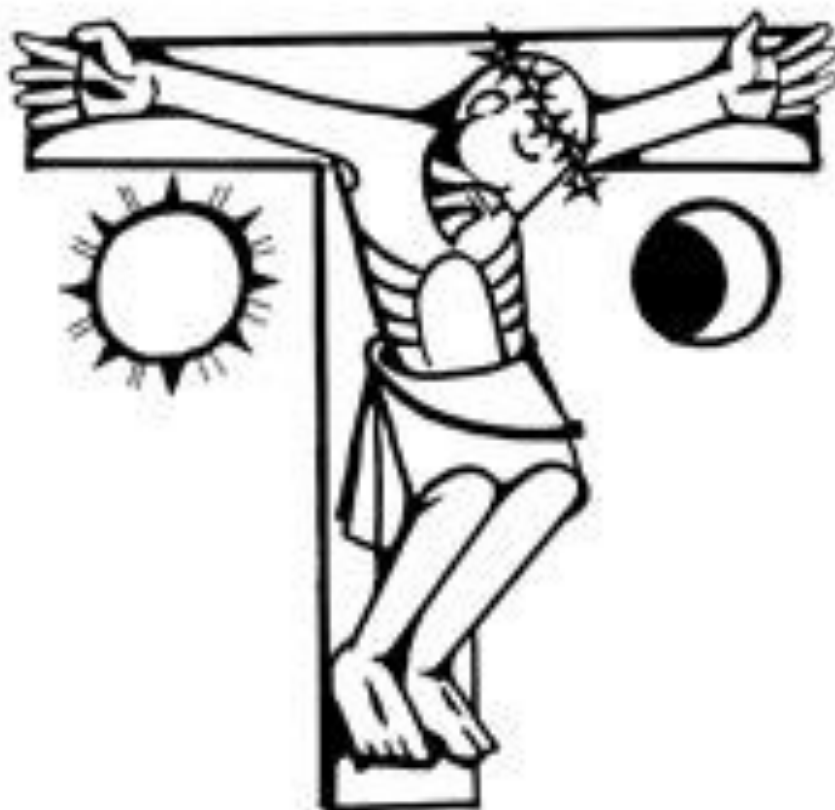


## OUR MISSION

Gathered around Word and water, bread and wine,  
we spread God's Word by living our faith daily  
and welcoming all with open hearts and minds.



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
MARCH 11, 2018  
9:30 AM

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK.** Please sign our attendance pad located in each row. We are happy to have you here with us! Please join us for refreshments on the walkway following worship.

**HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER AND PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS** - Our mid-week Lenten worship services have taken on a musical and reflective nature again this year. After our 5:30 p.m. soup supper join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (now through March 21) for a service of Holden Evening Prayer and Prayer Around the Cross. Written in 1985 by musician Marty Haugen, this lovely setting of vespers follows the traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language. Prayer around the Cross will be a time towards the end of the vespers service where worshipers are invited forward to pray around a wooden, sand-filled, cross. Candles will be available to light and place in the sand while offering prayers to God. Set aside a little time for reflection and prayer and join us in community and worship this Lenten season.

**LENTEN WORSHIP AND SOUP SUPPERS** - Lenten Soup Suppers are on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in our Fellowship Hall. Soup Suppers allow members and friends of St. Mark to share light and delicious soups as a way of enjoying Christian fellowship with one another while remembering those who are hungry and would be glad for a simple bowl of soup. Lenten mid-week worship will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary after the meal. Crock pots are available in the kitchen and you are welcome to borrow one! Please stop by the church office or pick up one on Sunday. Volunteers are needed to make soup, help with set up, and help with clean up. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Narthex and you may sign up for as many days as you like.

**EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH TIME AGAIN!** – Your Fellowship Team is again planning on a sumptuous brunch between our two Easter Sunday Services. Please mark your calendar to join your fellow members following the 8:30 am service. We will be providing those delicious cinnamon rolls again this year along with assorted bagels/cream cheese, fresh fruit, decorated hard boiled eggs, juice and the coffee bar. Your Fellowship Team would love a few extra hands to help with either set up or clean up. We will put out sign up sheets in the Narthex but feel free to ask how you might help. Whatever assistance you can offer, it is always appreciated. For more info, talk with Kathie Chernes or email her at [kathiec123@gmail.com](mailto:kathiec123@gmail.com).

