

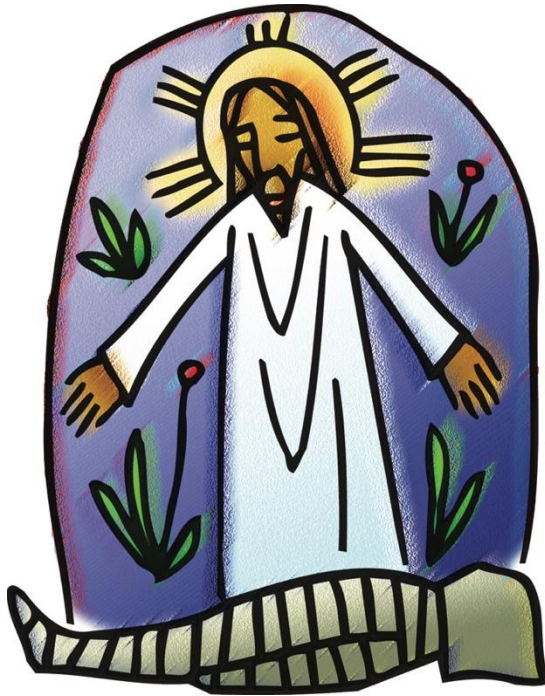


St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 75 Years

The 5th Sunday in Lent

March 22, 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 Despair

Prelude: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

Welcome & Announcements | Call to Worship

Gathering Hymn: **O God, Who Gives Us Life**

Service of Baptism for Lila James Alderton | **You Have Put on Christ**

Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Ezekiel 37:1-14 | Romans 8:6-11

Lenten Gospel Acclamation | John 11:1-45

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **His Eye is On the Sparrow**

SESLYO Installation | 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: Maggie Bonham | Lector: SESLYO | Acolyte: Jake Carter

Communion Assistants: Jake Carter, Payton Sieja, Julie Starkweather, Andrew Caple

Greeter: Tim Sieja | Ushers: Dax Gradl & Paul Gradl | AV Tech: Tori Lande

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 SESLYO!

We're excited to have members of the Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization with us this morning for the completion of their annual assembly. We'll be installing new SESLYO board members during our worship as well as have several of our worship elements led by SESLYO members.

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 15, 2026

Sunday Attendance:

In Person Worship: 101 | Online Views: 93 | Sunday Learning: 15

General Offerings

Last Week: \$12,405 | YTD: \$138,560 | 2026 Budget: \$808,449

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



This Week We are Praying for...

All impacted by natural disasters, especially those facing historic wildfires in Nebraska | Communities grieving violence, especially Old Dominion University in Virginia and Temple Israel in Michigan | The families of those killed in airstrikes at rehab center in Afghanistan | Those named by our Prayer Ministry, especially Matt, Jeanne, Carol, Debbi, Judy, Paula, Alex, Ivan, Suzy, Frank, 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

Easter Egg Hunt

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will take place the Sunday before Easter: March 29 at noon (after Sunday School). We'll meet at California Street Park (708 California St), or in case of rain, in the Fellowship Hall. This event is for ages 0 - 5th grade. A picnic lunch and prizes will be provided! Bring your empty basket! Also, if there is anybody willing to help set up and hide eggs, we'll be doing that during Sunday School hour - please contact Stephanie Smith with any questions.

Seder Meal

On Maundy Thursday, April 2, beginning promptly at 5:30pm, join us for our version of a Passover Seder, a ritual meal in celebration of the Last Supper (and our first communicants!) In addition to more traditional elements like wine, unleavened bread and haroseth, the menu will include marinated chicken or roasted lamb, side, and salad. Tickets for the event must be pre-purchased. Cost: \$10 each. Tickets are available through March 29 in the church office during office hours, online, and in the narthex on Sundays.

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 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 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.



Holy Week is Almost Here! Save the Dates

Evening service on Maundy Thursday at 7pm and new this year, there will be a 2pm Good Friday service as well as a Tenebrae service at 7pm, these two services are quite different, and we invite you to both. Easter Sunday, we'll have two IDENTICAL services at 9 & 11am, with Easter breakfast from 9:30-11:30am

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