SUNDAYS AT SAINT MARK

<table>
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<tr>
<th>8:30 AM</th>
<th>9:45 AM</th>
<th>11:00 AM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Celebration Service</td>
<td>Forum, Sunday School &amp; Godly Play</td>
<td>Traditional Service</td>
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**Lent Begins with Ash Wednesday!**

Be sure to make some time during your Lenten journey to worship mid-week on Wednesdays at Saint Mark (or on March 4 at Christ the Good Shepherd ... see schedule below). A light lunch will be served at Saint Mark after the noon Service.

**Wednesday - March 4**

12:05 noon **Lenten Worship with soup lunch** at Saint Mark
5:45 p.m. Soup Potluck at Christ the Good Shepherd
6:30 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer at Christ the Good Shepherd
7:00 p.m. Let’s Talk

**Remaining Wednesdays of Lent - March 11, 18, 25, April 1**

12:05 noon **Lenten Worship with soup lunch** at Saint Mark

Theme: Making Change

6:30 p.m. **Holden Evening Prayer** at Saint Mark

Saint Mark’s labyrinth will be available 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each Wednesday!
Pastor's ReMarks...

Whether we like it or not, change is a constant in our lives. Some changes mark welcome gradual transitions, as when day turns to night and night to day or as when winter turns to spring. To experience or witness love blossoming between two individuals is a change that may have lifelong ramifications. Other changes, often unwelcome, happen in the blink of an eye. Some changes we may choose to undergo after carefully considering all our options, while others are forced upon us.

Change is hard. We like the expected and the familiar, but all too often find ourselves in the midst of precarious uncertainty. We don’t like not being able to predict how things will turn out.

The midweek Lenten theme this year is “Making Change.” See the related article in the Marker for dates, times and locations. The fact that we are partnering with Christ the Good Shepherd and Holy Cross for these services is a change that we have to become accustomed to in the coming years.

At the services we will be exploring the classic Lenten readings from Year A mostly from the Gospel of John. These are stories where Jesus creates the possibility of change and new life. Lent 1 portrays the devil trying to change Jesus through temptation but perhaps the greater reality is that Jesus may be changing the devil (Matthew 4:1-11). In Lent 2 (John 3:1-17), Jesus challenges Nicodemus to be born from above. In Lent 3 (John 4:5-42), Jesus offers the Samaritan woman the living water that quenches all thirst. Lent 4 (John 9:1-41) finds Jesus giving sight to the blind man and in Lent 5 (John 11:1-45), Jesus raises Lazarus from the grave.

At the recent Byberg preaching conference, I was impressed with Dr. Caroline Lewis’ presentation on these Gospel readings from John. During the forums on Sunday mornings in Lent starting March 8, I will share some of her insights as we dig deep into these encounters with Jesus that so dramatically change these peoples’ lives.

The journey of Lent is ultimately about change in our lives. That change is only made possible through the Ultimate Change initiated by God through Jesus’ crucifixion, resurrection and ascension. Can you imagine the change wrought upon the lives of the disciples as they witnessed these events?

This Lent, examine where you need to make changes in your life. Offer these places to God, even the hopeless ones. As we walk together with Jesus to the cross, know that you are not alone in your struggle with change. Our community walking together with Jesus is far greater than the sum of each individual. Change may be constant but so is God’s love for you.

Shalom, Pastor Charles

GRATITUDE! HERE AND NOW

Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy and change ordinary opportunities into blessings. —William Arthur Ward

Lord, lead us to a more grateful heart. Amen
Saint Mark Lenten and Holy Week Schedule
Lent begins with Ash Wednesday at the end of this month. Here is what Council has approved for this year as we share our faith with Holy Cross and Christ the Good Shepherd (CG SLC:) Lutheran Churches. We will be at their church as well as they will be joining us for worship at various times during Lent.

Ash Wednesday
February 26 – 12:05 & 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes at Saint Mark

Wednesday
March 4
12:05 noon Lenten Worship with soup lunch at Saint Mark
5:45 p.m. Soup Potluck at Christ the Good Shepherd
6:30 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer at Christ the Good Shepherd
7:00 p.m. Let’s Talk

Remaining Wednesdays of Lent
March 11, 18, 25, April 1
12:05 noon Lenten Worship with soup lunch at Saint Mark
  Theme: Making Change
  6:30 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer at Saint Mark

Maundy Thursday
April 9
12:05 p.m. Holy Communion & Foot Washing at Saint Mark
7:00 PM at Holy Communion & Foot Washing at Christ the Good Shepherd (No evening worship at Saint Mark)

Good Friday
April 10
12:00 noon Stations of the Cross at Holy Cross
  (No noon worship at Saint Mark)
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae at Saint Mark

Easter Vigil
April 11
7:00 p.m. Worship at Saint Mark

Easter
April 12
9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Breakfast served
11:00 AM Festival Worship at Saint Mark

The Labyrinth at Saint Mark will be available to walk on Wednesdays in Lent and all of Holy Week, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. You are invited to walk the labyrinth with others each Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in Lent.
Lenten Fair Forum
Everyone is invited to consider what the season of Lent can mean for you this coming Sunday, March 1st, during an intergenerational gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Explore symbols of Lent, pick up your Lenten devotional, contribute to a group art project, help with a Backpack Buddies packing and make a tasty symbol of praying hands. Gather at 9:45 a.m. and roam through the various stations with your friends and family.