**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR VICKI CLAUSSEN** - There will be a funeral service for Vicki Claussen, daughter of Charlotte Claussen, on **Saturday, March 17th at 10 a.m. at St. Mark Lutheran**. Pastor Klaus Koch will preside at the service. Following the service, Vicki's ashes will be laid to rest in St. Mark's Memorial Garden and everyone is invited to a light reception in the Fellowship Hall. The family appreciates your prayers and support and is grateful for all the kind words and heartfelt messages they have received.

### **EASTER EGG HUNT AND RESURRECTION SCAVENGER HUNT**

Easter Sunday at 10:00 a.m. children are invited to gather in the Youth Room to hear the Easter story and hunt for Easter Eggs. The younger children will hunt for eggs in the grassy courtyard and rock waterfall area while the older children will have a hunt all their own! Bring your own basket or use one of ours. Join us Easter morning to celebrate Jesus' resurrection!

### **PASTOR KATY'S MATERNITY LEAVE**

He's almost here! The Fast family is expecting Baby Boy #2 to arrive sometime around March 19<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Katy is planning to work up until her due date (or as close to it as she can) and then will be on maternity leave for eight weeks. While she is away, Pastor Jon Keiser will be presiding and preaching during worship on Sundays as well as for our Holy Week services. Please give him a hearty St. Mark welcome as he shares the good news of God's Word with us! If you have any pastoral needs during Pastor Katy's maternity leave, please contact the church office and you will be referred to one of our pastors on call – Pastor Jon Keiser, Pastor Connie Bonner, and Pastor Klaus Koch. With any other questions or concerns, please contact the church office or speak to one of our Church Council members.

### **SAVE THE DATES**

St. Mark Work Day – Saturday, April 7, 2018 - 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Annual Church Picnic - Sunday, April 15th, Anderson Park, Shelter #9

Threshers Baseball - Saturday, May 5th, Spectrum Field

## IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your daily prayers members and friends of our congregation who are on our prayer list. If you would like to add or remove someone to or from our congregation's prayers, please call or email the church office or sign the prayer notebook in the narthex.

### FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK OR IN NEED OF SUPPORT:

Betty Fresh

Steve Miller

Jim Boyter

Cheryl Burton

Michael Bryant

Lou Straccioni (friend of Barbara Woodworth)

Vivian Hogan (friend of Nancy Evers)

Rosemary Tindall (friend of Angela Langenback)

Clayton Stoots (grandson of Barbara Stoots)

Ernie Smith, Jr. (son of Phyllis Smith)

Tim Fisher (former ReconcilingWorks Staff)

Charly Hornbrook (friend of Jared Hall)

Donita Holjes (friend of the Plasketts)

Ernie Smith, Sr. (husband of Phyllis Smith)

Jennifer (Nizer) Rakas (daughter of Ray and Charlotte Nizer)

Ethan Gottlieb (grandson of Tim and Angela Langenback)

Heather Booth (daughter of the Plasketts)

Gretchen Woodard (daughter of Debbie Woodard)

Bret R. (friend of Linda Peterman)

Jerriann VanEpern (friend of Linda Peterman)

Judy Wallschlaeger (friend of Sue and Darrell Zenk)

Chelle S. (friend of Jennifer Grumbling)

Jax Cunningham (great nephew of Barbara Woodworth)

Chris Harris (son of Dave Harry)

Eddie Frederick (friend of the Grumbling/Delerme family)

Elizabeth K. (friend of Sue Nelson)

