



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 75 Years

Easter Sunday

April 5, 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 & Sent: Alive

Prelude: Amen/Alleluia & Fantasia et Noel

Introit: Morning Has Broken *Handbells*

Thanksgiving for Baptism

*Processional Song: **Christ is Risen Indeed**

Welcome | Greeting | **This the Feast** | Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Acts 10:34-43

Gospel Acclamation | Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **Jesus Christ is Risen Today** *ELW 365*

Nicene Creed | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: When Love Sees You *Choir*

Offertory Response: **I Know That My Redeemer Lives** | Offertory Prayer

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

Distribution: **Graves into Gardens** | Christ is Lord, Praise His Name *Handbells*

I Will Rise *Choir* | **Glorious Day**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

*Recessional Hymn: **Alleluia! Jesus is Risen** *ELW 377*

Dismissal | Postlude: Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds arr. Aaron Shows

**Worship this morning includes the use of incense*

Flowering of the Cross

We flower a cross on Easter morning in celebration of new life in Christ. On Good Friday, the empty cross is brought into the sanctuary and laid with a crown of thorns. On Easter, the crown has been removed and the cross will be filled with live flowers as an illustration of the life, joy, and beauty found in the risen Lord. With a desire for all to participate, you are invited to use the flowers you brought or the ones provided to decorate the cross as you go to communion. After 11am worship, the cross will be available outside for Easter pictures.

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.

Worship Assistants at 9am

Assisting Minister: Crystal Peden | Lector: David Provancha | Acolyte: Marielle Peugeot
Thurifer: Andy Sieja | Crucifer: Trey Lear | Bible Bearer: Tabitha Rinyu
Torch Bearers: Dax Gradl | Greeter: Leah Gradl | AV Tech: April McCutcheon
Ushers: Andrew Wirtz, Paul Gradl, Marlin Williamson
Communion Assistants: Marielle Peugeot, Tabitha Rinyu, Trey Lear

Worship Assistants at 11am

Assisting Minister: Rob Caple | Lector: Susan Wright | Acolyte: Ben Sieja
Thurifer: Andy Sieja | Crucifer: Lauren Altman | Bible Bearer: Kinsley Satterfeal
Torch Bearers: Annika Williams | Greeter: Jennifer Mullin
AV Tech: Todd Phillips | Ushers: Tim Sieja, Rudy Will, Dave Foreman
Communion Assistants: Ben Sieja, Lauren Altman, Annika Williams

Happy Easter from St. Mark's!

Whether this is your first time at St. Mark's or you come every week, we are happy to have you here. Whether you feel strong in your faith or you aren't quite sure what this is all about, the promise of Easter is for you. We invite you to participate in the worship as fully as you feel led. If you have questions, don't be afraid to ask; an usher or a greeter can point you in the right direction. We hope you will find this time meaningful and this community hospitable. The staff of St. Mark's Lutheran Church wishes you a very happy Easter. May the promise of the empty tomb fill your heart this day. Christ is risen! And because he lives, we too shall live!

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.

Let Our Prayers Rise Up as Incense

Our worship today includes the use of an incense Thurible. In the Hebrew Scriptures, incense was burned to prepare a space for sinful human beings to enter into the presence of the holy God. The psalmist prays that their prayers might be like incense before the Lord, a pleasing smell rising to God's attention. Christian worship over the centuries has incorporated the use of incense as a reminder that our prayers are pleasing and acceptable to the God who is with us and for us. Though we don't incorporate the use of incense every Sunday, on festival days, it is a meaningful addition to worship.

Easter Flower Dedications

You may take the sponsored plant(s) of your choosing home after the 11am worship service.

