



ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS=Caring and Conservative)
3930 S. 19th Street Lincoln, NE 68502 Office phone: 402-423-1497 Vacancy Pastor's Cell:402- 440-8145

Ministers: Every member President: Larry Hans Incoming Pastor: Joel Vogel

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church exists to make Disciples of Christ Jesus, the only Savior from sin and eternal death. (Mt. 28:19, Acts 4:10-12, John 20:31)

February 22, 2015

Worship Sunday 9 AM Monday 7PM

Lent One/Christian Education Celebration Sunday

Sunday School & Family Bible Study Hour-10:20AM

Pastor's Opening Greeting and Focus for Worship

Opening Hymn of Praise: "Your Children" Words by R Schupmann; Tune – CW 538

Bless, Lord, your little children and keep them ever true.

Let not the evil spirit draw them away from you.

Protect them when they wander; let angels hold them tight;
And give them faithful parents to teach them what is right.

And as your children grow, Lord, may faith and trust in you
Guide them throughout their lifetime in everything they do.

Give them the will to stand, Lord, to finish life's hard race
And, fi-nally, in glory see Jesus face to face.

Your children soon are gone, Lord. They'll grow and move away.
To look for life's great fortunes, they'll strive from day to day.

Let not their thirst for riches keep them from you above,
But let them seek you first, Lord, and your abiding love.

They will look back on life now. Your children will grow old.

They'll seek your consolation in prayers to you bold.
Hold out to them, O Savior, relief from pain and strife.

And when their days are over grant them eternal life.

P: We gather together this morning to worship the Triune God of our salvation.

C: We come into this house of worship to praise the Father Who created us, the Son Who redeemed us, and the Holy Spirit Who brought us to faith.

Our Confession of Sins:

P: In John chapter 21 we hear how Jesus commanded Peter whom He was reinstating, “Feed my Lambs; Take care of my sheep; Feed my sheep”. From these commands we see how important it is to our Lord that His flock be cared for and nurtured in the Word of God. We as a Christian congregation and as individuals are to take these commands seriously-both for our own soul’s sake and for the sake of the souls entrusted to our care as a congregation. Let us go to our Savior now and confess to Him our many sins which concern the improper “care and feeding” of our faith and the faith of others.

C: Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd, Who has laid down Your life for us Your sheep...please forgive us for the times we have not taken seriously the command to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (II Peter 3:18) While we would never neglect the feeding of our bodies, we have too often compromised the feeding of our souls by exposing ourselves to all kinds of influences that lead us away from your saving truth. We have spent far too much time watching T.V. instead of hearing your Word; we have listened to the voices of this evil world and have neglected our soul’s needs; we have too often concerned ourselves more with surviving in this world than with surviving this world and standing with You in heaven. We deserve Your anger and Your just punishment for our sins! Please forgive us and help us to focus once again on proper priorities for our lives.

P: Your Savior lives and loves to forgive His fallen children. Just as He reinstated His fallen disciple Peter, so too, He reinstates us and comforts us and gives us direction and strength in our ministries rendered to Him. He gets us back on our feet, motivated by His love and forgiveness to run the race marked out for us for His glory!!!

C: Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift!

Prayer of the Day:

P: 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: Amen.

God’s Word Our Focus:

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 40:9-11

You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" 10 See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. 11 He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Our Solemn Vow: Psalm 78

Pastor: O my people, hear my 'teaching;

Congregation: listen to the words 'of my mouth.

P: I will utter things 'from of old,

C: what we have heard and what our fathers have 'told us.

P: We will not hide them from our 'children;

C: we will tell the next generation the praise worthy deeds 'of the Lord.

P: The Lord decreed statutes for 'Jacob

C: and established the law in 'Israel,

P: so the next generation would 'know them,

C: and they in turn would tell their 'children.

P: Then they would put their 'trust in God

C: and would not forget his deeds but would keep 'his commands.

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 2:6-10

We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. 7 No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him"-- 10 but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

We Confess our Common Faith: The Second Article

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is sitting at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn of the Day: CW 449 “Children of the Heavenly Father

SERMON TEXT: John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Theme: Truly Something to Celebrate - The Savior’s Gift of PEACE!

