

# Welcome to St Mark Lutheran Church

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 9:00 AM

## Reformation Sunday

and

## Affirmation of Baptism

*Hadley Newhouse, Joselyn Mellmann and Declan Sullivan*



Welcome to worship! We are grateful you have chosen to gather with the St Mark community in worship today. Today we are celebrating **Reformation Sunday**- *"Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work."* -from Sundays and Seasons

We are also celebrating the **Affirmation of Baptism** (Confirmation) of Declan, Joselyn, and Hadley. *"We are given many names in life: the things people call us and the names we call ourselves. Those names can be uplifting or they can be hurtful and degrading. In our baptism, whether as an infant or an adult, God gives each of us the name "Child of God" and claims us as God's own. It is important to be reminded of that name and what it means to be God's child and to live in God's ways. That is why we affirm, or remember and reclaim, our baptism: to be reminded of who and whose we are".* (from sundaysandseason.com)

The text in **Bold print** in this service outline indicates responses all persons are invited to speak together. Holy Communion will be celebrated during this service. The Lord's Table is open to believers of all Christian traditions. The songs may be found in the books located in the backs of the pews: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW), All Creation Sings (ACS), and With One Voice (WOV). Protective masks and hand sanitizer are available at the entrances to the building.

## WORSHIP SERVICE

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR REFORMATION DAY

We give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit  
whose light brought new understanding  
of both the Living Word and the written Scripture.

**We give thanks for the reminder of consistent grace and mercy  
from God through Jesus Christ.**

We are grateful for the inspiration that lead to the printing press,  
enabling the spread of information and the sharing of the gospel in many languages.

**We thank God for the technologies that can be used for good for the support of communities and individuals.**

Generous God, we thank you for open hearts that were prepared to hear and receive the good news of freedom in Christ.

**We also thank you for our continued freedom in the Son to share that same news of salvation through your grace and Christ's faithfulness.**

We remember the lives that were lost in the struggle to reform the church on earth – those who were martyred, those who died fighting, those who perished in hiding, and who were killed on all sides.

**We remember also the lives that have been lost throughout history in the name of religion and for those who die today for daring to believe.**

We thank you for the instruction that comes through our church heritage – the catechisms, the understanding of the saints, the gift of community, and a deeper appreciation of God's gift of Holy Communion and Holy Baptism.

**We thank you for the presence of Jesus Christ – in us, with us, and for us – and for the support of the Holy Spirit, ever-reforming us.**

God of stability and change, we thank you that true reformation is always your work and always being done in us out of your love for your whole creation.

We are ever reformed by the work of your love.

**We are ever reformed by the work of God's love.**

*~ written by lutherjulia, and posted on [RevGalBlogPals](http://revgalblogpals.org/). <http://revgalblogpals.org/>*

**GATHERING HYMN**

*"Lift High the Cross"*

ELW 66o

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,  
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*
  
- 2 All newborn servants of the Crucified  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*
  
- 3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*
  
- 4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

*Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956*  
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**GREETING**


The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God,  
and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*"This is the Feast"*


ELW page 149

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us




free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and




strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and  
 might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
 has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you  
 that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age.  
 Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people.  
 Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial,  
 defend them against all enemies of the gospel,  
 and bestow on the church your saving peace,  
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns  
 with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

*A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah*

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

*Here ends the reading*

### PSALM: Psalm 46

*A reading of Psalm 46*

- <sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,  
<sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Selah
- <sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- <sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.
- <sup>6</sup> The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice; the earth melts.
- <sup>7</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah
- <sup>8</sup> Come, behold the works of the Lord;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
- <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup> "Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations;  
I am exalted in the earth."
- <sup>11</sup> The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

### **READING- Romans 3:19-28**

*A reading from the Apostle Paul's letter to the church in Rome.*

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup> since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup> they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works

prescribed by the law.  
*Here ends the reading*

### GOSPEL- John 8:31-36

The Holy Gospel according to John.  
**Thanks be to God.**

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, **"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."** <sup>33</sup> They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The Gospel of our Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### MESSAGE

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

*"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*

ELW 504 vs. 1,2,3

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
a sword and shield victorious;  
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod  
and wins salvation glorious.  
The old satanic foe  
has sworn to work us woe!  
With craft and dreadful might  
he arms himself to fight.  
On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might!  
We would be lost, rejected.  
But now a champion comes to fight,  
whom God himself elected.  
You ask who this may be?  
The Lord of hosts is he!  
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,  
God's only Son, adored.  
He holds the field victorious.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land

all threat'ning to devour us,  
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;  
they cannot overpower us.  
Let this world's tyrant rage;  
in battle we'll engage!  
His might is doomed to fail;  
God's judgment must prevail!  
One little word subdues him.

*Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship  
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**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM STATEMENTS-** Declan Sullivan, Joselyn Mellmann, and Hadley Newhouse

## RITE OF AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

### PRESENTATION

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism, and we come before God with *Hadley Newhouse, Joselyn Mellmann and Declan Sullivan* as they make affirmation of *their* baptism into Christ.

*The presiding minister continues with prayer.*

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

**Amen.**



### PROFESSION OF FAITH

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

*The assembly may stand and join in the responses.*

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response:*

**I renounce them.**

*The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.*

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism.*

You have made public profession of your faith.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant

God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ  
through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

*Each person responds:*

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*The minister addresses the assembly.*

People of God,  
do you promise to support *Hadley, Declan, and Joselyn*  
and pray for *them in their* life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*Those making affirmation may kneel. The presiding minister prays for God's blessing.*

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,  
that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth,  
cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. **Amen**

*The blessing is repeated for each person. The minister may lay both hands on the head of the person and say:*

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

*Each confirmand, their family members, and Baptismal Sponsors will come up individually.*

Stir up in *name*, the gift of your Holy Spirit:  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,  
the spirit of joy in your presence,  
both now and forever.  
Amen.

*Those making public affirmation stand and face the assembly. A representative of the congregation addresses the assembly.*

Let us rejoice with this sister in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

*Those making public affirmation return to their seats*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

*A brief silence.*

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill (*especially*). Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints (*especially Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, and Paul Gerhardt*). Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

*We want to thank everyone who is financially supporting the ministries of this congregation. The sharing of financial gifts to support St Mark during the early Fall months are especially needed as historically May through September are the months when giving is the lowest. During the summer months we had a number of unexpected repair projects that needed immediate attention, and now during the early months of Fall Sunday School and Confirmation materials, Bibles have been ordered; online media and lessons subscriptions have been updated so that we are ready to begin classes next weekend. Your gifts would be greatly helpful.*



During the month of August we launched our new giving portal. It is very easy to use, all that you have to do is open the camera app on your phone and point it towards this QR code and click on the words *myamplify* when they appear. Thank you.

## OFFERING SONG

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
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## OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,  
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.  
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,  
but on you, who richly provides for us.  
Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Sitting at dinner with friends

and knowing one among them would break the bonds of love,

our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks,

broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying:

Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Trusting in God's promise to be among us whenever we gather in your name,

Gathered as your people, meeting in Jesus' name,

and preparing ourselves to feast upon Jesus' very body and blood,

Send your Spirit upon this meal,

that we overflow with your selfless love.

Turn us to face our neighbors,

that by us and through us your love may be known in the world. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,**

**thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,**

**and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

## DISTRIBUTION

*The Lord's Supper will be distributed at this time. All followers of Jesus are welcome to receive this gift of grace. An usher will guide those who would like to receive, up the center aisle. You are invited to place your hands with palms up to receive the bread, wine or grape juice. After receiving the elements, you may kneel at the altar rail for a time of reflection if you desire. Please depart via the outside aisles and place your empty cup in the basket located along the outside wall. Thank you*

## DISTRIBUTION

*"Let Us Break Bread Together"*

ELW 471

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.

### *Refrain*

When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

*Text: African American spiritual*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants.  
Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.  
We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING

The God of righteousness,  
who gives justice to the oppressed,  
who gives food to the hungry,  
who sets the prisoners free,  
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN-

*"Amazing Grace"*

ELW 779 vs 1,4,5

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;

was blind, but now I see.

- 4 The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.
  
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

*AMAZING GRACE Words by John Newton. Music: Early American Melody arranged by William D. Hall © Copyright 1999 National Music Publishers (administered worldwide by the Fred Bock Publishing Group) All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under One License.net A-703395.  
Contributors: William D. Hall*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Preach/ Preside-	Pastor Dave Keschull	Organist-	Linda Glienke
Reader-	Kollah Nimley, Norah Frank	Worship Tech-	Bartz Family
Altar Guild-	Norma Williams & Carole Suhr	Greeters-	Piper McWithey, Micah Naslund
Communion Servers-	Vivian Jorgensen, Joselyn Mellmann, Declan Sullivan, Hadley Newhouse		
Acolyte-	Kamden Mellmann		

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# Life Together

ST MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Website- [www.stmarkstormlake.com](http://www.stmarkstormlake.com)

Facebook- [www.facebook.com/stmarkstormlake/](http://www.facebook.com/stmarkstormlake/)

You may log into Saint Mark Wi-Fi by using the password- **devotion**.

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**WORSHIP**- We gather for worship each Sunday morning at 9:00. You can join us in-person in the Sanctuary, or via livestream on our [Facebook page](#). Recordings of services may be also found on the [St Mark Website](#).

