



“Here is an astonishing thing!”

3/19/2023

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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611 WOODVILLE ROAD

Toledo, Ohio 43605

Website: stmarktoledo.com

Traditional Worship: 8:30 am

Contemporary Worship: 10:30 am

Pastor: Beth Giller

Youth & Family Life Director: Emily Hemminger

Music Director: Cheryl Dunlap

President: Tom Ritter

Pastoral Care: Cindy Ritter

Organist: Kim Fletcher

Vice President: Andrew English

WELCOME TO ST. MARK! If you are a visitor please worship with us again. Please send us an email if you are a guest, or need to update your information or you need assistance to smlc.office@yahoo.com. We also want to know if there have been any changes to your address or phone number, you can call the office or email with the new information. Upon entrance to the lobby from the parking lot, **AN ELEVATOR** is located down the corridor immediately to the right. It will take you to the sanctuary. **ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are available from an usher.

LENT – 2023 The Story of Jesus: Each week we will explore one of the stories of Jesus' life, guided by our beautiful windows and the Bible study authored by Bishop Daniel Beaudoin. Lent will continue Wednesdays, March 1 – March 29, with evening services at 7 p.m.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES – April 5 - We will enjoy a meal in remembrance of Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. A donation of at least \$10 a person is gratefully accepted to cover the cost of the meal. Reservations are required. Please reserve by Sunday, April 2nd. Call the office to reserve, (419) 691-3597. **April 6 -** Maundy Thursday at 7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion and Stripping the Altar. **April 7 -** Good Friday at 7:30 p.m. with Tenebrae Service of Darkness. **April 8 -** Easter Egg Hunt and family event 11 am - 1 pm. **April 9 -** Easter 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. Celebration Services with Holy Communion. **April 16 -** Bishop Daniel Beaudoin will be our guest preacher.

SIMPLY GIVING provides an automated way for your commitment to St. Mark to be carried out. Your offering through Simply Giving can be withdrawn weekly, semi-monthly, monthly or any number of ways. Forms can be found at the Welcome Center, or through the church office, or by visiting www.stmarktoledo.com and clicking on "Give" at the top of the page.

10:30 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 19, 2023

*(Lyrics & liturgy will be available on the
screen or at the page numbers listed below)*

Prelude

Announcements

Song – “Lion And The Lamb” *page 8*

Confession And Forgiveness *page 1*

Prayer Of the Day *page 3*

Children’s Sermon

Song – “Open The Eyes of My Heart” *page 8*

Scripture – John 9:1-41 *page 4*

Sermon – “An Astonishing Thing” Pastor Beth Giller

Offering – “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)” *page 9*

Prayers *page 6*

Lord’s Prayer *page 7*

Closing Song – “I Am Free” *page 10*

Benediction

Dismissal *page 7*

Postlude

8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 19, 2023

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #611 – “I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY”

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who journeys with us these forty days,
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

Amen.

Let us acknowledge before God and one another
our need for repentance and God’s mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
**we confess to you our faults and failings.
Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;
we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;
we spoil rather than steward your creation;
we cause hurt though you call us to heal;
we choose fear over compassion.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
as we seek to follow in your way of life.**

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God so loved the world that God gave the only Son,
so that all may receive life.

This promise is for you!

God embraces you with divine mercy,

✙ forgives you in Christ’s name,

and revives you in the Spirit’s power.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE (*Sung responsively. Music on p. 138 in front of hymnal*)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (*Music found on p. 140 in hymnal*)

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might

be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

PSALM 23

- ¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**
³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

The reading is from Ephesians chapter 5 verses 8-14.

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; ¹³but everything

exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful.
Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

The holy gospel according to John chapter 9, verses 1-41.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹²They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such

signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – “AN ASTONISHING THING”

PASTOR BETH GILLER

HYMN #779 – “AMAZING GRACE, HOW SWEET THE SOUND”

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.**

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PRAYERS

P. Lord, in your mercy,
C. **Hear our prayer.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

**P. Go in peace, serve the Lord,
C. Thanks be to God.**

HYMN #793 – “BE THOU MY VISION”

POSTLUDE

LYRICS

LION AND THE LAMB

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Verse 1

He's coming on the clouds
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
Every chain will break
As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord almighty?

Chorus

*Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power and fighting
our battles
Every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that
was slain
For the sins of the world, His blood
breaks the chains
Every knee will bow before the Lion
and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him*

Verse 2

Open up the gates
Make way before the King of Kings
The God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord almighty?

