

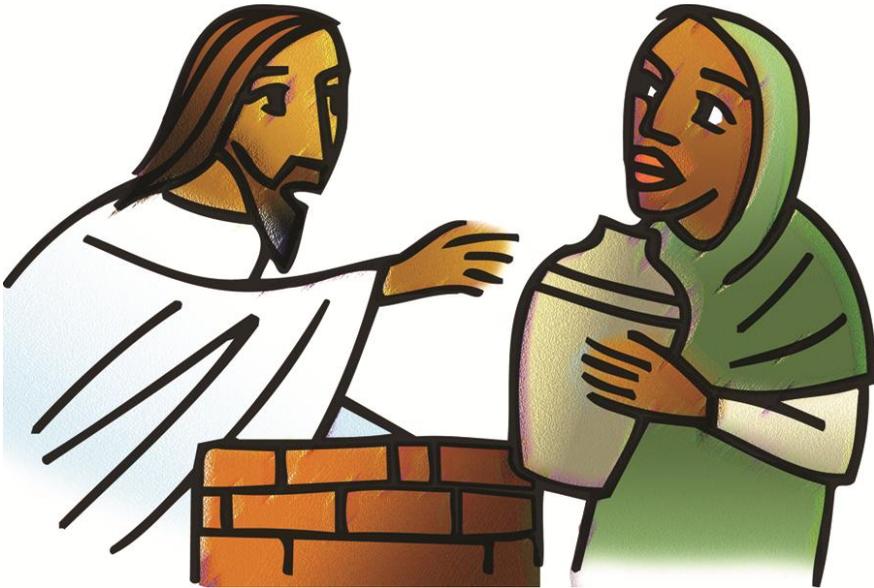


St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 75 Years

The 3rd Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2026



*Growing together in faith to abundantly
nourish our community*

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

In Worship Today...

Saved from Isolation

Prelude: Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters arr. Wayne Wold

Welcome & Announcements | Call to Worship

Gathering Hymn: **Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross** ELW 335

Confession & Forgiveness | **Kyrie**

Prayer of the Day | Children's Message

Exodus 17:1-7 | Romans 5:1-11

Lenten Gospel Acclamation | John 4:5-42

Sermon | Hymn of the Day: **Hear the Good News of Salvation**

Apostle's Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: **Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**

Offertory Response: **When I Survey the Wondrous Cross** | Offertory Prayer

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

Distribution: **Agnus Dei** | **The Goodness of Jesus** | **All Who Are Thirsty**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Song: **Stand in Your Love**

Dismissal | Postlude

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Leah Gradl | Lector: Deb Williams | Acolyte: Dax Gradl

Communion Assistants: Dax Gradl, Deb Williams, Kathy Sieja, Zeah Gastler

Greeter: Norwood Cutter | Ushers: Dave Foreman | AV Tech: April McCutcheon

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.

Welcome Pastor Amy!

Pastor Amy Guida has been ordained and serving in the ELCA since 2015. She is a graduate of Mississippi University for Women and attended seminary at The Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She has served big and small churches in Eastern Iowa and since moving to Alabama, has served the ELCA and Episcopal diocese of Alabama as a supply pastor and an interim pastor. She served St. Mark's in 2022 as an interim pastor. She lives in Huntsville with her husband and two daughters, with a third daughter on the way!

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.

Sponsor Easter Flowers

Would you like to sponsor a potted plant to decorate our sanctuary on Easter morning? Plants will vary depending on availability; past flowers have included tulips, a variety of lilies, hyacinths, and geraniums. Each sponsorship is \$15. Please pay online via St. Mark's giving site or with cash/check turned into the church office; **all flower sign-ups and dedications must be on the sign-up sheet in Communication Central.** Everyone is welcome to take their plants home following the 11am worship service on Easter morning.

By the Numbers: Sunday, March 1, 2026

Sunday Attendance:

In Person Worship: 155 | Online Views: 43 | Sunday Learning: 44

General Offerings

Last Week: \$12,357 | YTD: \$112,654 | 2026 Budget: \$808,449

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



This Week We are Praying for...

An end to war, conflict, violence, and uncertainty, especially in Gaza, South Sudan, Ukraine, Iran, Lebanon, and Venezuela | Partisan cooperation across divisions and elected leaders to seek the welfare and dignity of all | Those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Jeanne, Carol, Debbi, Judy, Paula, Suzy, and Joe.

Prayer Requests

A Prayer Ministry email with joys, concerns, and sorrows is sent weekly on Wednesday. Email 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

Saved & Sent: A Lenten and Holy Week Worship Series

Join us for worship this Lenten and Holy Week season as we discover time and time again how God saves us by His grace and sends us for His mission in the world. Throughout the 6 weeks of Lent, we'll focus on the same scripture twice each week, Sundays through a lens of God saving us and Wednesdays seeing how we are sent to tell others of this salvation. Wednesday mid-week worship will be at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Free Spirits – A 75th Anniversary Special Event

Come and celebrate the history and ministry of Free Spirits! We'll reminisce our good times together, taking a look back at over thirty years of meals, activities, and speakers. The menu will consist of Free Spirits favorites starting with a delicious meat loaf. Join us on Thursday, March 19 at 11am; please sign up in Communication Central.

WELCA Cluster Gathering

All women of St. Mark's are invited to the upcoming WELCA cluster, bringing together ELCA women from all over Alabama. This year, St. Mark's will be hosting and we will meet on Saturday, March 14, from 9:30am - 1:30pm. There will be a continental breakfast, worship service, lunch, fellowship program and an activity. Please sign up in Communication Central.

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.



St. Mark's Land's End Store

St. Mark's has partnered with Land's End and created an online store for you to purchase quality clothing items with St. Mark's logos! Polo shirts, pull-overs, button down shirts, jackets, and more! Make your clothing selection and then choose which St. Mark's logo (75th anniversary or standard) you'd like to have embroidered on it. Access this online store by going to stmarkshsv.org/store. If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to Shelby.

St. Mark's Staff

Rev. Will Starkweather, Pastor | pastorwill@stmarkshsv.org
Traci Billman, Director of Christian Education | traci@stmarkshsv.org
Patrick Marchant, Minister of Music | patrick@stmarkshsv.org
Shelby Billman, Multimedia Coordinator | shelby@stmarkshsv.org
Heather White, Office Manager | heather@stmarkshsv.org
Niki Maldonado, Office Assistant | niki@stmarkshsv.org