

Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

MARCH 29, 2026

We need volunteers to sign up for worship assistant duties for Holy Week & Easter Services!

If you are going to be in town and attending one or more services, please sign up on the sheets on the Welcome Center today. Great opportunity for individuals and families.

Today is last day to submit Easter decorating request forms

Please complete the yellow form in your bulletin and submit it with your donation. Both may be placed in the offering plate.

Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast Today

All are invited to head to Rees Hall after worship today for a delicious breakfast of pancakes and sausage. This is a big fundraising opportunity for our youth. Proceeds collected will benefit camp scholarships as well as funds for the 2027 Youth Gathering!

Red Cross Blood Drive – Mon. March 30, 1-7pm Christ Lutheran Church (NSP)

Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter NorthStPaulChurchesMN to schedule an appointment. Christ Lutheran is located at 2475 E 17th Ave, North St. Paul.

Wednesday Community Dinners – 5-6pm

All are welcomed to the table for this homemade meal offered Wednesdays during the school year. Freewill offering gladly accepted. Apr 1: (Holy Week) no dinner, education or worship, Apr 8: sloppy joes, Apr 15: baked potato bar

VBS Registration is now open!

Vacation Bible School will be July 7, 8, 9. All children ages 4 and up are invited to join us for Vacation Bible School from 9am-12 noon where we will be exploring the theme Saints and Holy Helpers. Our sessions will be filled with a variety of activities that dive into our theme, including storytelling, games, crafts, and snacks! There is no charge for VBS. Kids in grade 6 and above are welcome to register to be youth helpers! Please use the QR code to sign up.



VBS 2026

Holy Week and Easter Services at St. Mark's

Maundy Thursday: Living Last Supper

(April 2) – 7:00pm

During this recreation of DaVinci's *Last Supper* we will witness the events of that fateful night and learn the fate of those called to be Apostles. (Sanctuary)

Soloist Anna Bjorklund

Good Friday: Tenebrae Service

(April 3) – 7:00pm

This powerful service of light and shadows retells the Passion of Jesus. (Lundquist Chapel)

Choir of St. Mark's and Corinna Peterson, clarinet

Easter Sunday (April 5)

6:37am Sunrise Service

Begins outside at the Columbarium and ends in the Sanctuary

9:00 & 10:30am Easter Sanctuary Services

Choir of St. Mark's; Jubilee Handbell Choir; East Metro Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet

Lawn care volunteers needed

If you are interested in helping out with grass cutting at St. Mark's this summer, please contact Doug at ronsbergd@gmail.com or call the church office at 651-777-7451. Cutting days are flexible.

Church Potluck – Sun. April 19

The hospitality team is hosting a church-wide potluck after worship on April 19 – gather together for good food and good fellowship. Bring your appetite and your favorite dish to share! If your last name is A-J please bring a hot food item; K-S a cold item; and T-Z a dessert. Spots will be available to plug in your crock pots to keep food warm.

Ushering Schedule

April 12 Team 2: Capt. Carl Hurtgen, Terri Borowick

Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

I think Palm Sunday is an odd duck. It is supposedly a time of great celebration; we sing "Hosanna in the Highest" and "Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord" supposedly just as the ancient Jews of Jerusalem did. Maybe the story is more allegorical and meant as a metaphor, and I'm being too literal, but Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey! Have you ever ridden on a donkey? It's not the most comfortable or dignified way to travel. Donkeys are stubborn and not particularly companionable. There's a reason John Wayne rode a horse!

On top of that we know what's going to happen. We know that Jesus will try to teach the disciples to be servants of all by washing their feet, and they'll totally miss the point. We know he'll break bread with them just as his body will be broken, and they'll fall asleep on him, abandon him in his moment of greatest need, and leave him to die at the hands of a capricious, oppressive and power-hungry government! But we also know this is not the end of the story, that this story is the human story, our story, and it lives on in all the followers of Jesus.

So perhaps our "Hosanna!" is not wasted, and our "All Glory, Laud and Honor" is not a joke. In life, death, and resurrection, Jesus shows the world how to love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and strength, how to love your neighbor as yourself, and how to make this world a better place. So we close worship today singing,

All heaven is singing, "Thanks to Christ,
whose passion offers in mercy
healing, strength, and pardon.

Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!" Amen!
My Master! (ELW 342, verse 6)

Upcoming Mental Health Events

Take full advantage of our relationship with the Mental Health Connect collaborative and attend one or more of the following events. Go to www.mhconnect.org/find-mhc for more details:

- **Understanding Our Body's Reaction to Trauma** – Tues. March 24, 6 – 8pm, St. Joan of Arc Catholic Community.
- **Nature as Therapy** – Tues. April 14, 7 – 8:30pm., Bethlehem Lutheran Church and via Zoom.
- **Choosing Hope: Five Practices for Living Fully** – Tues. April 21, 6 – 8pm, Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Some events may require registration and/or a fee. See the Mental Health Connect site for details.

St. Paul Area Synodical Convention – Sat. April 25 St. Mark Lutheran Church (Circle Pines) 8am-4pm

All women are welcome to experience worship, speakers, learning sessions, Bible study with Bishop Patricia Lull, business meeting, and great food and fellowship with other women. They keynote speaker is Marcie Rendon, author of "Where They Last Saw Her" about missing and murdered indigenous women. We will be collecting feminine and hygiene products for MN Indian Women's Resource Center (see the list on the bulletin board) - place in the bin in Rees Hall. A monetary collection will be taken for Second Harvest Heartland and a refugee house. A quilt will go to Safe House for homeless teens. Registration information is on the bulletin board – **due April 16**. Cost is \$50. We will carpool from church. Contact Virginia Collier for more information at 651-777-0584.



GIVE ONLINE

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

9:30 am Worship Service, SC
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Pancake Breakfast, RH

Monday, March 30

6:30 pm Monday Bible Study, offsite

Tuesday, March 31

6:30 pm St. Mark's Strummers, SC

Wednesday, April 1

No dinner, education or worship
5:15 pm Jubilee Handbell Choir, SC
7:15 pm Choir of St. Mark's, SC

Thursday, April 2 – Maundy Thursday

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite
9:00 am Maundy Thursday Living Last Supper Service, SC

Friday, April 3 – Good Friday

7:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service, LC

Saturday, April 4 – Office Closed

Sunday, April 5 – Easter

6:37 am Sunrise Service, CB/SC
9:00 am Worship Service, SC
10:30 am Worship Service, SC

Ministry Staff

Rev. David Bjorklund, *Lead Pastor*
prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org

Kate Bentley, *Deacon*
deaconkateb@stmarks-nsp.org

Tom Paulson, *Dir. of Music & Worship*
tomp@stmarks-nsp.org

Office Hours

Mon – Thurs: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Ph: 651-777-7451

Weekly Worship

Sundays: 9:30 am

Guest WiFi

P3@nutButt3r