no matter how long ago) who have died in the Christian faith. On Saints Triumphant Sunday, as part of the worship service, their names will be read and recognized as believers who have gone before us and are already now enjoying the Marriage Feast of the Lamb. Please submit the names to Pastor Nitz in person, by email ([pastor@stmarksbemidji.org](mailto:pastor@stmarksbemidji.org)), or by phone ([218-766-0400](tel:218-766-0400)). Thank you!

## THANKSGIVING DINNER (NOV. 19)

St. Mark<sup>®</sup> will host our annual Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday, November 19 after second service. Please plan to come and bring a friend or family member! We will have an opportunity to share our blessings with those in need through a freewill offering for WELS Christian Aid & Relief. Please look for the signup sheet if you are able to bring food. See Debra Newell if you have any questions.

## LADIES GUILD MEETING (NOV. 19)

All women are encouraged to attend the quarterly Ladies Guild meeting next Sunday immediately following the Thanksgiving dinner.

## LUTHER MOVIE

We finally have a firm date set for the showing of the Luther movie "A Return to Grace" at the Bemidji theater. It will be Thursday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. Purchase your tickets online using the link on St. Mark<sup>®</sup> webpage. We need to sell a minimum of 100 tickets by November 30 for the movie to be shown.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>Nov 12 (Sun)...</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship</b> (Christian Education)
	9:15 a.m.	Bible Class (Luther Prep presentation) & Sunday School
	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship</b>
Nov 13 (Mon)...	7:00 p.m.	Resilient Ministry
Nov 14 (Tues)...	7:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study @ Country Kitchen
	10:00 a.m.	Home School Group
	6:00 p.m.	Choir rehearsal
Nov 15 (Wed)...	4:00 p.m.	Confirmation class
	6:00 p.m.	Parenting workshop
Nov 16 (Thurs)...	9:00 a.m.	Moms & Tots
Nov 18 (Sat)...	10:00 a.m.	Jesus Cares
<b>Nov 19 (Sun)...</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship with Communion</b> (Saints Triumphant)
	9:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship with Communion</b>
	11:45 p.m.	Thanksgiving dinner
	<i>Followed by</i>	Ladies Guild meeting

\*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	
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Principal Nathan Bitter	759-0398	<a href="mailto:principal@stmarksbemidji.org">principal@stmarksbemidji.org</a>
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## 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)