**PROCLAIM RADIO MINISTRY**- Proclaim is a radio ministry of St Mark and is broadcast every Sunday morning at 7:30 AM via FM 101.7 KAYL. The message and music are from the previous weekend. This ministry is one of the ways St Mark reaches out to Storm Lake and Western Iowa with the love of Jesus. If you would like to support this ministry, in addition to your regular financial support of St Mark, the cost is \$75 per week and can be given online, or by check. You can sign-up for a Sunday online or by contacting [Jane Hartwell](#) in the church office.

## PRAYERS

We are all invited to keep the following persons in our prayers:

### Prayers for Healing and wholeness

Mark Jackson, Carolyn Kies, Joan Hamilton, Steve Berg, Mark Johnson, Carolyn Stille, Gladys Eddie, Ed Anderson, Donna Schulz, Steve Korner, Alex Kron, Dick Mooney, Caleb Vander Broek, Kristine Taylor, Dianne White, Julie Eglund, Cheryl Lustgraaf, Cheryl Crampton, Greg Kruse, all persons seeking healing and wholeness.

### Prayers of grieving

For family and friends of Tony Bodhodt. (Bonnie Hunter's nephew)

### Prayers for persons on active duty in the US Military Service

Aiden Deitering, SLPD Officer A.J. Chase, SLPD Officer Gerardo Bravo, Ed Bochtler

## SIGN UP TO HELP LEAD WORSHIP

There is a sign up clip board and an [online sign up](#) to help with leading worship. We need people every weekend to fill the role of Altar Guild, Readers, Acolytes, Greeters, and Worship Techs. Both lists run through the end of 2025, How about signing up this weekend to help, or [click on this link](#) to sign up today.

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY THIS WEEKEND

Our confirmands are *Hadley Newhouse daughter of Josh and Laura Newhouse, Joselyn Mellmann, daughter of Justin and Lisa Mellmann and Declan Sullivan son of Mike and Megan Sullivan*. They will Affirm their Faith

during our worship service. Everyone is invited to a brunch following the service.

### TRUNK OR TREAT DETAILS

#### WE ARE IN NEED OF POUNDS OF CANDY AND MORE TRUNKS

Trunk or Treat is back! Thursday, October 31, 5:00-7:00. Each year we welcome over 150 children from the community to St Mark for an evening of fun. We aren't too scary, but we do have a lot of laughs. In addition to bringing your children (and/or grandchildren and/or neighbors kids) there are two ways you can help. **First, we need candy to hand out, LOTS OF IT.** Purchase a few bags and drop them off in the church office during weekdays or Sunday mornings. **AND #2** We need lots of persons with trunks "or hatch backs" to come to the church parking lot to greet the children and give them a treat. Of course, you may dress up and decorate your "creepy" trunk. We would like to have about 25-30 trunks filled with treats this year to help increase the fun. The sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center or in the Church Office.



### LIFE SERVE BLOOD DRIVE:

Life Serve staff wants to thank everyone for donating and helping to save lives. If you would like to give blood at the next drive, Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, register online [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org) or text LIFESERVE to 999-777 to make an appointment. If you would like to know any other info about donating blood and Life Serve Blood Center, just click on this link, or contact Jane Hartwell in the Church Office.

### SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE UPDATE

Thank you to all who helped make the rib fundraiser at Smokin' Hereford a success! Over \$1,500 was raised through rib sales and donations. In addition, over \$500 worth of bedding was donated. To date 111 beds have been delivered to children in the Storm Lake area. A shared quote from a teenager in one of the homes who received beds... "we greatly appreciate these beds. You don't know how much it means to us. This little act helped change our lives in many ways." As always, the continued support and prayers for this mission are very much appreciated and it is making a difference.

A community bed build scheduled for Saturday, November 1 from 10 a.m. to noon. This is open to anyone to sign up. If you are interested, go to <https://shpbeds.org/chapter/ia-sioux-city/> to register.

### SIGN UP TO ATTEND THE CHRISTMAS WITH LORIE LINE CONCERT

There is a sign up for tickets to the Lorie Line Christmas Concert on November 30, 3:00 PM at the High School Performing Arts Center. The opportunity to hear Lorie Line here in Storm Lake does not happen very often, and especially her Christmas Concert. Sign up this weekend as we will be getting tickets purchased very soon.

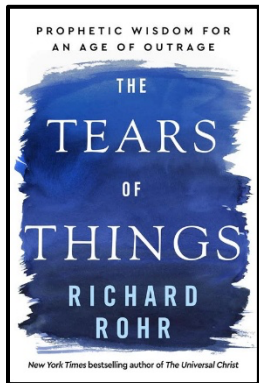




**PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP:** St. Mark is reaching out to the community to offer community, encouragement, and information for all the people with Parkinson's disease (and spouses). The Parkinson's Support Group wants to thank all the people at St. Mark for allowing them to meet at the church. The next Parkinson's meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 11, in the Fellowship Hall, 1:30pm, at St Mark.