In Celebration of Family and In Memory of Albert, Ruth, and Gary

Pat Barber

In Celebration of The Bloomberg and Troyer Families

Doug & Joan Bloomberg

In Memory of Marilyn Caple

The Caple Family

In Memory of Fred & Betty Kaczmarowski, Roger Kaczmarowski, Lester Cutter, and Frances Cutter

Norwood & Carol Cutter

In Memory of Lester Cutter, Frances Cutter, and Loved Ones

Patti Cutter

In Celebration of Family

Klaus & Diane Dahl

In Celebration of The Deason and Giusto Families

Jed & Terry Deason

In Celebration of Their Family and In Memory of James & Maggie Hogan and Bob & Ricki Dornbos

Gwen & Bob Dornbos

In Celebration of St. Mark's

Dennis & Hilda Fakes

In Celebration of Their Family

Jim & Betty French

In Celebration of Her Entire Family

Carrie Horst

In Celebration of Their Parents and Grandparents

Rodney & Phyllis Hutchins

In Memory of Their Parents

Lew & Sandy Ingalls

In Memory of Bud & Betty Stegner

Katie Miner-Ratcliff

In Celebration of Serina and Sophia Petersen and in Memory of Gjert & Sigrun Hovland

David & Karen Petersen

In Memory of Their Grandparents

The Peugeot Family

In Celebration of Their Family

Barbara Reinartz & Karen Yarbrough

In Memory of Bobbie Rhodes and Ruby Gray

Diana Rhodes & Niki Maldonado

In Celebration of Their Entire Family

Brianna & Andy Sieja

In Celebration of Their Phenomenal Family and St. Mark's Church

Kathy & Don Sieja

In Celebration of River Skrenes and In Memory of Norman S. Skrenes, Betty Skrenes,

Earl Graves, Edith Graves, and Kevin Skrenes

Peg Skrenes

In Celebration of Their Family

Eric & Stephanie Smith

In Memory of Meg Jones and Ron & Diane Sykstus

Ron & Patty Sykstus

In Memory of Bob Stark, Bill Stark, and Carl & Lydia Volz

Marty & Sue Volz

In Memory of Al & Pearl Wheeler and Herman & Louise Weerts

Valeta Wheeler

In Celebration of Their Family and In Memory of Ray Mailhot

The White Family

Altar Flower Dedication

The flowers on our communion table today are given by Steve Williams in Memory of Tom Jensen and Mark Manson and by Bruce & Jennifer Mullin in Celebration of their Anniversary!

By the Numbers: Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026

Sunday Attendance:

In Person Worship: 187 | Online Views: 53 | Sunday Learning: 63

General Offerings

Last Week: \$9,548 | YTD: \$158,008 | 2026 Budget: \$808,449

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



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

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

AFFIRM

June 14 - 19
LaGrange College

Summer Youth Event hosted by the Southeastern Synod; for 6th grade - college sophomore



DAY CAMP

July 6-10

\$95 (covers snacks & supplies)

Get ready for a WILD adventure! For kids, ages 4-11, St. Mark's day camp will be filled with untamed fun and excitement as we explore the wonders of God's wild creation and learn about God's incredible love for people living in a wild world.



Spots are filling up! Visit stmarkshsv.org/summer or use the QR code to register today!



Church Office Closed Monday!

The Church office will be closed Monday, April 6—Happy Easter!

Community Free Lunch – April 14, 11am-1pm

Join us in giving back to our community! It is our sixth year of serving lunch and goodies to those who live and work near the church. This outstanding community reception is greatly appreciated by our neighbors. To make the day even better, we need volunteers to help with set-up, cooking, serving, greeting, and clean-up. Help for the entire day or for a part of it - please sign up in Communication Central!

50's Sock Hop – A 75th Anniversary Event

Dust off those poodle skirts and leather jackets and get ready to twist and shout at our fabulous 50s Sock Hop & Ice Cream Social on Saturday, April 18 from 6-8pm! As part of St. Mark's 75th Anniversary celebrations, let's time travel back to the era where it all began. Come dance the night away and enjoy classic ice cream treats! Feel free to dress up in your best 50s attire and bring your friends and family for a night of nostalgic fun.

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.



Save the Date- Taste & See Stewardship Workshop

Join us on April 25 from 10am-Noon for a special Stewardship Workshop led by Pastor Jonathan Hemphill, Assistant to the Bishop for Congregational Life. Watch for more details to come! Reach out to Leah Gradl with any questions.

St. Mark's Staff

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