Chorus

Bridge

Who can stop the Lord almighty?
Who can stop the Lord almighty?
Who can stop the Lord almighty?
Who can stop the Lord almighty?
Who can stop the Lord?

Chorus

OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART

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Open the eyes of my heart, Lord,
Open the eyes of my heart;
I want to see You.
I want to see You. (repeat)

To see You high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your pow'r and love as we
sing.

Holy, Holy, Holy. (to beginning)

*Holy, Holy, holy.

Holy, Holy, holy.

Holy, Holy, holy.

I want to see You. (repeat from * to
end)

AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)

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Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I am found
Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Chorus

*My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns
Unending love amazing grace*

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

Chorus 2 x's

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

I AM FREE

Words and music by Jon Egan © Vertical Worship Songs CCLI license #1526594

Verse 1

Through You the blind will see, Though You the mute will sing.
Through You the dead will rise, Through You our hearts will praise...
Through You the darkness flees, Through You my heart screams
I am free, Yes I am free

Chorus

(echo)

<i>I am free to run,</i>	<i>I am free to run</i>
<i>I am free to dance,</i>	<i>I am free to dance</i>
<i>I am free to live for You,</i>	<i>I am free to live for You</i>
<i>I Am Free,</i>	<i>I am free</i>
<i>Yes, I Am Free,</i>	<i>I Am Free</i>

Verse 2:

Through You the kingdom comes, Through You the battles won...
Through You I'm not afraid, Through You the price is paid...
Through You there's victory, Because of You my heart sings
I Am Free, Yes I Am Free

Chorus

Bridge

Who the Son sets free, is free indeed
Who the Son sets free, is free indeed

Chorus

ACOLYTE (8:30 Service) – Chris Rife

LECTOR (8:30 Service) – Jan Tipton

DARTBALL ANNOUNCEMENT – A team effort led to a 3-game sweep of Messiah. The hitting heroes were Arnie Brossia, Tim Keefe, Greg Smith, Joe Disher and Mark Padley each hitting a homerun. The team stands at 24 wins and 9 losses.

LET’S BUILD BEDS – Let's Build Beds is a local non-profit organization that wants to make sure every child in need across northwest Ohio has a bed to sleep on, and you can help! You can donate your time during our event on Saturday, May 6th from 9am-12pm where we will help build beds, or you can donate money (\$200 buys the lumber, mattress, and bedding for one bed) our goal is \$10,000, or 50 beds. To sign up or donate online, visit: smarktoledo.com/letsbuildbeds.

FAMILY EASTER CELEBRATION – Join us on Saturday, April 8th at St. Mark from 11am – 1pm and celebrate Easter with us! This is a free event. We will have crafts, activities, breakfast, an egg hunt, Easter Bunny meet-n-greet, Easter story adventure and more! Please call (419) 691-3597 to RSVP by Sunday, April 2nd.

PICKLEBALL & CORNHOLE – Meeting on Mondays at 12:30 pm as well as the 2nd & 4th Fridays of every month from 6-9 pm in the St. Mark Gym. We can adjust to other Fridays or some mornings if needed. We’ll leave paddles and balls in a bag in Ladies Lounge if Mike Rokicki or Brad Isbell can’t be there.

BIBLE STUDY – Join the “Story of Jesus” Bible study during Lent at St. Mark! This 6 session study is being offered Tuesday evenings in person AND on Zoom at 7:11pm (Feb. 28 – Apr. 4) and Wednesday mornings at 10 am (Mar. 1- Apr. 5). Our focus is to learn and share the “Story of Jesus.” All are welcome and bring a friend.

FOOD PANTRY – We are looking for peanut butter donations. If you can help, please place them in the bin in the lobby by the Welcome Desk. Thank you!

MARCH MADNESS YOUTH TRIP FUNDRAISER - \$20 per entry, (100 total spots) with 64 chances to win throughout the tournament and ability to win multiple times! Half of the money collected will go straight to the youth summer trip to Washington state, the other half comes back to the participants in prize money! You can either give cash directly to Samantha, or Venmo at: [samantharaye94](https://www.venmo.com/samantharaye94). Please contact Samantha English at sam.english1105@gmail.com with questions.

**At St. Mark, we glorify Jesus Christ when we KNOW, LIVE,
and SHARE the Word.**

**We KNOW the Word through study of the Bible, worship, and developing and
nurturing relationships with Jesus and others.**

**We LIVE the Word through prayer, perseverance,
and the power of the Spirit.**

We SHARE the Word by boldly crossing boundaries, welcoming all.