**FRIENDS WITH FOOD:**

Distribution of food took place on Thursday, October 16. Many people from our community appreciate the wonderful food they receive. Friends with Food is a partnership of St Mark, Service Navigators of BV County, SALUD, Western Iowa Synod- ELCA, Food Bank of Iowa, and other persons from the Storm Lake area who work together to deliver a monthly food distribution to those who are permanently or temporarily homebound and with no easy access to transportation. If you know of someone who needs food, or you would like to help, contact Di Daniels 712-299-9863, Julie Cook 712-732-4968 or Jane Hartwell 712-732-5255. The next Friends with Food will be November 20, at St. Mark



**A NEW BIBLE AND BOOK STUDY STARTING IN NOVEMBER**

Richard Rohr has come out with a new book entitled The Tears of Things. In this easy-to-read book, he taps into the wisdom of the Old Testament Prophets as a resource for looking at our world today. Pastor Dave plans on offering a Sunday morning study on the book beginning on November 2 for several weeks. Pick up a copy and join him. You can learn more about the book at <https://thetearsofthings.com/> The study guide for the classes can also be found on this website.

**ST. MARK MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND**

Faithful giving doesn't end when the offering plate passes by. Planned giving is an opportunity to share your values, your faith and your love for St Mark Lutheran Church well into the future.

During **National Estate Planning Awareness Month**, we invite you to consider how your generosity might continue to bless our congregation and ministries that matter most to you. You don't need to know where to start — or have great wealth. Our trusted regional gift planner will walk with you, offering easy-to-navigate tools and spiritually grounded guidance. Your planned gift can tell a powerful story of faith. Together, we can shape a legacy that strengthens St Mark Lutheran Church and the mission we share.



October invites us to think ahead. Estate planning isn't just about finances — it's about caring for the people and ministries you love. With the ELCA Foundation, you can explore tools that help you plan well and support both your family and St Mark Lutheran Church, call 712-532-5255 or email [hello@stmarkstormlake.com](mailto:hello@stmarkstormlake.com) if you'd like to continue the conversation.

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## FALL FINANCIAL GIFTS UPDATE

*We want to thank everyone who is financially supporting the ministries of this congregation. The sharing of financial gifts to support St Mark during the Fall months are especially needed as historically May through September are the months when giving is the lowest. During the 2025 summer months we had a number of unexpected repair projects that needed immediate attention. Now in October, we have received the Fall Sunday School and Confirmation Materials, Bibles online media and lessons subscriptions that have been updated. Your financial support will help us to get caught up and prepared as we enter into the Holiday months. In August we launched our new giving portal. It is really easy to use, all that you have to do is open the camera app on your phone and point it towards the QR code next to these words and press on giving the words **myamplify** when they appear.*



*Join with the St Mark community as we celebrate All Saints Sunday, on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00. We are all invited to light a candle(s) for family and friends who have gone before us.*

*All Saints is a special celebration of the Saints of all time (past, present, and future)  
Known and unknown to us.*

## THIS WEEK AT ST MARK

### Sunday, October 26 REFORMATION SUNDAY

- 7:30AM Proclaim Radio broadcast on FM101.7
- 8:30AM St Mark Singers (Sanctuary)
- 9:00AM Sunday Worship Service- in-person and streamed live on [Facebook](#)

10:00AM Confirmation Reception (Fellowship Hall)  
10:00AM Sunday School (Sanctuary)

**Monday, October 27**

6:00PM Caring Paws (Volunteer Meeting) (Fellowship Hall)

**Tuesday, October 28**

7:00PM LSI Foster Parent Adoption Orientation (Fellowship Hall)

**Wednesday, October 29**

4:00PM Buena Vista University Baking Cookies (Kitchen)  
5:15PM Confirmation -First Year Class (Conference Room)  
6:30PM Confirmation-Second Year Class (Conference Room)

**Thursday, October 30**

All Day Artwork drop off at St Mark for City of Storm Lake "Dia De Los Muertos" Celebration  
12:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)

**Friday, October 31**

All Day Artwork drop off at St Mark for City of Storm Lake "Dia De Los Muertos" Celebration  
5:00PM-7:00PM Trunk or Treat (Parking Lot)

**Saturday November 1**

9:00AM Western Iowa Synod (Sam's)

**Sunday, November 2 All Saints Sunday**

7:30AM Proclaim Radio broadcast on FM101.7  
8:30AM St Mark Singers (Sanctuary)  
9:00AM Sunday Worship Service- in-person and streamed live on [Facebook](#)  
10:00AM Fellowship Time (Coffee & Conversation) (Fellowship Hall)  
10:00AM Tears of Things by Richard Rohr- Study with Pastor Dave (Library)  
10:00AM Sunday School (Sanctuary)