



## *The 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

August 16, 2026



*Growing together in faith to abundantly  
nourish our community*

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# *In Worship Today...*

## *The Canaanite Woman's Faith*

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements | Call to Worship

Gathering Hymn: **O That I Had a Thousand Voices**

Confession & Forgiveness | Kyrie

Prayer of the Day

Children's Message

Isaiah 56:1,6-8 | Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Gospel Acclamation | Matthew 15:10-28

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

Quilt Dedication | Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace | Offering: **Because He Lives (Amen)**

Offertory Response: **O God Beyond All Praising** | Offertory Prayer

Communion Liturgy with **Great Thanksgiving & Holy, Holy, Holy**

Distribution: **Taste and See** | **O Come to the Altar**

Table Blessing | Prayer after Communion | Benediction

Sending Song: **There's Nothing that Our God Can't Do**

Dismissal | Postlude

## *Worship Assistants*

Assisting Minister: Lara Sieja | Lector: Julie Foreman | Acolyte: Lizzie Carter

Communion Assistants: Julie Foreman & Lizzie Carter

Greeter: Rob Caple | Ushers: Deb & Steve Williams | AV Tech: Kim 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 elements, all of which are free from alcohol, gluten, dairy, eggs, soy, rice, and corn products so that all may share from one loaf and one cup. 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*

The flowers on our communion table today are given by Gisela Rieger in Celebration of Her and Her Family birthdays and by the Reinartz Family in memory of Stan Reinartz and Howard Yarbrough and in Celebration of Family Birthdays.

## *By the Numbers: Sunday, August 9*

### *Sunday Attendance:*

In Person Worship: 160 | Online Views: 41

### *General Offerings:*

Last Week: \$15,545 | YTD: \$434,919 | 2026 Budget: \$808,449

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



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

Elections for lawmakers returning to Congress and all who advocate for the interests of those most vulnerable | The mental health of all, especially young people experiencing social pressures, cyberbullying and harassment on social media platforms | Recovery and healing after natural disasters, especially the earthquake in Colombia, Typhoon Dolphin in China, extreme heat and wildfires around the globe, and severe storms in the Midwest and Northeast | Those named by our Prayer Ministry: Niki, Ivan, Joe, Jeff, Mary, Carol, Peggy, Carl, Suzy, Frank, and the friends and family of Howard Yarbrough.

## *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

## *WELCA Collection – Personal Care Kits*

This year St. Mark's WELCA is assembling personal care kits on Tuesday, August 18 from 4-6 pm at St. Mark's. Anyone interested in helping assemble kits can come to the Fellowship Hall for a drop-in "Brown Bag Dinner" and kit assembly meeting. Bring your dinner and be ready to assemble health kits. Assembled kits will be delivered to LWR along with quilts to be distributed throughout the world to needy families. Items to be included can be brought to the donation bin in Communication Central before August 18 or, if helping to assemble, bring the items at that time.

## *From Welcome to Witness: Supporting LGBTQIA+ People in Today's World*

On Saturday, August 22, from 9am - 2pm, we will be hosting a workshop featuring award-winning author and advocate Jamie Bruesehoff. Rooted in her queer identity, her experiences raising a transgender child, and over two decades of working with youth and families, Jamie brings clarity, compassion, and hope to conversations often marked by fear and misinformation. Jamie's workshop will help us with becoming a more open, compassionate, and inclusive congregation. This is a free event, with lunch provided, but you must register beforehand (please use the QR code to register). If you would like to help with this event, please use the link in the Monday email to sign up.

In addition to the workshop on Saturday, Jamie will also be joining us for worship and Sunday Learning on Sunday, August 23. She will lead a discussion on her recent book *Raising Kids beyond the Binary: Celebrating God's Transgender and Gender-Diverse Children*.



## *New Member Class - Sunday, August 23 at 2pm*

Curious About Membership? Start Here. If you've been worshipping with us, exploring St. Mark's, or just wondering what it would mean to call this community home, we'd love to invite you to our New Member Class on Sunday, August 23 from 2-3:30pm in The Gathering Place. Coffee and light refreshment will be provided. Come learn about St. Mark's, ask whatever questions are on your mind, and find out how your gifts and story fit the life of the congregation. After the class, those who wish to become members will be received and celebrated in worship the following Sunday. We hope you'll consider taking this first step with us! A sign up is located in Communication Central. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Will.

## *What's Next? – Sign Up in Communication Central*

Check out the sign-up board for info on upcoming events. Something new and exciting is always on the horizon! Supper Club, Faith & Fiction, WELCA, and more!

## *St. Mark's Staff*

Rev. Will Starkweather, Pastor | [pastorwill@stmarkshsv.org](mailto:pastorwill@stmarkshsv.org)  
Patrick Marchant, Director of Worship Arts | [patrick@stmarkshsv.org](mailto:patrick@stmarkshsv.org)  
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