Bath Towels & Soap
Every year during Lent we collect bath towels for Lutheran World Relief. We can send towels that have been used but are still okay as long as they do not have holes in them, and look nice. Also, we need 4 oz. bars of hand soap. Your donations are always appreciated. You are welcome to join us on Friday mornings to tie quilts at 9:30 a.m. in room 107 (downstairs in the education wing). Come join us!

Where Would You Rather Be This July 4-10th?
The group going to Holden Village this summer is getting excited about this special week. The presenters and musicians will be awesome (see Village Voice for more). We have room for one more male in our reservation, and Deb has a "waiting list" for others whose plans could change so they can go, too. If you'd like more information, please let Deb know.

Time for Soup?
We will be offering an opportunity to break bread together following the noon Lenten services each Wednesday, March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1st. If you are able to help with set up, clean up, or making soup or bread, please let Deb know as soon as possible. It would be great to have at least two or three to assist each Wednesday.

Egg Cartons
Marion/Polk Food Share says NO MORE egg cartons. So, please recycle them where you can or sadly, throw them away. We are no longer collecting egg cartons here at the church!

Spring Work Days at Camp Lutherwood
Join them on Saturday, May 2, and June 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. for work days at Camp Lutherwood. There will be projects or all ages and abilities. Lunch will be provided. The June 6th work day will include the new building dedication!

**Forums**

Education with Forums will generally be held in the lounge at 9:45 a.m. Here are topics to look forward to:

- **March 1** – Lenten Fair - Intergenerational
- **March 8-29** – Series on the Gospel of John, presenter will be Pastor Charles. These forums in Lent will take a deep dive into the Gospel readings from John.

**BookMarkers**

The BookMarkers is meeting each month. Join in any time the book sounds interesting to you or come monthly. They meet in the church library each second Sunday of the month at 3:30 p.m., except when noted.

- **March 8** – Audrey Schackel  
  *The Radium Girls* by Kate Moore

On Sunday, April 19th, BookMarkers will meet at the home of Bill & Jeanne Innis (1517 Court NE) at 2:00 p.m. for the *Selection Party* for 2020. *All are welcome to attend*, but please bring a food dish and a drink to share. Table service and beverages will be provided.

Also, please bring 2-3 book suggestions and be able to share a brief summary of each book. We will vote on one of your books to read this year, and you will facilitate conversation on your book for the month when it is scheduled. After each book is selected we will make a complete schedule for our books for the entire year of 2020. If a conflict arises with your month chosen, we will make an adjustment. Any questions? Contact Bill or Jeanne Innis at 503.967.6002 or 503.522.9980 or binnis@grange.com

**Endowment Gift Thanks: Union Gospel Simonka Place**

"Hello St. Mark.... ...Thank you so much for your generous gift. Without the support of community members like you we would not have been able to provide safe shelter, warm and nutritious food three times a day, clothing & other basic necessities for over 90+ women and children every night. *God bless you* and all who call St. Marks their church home for your gifts of love and compassion for the women & children who call Simonka Place home.” Kathy Smith, Director

**Community Homeless Connect 2020**

Community Homeless Connect is a chance to offer hope and new opportunities on March 24 and 25 starting at 8 a.m. The event will take place at Salem First Baptist Church and bring together 50 plus providers with the help of community volunteers. Volunteer information is available at signup.com or salemif.org/connect2020. Donation items
needed are: sleeping bags, tents, socks, hats, gloves, coats, scarves, tarps, and any other clothing items you can spare. Saint Mark will have a collection barrel in the narthex for donated items. Let's be a part of the solution and help our unsheltered brothers and sisters.
GRATITUDE!
He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 NIV

Daily Blessings/Reflections
❖ Today I am grateful for...
❖ Today I ask God...

Sunday:

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:
Worship Information

Worship Attendance:
Sunday, February 16 - 8:30 a.m.: 51
Sunday, February 16 - 11:00 a.m.: 95
Sunday, February 23 - 8:30 a.m.: 30
Sunday, February 23 - 11:00 a.m.: 73

BUS DRIVER - February
Leon Wolfe

BUS DRIVER - March
Joass Lyatuu

Amazon.SMILE
Saint Mark is now on Amazon.Smile! Use https://smile.amazon.com/ch/93-0417819 to help us with donations! Use your own Amazon account but when you check out, look to see if you can donate to your favorite charitable organization ... US! Thank you in advance for any donations that might come our way (only some items you purchase will apply!).

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<th>Welcoming</th>
<th>Journeying</th>
<th>Reaching</th>
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<tr>
<td>All in Christ</td>
<td>Together in Faith</td>
<td>Out in Service</td>
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