



**St. Mark's**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Celebrating 75 Years*

## *Baptism of Our Lord*

January 11, 2026



*Growing together in faith to abundantly  
nourish our community*

200 Longwood Drive SE  
Huntsville, AL 35801  
256.539.4361 | [stmarkshsv.org](http://stmarkshsv.org) | [@stmarkshsv](https://www.instagram.com/stmarkshsv)

# *In Worship Today...*

## *Jesus the Beloved*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements | Call to Worship

Gathering Song: **House of the Lord**

Thanksgiving for Baptism | **This is the Feast**

Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Isaiah 42:1-9 | Acts 10:34-43

Gospel Acclamation with Alleluia | Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **Down Galilee's Slow Roadways**

Apostle's Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: **Forever & Amen**

Offertory Response: **Jesus, the Light of the World** | Offertory Prayer

Communion Liturgy with **Holy, Holy, Holy**

Distribution: **Agnus Dei** | **Who You Say I Am**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Hymn: **Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun**

Dismissal | Postlude: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty arr. Carolyn Hamlin

## *Worship Assistants*

Assisting Minister: Dane Williams | Lector: Crystal Peden | Acolyte: Dax Gradl

Communion Assistants: Dax Gradl, Jed Deason, Crystal Peden, Daniel White

Greeter: Karen Cunningham | Ushers: Rodney & Phyllis Hutchins | AV Tech: Rob Caple

## *St. Mark's Celebrates Open Communion*

which means none are turned away from Christ's table. We believe Christ is fully present in the bread and wine, and no less present in our gluten-free and alcohol-free options. If you wish instead to receive a blessing, you may signify this by crossing your arms over your chest.

## *We Welcome the Joy, Laughter, Sights, and Sounds of Children in Worship!*

There are children's worship activity bags available - just ask our ushers. If a moment out of the sanctuary is needed, a toy-filled nursery and changing table are available too, however, we ask that an adult family member stay present at all times.

## *Altar Flowers*

Sign up in Communication Central (bulletin board by the restrooms) to dedicate altar flowers. Arrangements are \$30/each and many spots are available on the 2026 calendar!

## *By the Numbers: Sunday, January 4, 2026*

### Sunday Attendance:

In Person Worship: 130 | Online Views: 39 | Sunday Learning: N/A

### General Offerings

Last Week: \$11,945 | YTD: \$11,945 | 2026 Budget: \$808,449

For your convenience, online giving can be accessed through this QR Code:



## *This Week We are Praying for...*

All of those affected by gun violence, especially in Minneapolis, MN and Salt Lake City, UT. We pray that all may reject this sinful system that continues to terrorize and kill our neighbors | Tourists and travelers stranded in Yemen, Venezuela, and across the Caribbean | St. Mark's Learning classes as they begin to meet again after the Christmas break. May they be filled with a spirit of friendship and excitement for new knowledge across all ages | Those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Jean Ann, Pat, Teri, Ron, Meg, Suzy, Frank, Bonnie, Myra and the friends and family of Maureen Erickson.

## *Prayer Requests*

A Prayer Ministry email with joys, concerns, and sorrows is sent weekly on Wednesday. Email [prayer@stmarkshsv.org](mailto:prayer@stmarkshsv.org) if you have any prayers to lift up or would like to receive this email. You may also write your prayer requests on a pew pad and place them in the offering plate.

## *Welcome Visitors- We're so glad you're here with us!*

Our greeters and ushers are ready to help answer any questions before or during worship in the hallway and gathering space outside the sanctuary. Restrooms and the nursery are past the gathering space out the North doors of the sanctuary. If you would like to stay in touch with St. Mark's, please write down your contact information on the pew pad and put it in the offering plate or fill out our online visitor form using this QR code also available in our St. Mark's welcome bag!



## *Ready to Get Online?*

Wi-Fi is available using the SMLC Guest network with password: GrowingTogether

## *Mitzvah Day– January 18*

A mitzvah often refers to a good deed, an act of kindness, or a way of connecting with God. To that end, Temple B'nai Sholom, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Huntsville, and St. Mark's Lutheran Church are joining together to make a mitzvah! On January 18, from 11:30am - 4pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Huntsville (3921 Broadmor Rd), we'll spend the afternoon working side by side to support our wider community, along with partners from WellStone and the Humane Society. A pizza lunch (a suggested donation of \$5 per family is appreciated) and opportunities for children and youth will be available.

## *St. Mark's Family Cookbook*

As a fun family project for the 75th anniversary, we are putting together a cookbook featuring family-favorite recipes, stories, and pictures. We invite you to share a little about your home family with our church family. And pictures! They can be of your dish, your family, or something related to the story you tell. Submit your recipe and stories online or by filling out a paper form and returning it to the church office. If you have any questions, please talk to Traci.

## *St. Mark's Photo Directory*

As part of our 75th Anniversary celebrations, we are putting together a new photo directory! Please sign up (using the QR code or link in Member Resources) for a time to get your picture taken - if you need assistance in signing up for a time slot, please contact the church office. We will be accepting photo submissions as well. If you have had your picture taken professionally within the last 5 years and would like to submit a photo, please email Shelby.



## *New Member Class*

On Sunday, February 1, 2-3:30pm in Room 8 in the Sunday School hallway, we will offer a new member class. All those who are interested in joining St. Mark's are invited to attend. Join us for some Lutheran basics, tour of the facility, opportunity survey, as well as a time for questions and answers. Please be prepared to fill out a brief questionnaire of family information, i.e. birthdays, baptisms, address, etc. There is a sign-up in Communication Central to let us know you will be attending – we are so excited to have you join us!!

## *St. Mark's Staff*

Rev. Will Starkweather, Pastor | [pastorwill@stmarkshsv.org](mailto:pastorwill@stmarkshsv.org)  
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