The St. Mark Junior Choir: “I Give You Peace”

The Offering is Received (a small token of our gratitude for all our many gifts received)

Prayer:

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, you see our young people growing up in an uncertain and confusing world. Send your Holy Spirit into their hearts that they may continue to grow in grace and wisdom. Give them strength to resist temptation and courage to meet the challenges of each new day. Show them that following you is more satisfying than pursuing selfish goals. Make their unique gifts and youthful vitality a blessing to their families, to the Church, and to all others their lives may touch, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen

Hymn: CW 508 “Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd”



Prayer of the Church and Lord’s Prayer

P: Let us pray to the God of all knowledge and wisdom that the Church may be renewed and strengthened for her mission.

Silent prayer.

P: O Lord, you have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and for using what we have learned to exploit and hurt others. Cleanse our guilty hearts of the apathy we feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.

C: Holy Spirit, hear our prayer that we may put self aside and rejoice in the truth that builds up.

P: Heavenly Father, send the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts so that like the Bereans of old we eagerly learn of you. As the deer pants for streams of water, may we be instilled with a longing to explore the mysteries of your grace.

C: Holy Spirit, increase in us the knowledge of your truth.

P: As you sent your Son among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of schools, colleges, and seminaries to train those who proclaim your presence among us in Word and sacrament.

C: Holy Spirit, instill in us a desire to teach others the wisdom of your ways.

P: God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this dark age.

C: Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

P: Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth so that at the name of Jesus every knee may bow.

C: May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

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All: 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.

The Benediction (from Jude 24)

Pastor: To Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy to the only God, our Savior, be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!

Closing Hymn: CW 512 “Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds”

OUR WEEK IN THE LORD AT ST. MARK

- Monday - Worship Service 7:00 pm
- Wednesday - Children’s Service 8:30 am
- Bible Class Lexington Assisted Living Center 3:30 pm
- Catechism Class 6:00 pm
- Lenten Service 7:00 pm
- Lent Cookie Fellowship-following the Lenten Service
- Thursday - Bible Class 6:30 am
- Saturday -Church Cleaning: Sec. 1 Lee Sec. 2 Lindblad Sec. 3 Jami / Jared Marker

Lent Cookie Fellowship: Everyone is invited to join the St. Mark PTO for a cookie fellowship following the Lenten Service on Wednesday, February 25. Hope to see you there!

St. Mark Lutheran Church and School	
3930 S. 19th Street, Lincoln, NE 68502 www.stmarklincoln.org	
School website— www.stmarkles.org (phone) 402-423-1497	
<u>Vacancy Pastor</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Tim Kemnitz	Jeremiah Drews (4-8, Principal)
Cell (402) 440-8145	Cell (402) 480-1940
	Eva Van Egmond (K-3)
	Cell (920) 210-9813

St. Mark News and Notes

THANK YOU FOR SERVING

- Elders:** Nate Workentine, Ben Schroeder
- Usher:** Mark Schwede, Larry Hans
- Greeters:** Carol Hans
- Organist:** Cindy Krushenisky

Birthdays— Samfrances Daharsh 2/22, Ethan Riegsecker 2/23, Heather Wathor 2/25, Suzi Vanschoiack 2/26, Payton Mackenzie 2/27, Margaret Everts 2/28 **Anniversaries—** Harold & Sharon Klein 2/24, Gordon & Shirley Zacherson 2/25, Gary & Joan Mundt 2/25

Kitchen Towels—Several towels and wash clothes for the church kitchen have been disappearing. As a reminder, if you brought any of these home to wash and haven’t returned them, please do. *Thank you!*

Join Us at 10:20—11:10 am

Sunday School and Bible Class—The Foundations: Psalm 11:3

Moving Expense Fund In order for us to be prepared as possible for our new pastor, we ask you to consider a gift for the Moving Expense Fund. You may write “Moving Expense Fund” on the envelope and put this special gift into the offering plate.

Easter Flowers - The Ladies Aid will be purchasing Easter lilies, tulips and mums for the altar. If anyone is interested in helping to purchase these flowers a freewill donation will be accepted. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the entryway. Please make checks out to Elfi Lee and give to her, or put checks or money in her church mailbox by March 22.