Karen Aungst (friend of Debbie Woodard)  
Dinah Reid (niece of Constance and Henry Chapman)  
Tom Conway (brother of Mary VanHaute)  
Elaine Forestier (Emery Horvath's teacher)  
Dorothy and Otto Pollei, Jr. (parents of Doug Pollei)  
Heather Mackin (relative of the Plasketts)  
Irene Klein (mother of Charles Klein)  
Kaycee Fowler (friend of Trish Kitchel)  
Helen Whitson (mother of Robin Klein)  
Missy Martin (sister-in-law of Suzanne Bryant)  
Carrie Leone (niece of the Walthours)  
Anita Hans (friend of Sue Nelson)

**FOR THOSE WHO GRIEVE (Family and friends of):**

Frank Ollari (friend of Doris Ullestad)  
Charlie (family member of the (Rudes)

**FOR THOSE WHO SERVE (Family and friends of):**

Alexis Grzegorzcyk (friend of Carol Czajkowski - USAF)  
Mitch Shellenberger  
Tierney Froelich  
Rodney Mobley (son of the Nizers - Police Officer)  
Andy Bloch (son-in-law of Shirley Polak - Homeland Security)  
Steven Plaskett (grandson of the Plasketts - US Air Force Academy)  
Luke Ballesteros (friend of Robin Jo Bower Miller and David Miller - in Germany)  
Zoe Lekakis (granddaughter of the Nizers - Marines)  
Joel Elliott (stepson of Carolyn Elliott - in Germany)  
Michael Christenson (friend of Arnie Dano - U.S. Navy)  
Greg Burnham (son-in-law of the Nizers—US Navy)  
Kori Smeiska (friend of Carol Czajkowski - K. C. Police Officer)  
Calvin Jensen (friend of Carol Czajkowski - US Navy)  
Sam Palmer (family of the Horvaths)  
Andrew Amstutz (friend of the Langenbacks - US Navy)

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## Serving The Community of Faith

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**Assisting Minister:** Pete Horvath  
**Ushers** Harry and Beverly Entwisle  
**Offering Bearers:** John Fast and Nathan Taylor  
**Acolyte:** Kaeden Delerme  
**Lector:** Allen VanHaute  
**Communion Assistants:** Carolyn Elliott and Arnie Dano  
**Bread Baker:** Mary VanHaute

**Altar Guild:** Janice Froelich, Diane Salmon and Connie Feig.

### Given to the Glory of God:

**Flowers are** in memory of Peg Weingart by WELCA friends.  
**Thanks to** James Harry for helping to provide refreshments today.

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## This Week at St. Mark

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**Sunday** 9:30 am **Worship**  
    **March 11** 10:45 am **Refreshments**  
                  10:45 am **Handbell Choir**

**Monday** 7:00 pm Al-Anon  
          8:00 pm Ala-Teen Meeting

**Tuesday** 10:00 am **St. Mark Bible Study**

**Wednesday** 5:30 pm **Soup Supper**  
              6:30 pm **Lenten Worship - Prayer around the Cross**

**Thursday** 6:00 pm AA  
          7:00 pm Al-Anon

**Sunday** 9:30 am **Worship**  
    **March 18** 10:45 am **Refreshments**  
                  10:45 am **Handbell Choir**

[www.stmlc.com](http://www.stmlc.com)

Readings for next Sunday — **5 Lent**  
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

**Lent 4 Devotion:**  
**"The LORD sent fiery serpents among the people"**

*This devotion comes from the resource "Set Free by Truth," created by ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton and bishops of ecumenical partner churches.*

**READ: NUMBERS 21:4-9 PSALM 107 EPHESIANS 2:1-10 JOHN 3:14-21**

**REFLECT:** The story of the serpents in the wilderness is intriguing. The people of God had been rescued from slavery in Egypt and were making the long circuitous way to the promised land. The initial euphoria of freedom had worn off and they grew impatient. They spoke against God and Moses, trusting more in human sense than God's faithfulness, trusting above all else their construct of reality. This never ends well.

In their panic and pain the people pleaded for deliverance. God rescued Israel, not so much from poisonous serpents, but from Israel's own faithless and poisonous rebellion that had appeared long before the snakes. In that faithlessness, Israel had set itself against God. Israel's rescue was a restored relationship with God, not simply escaping the snakes. The symbol of their salvation was a fiery serpent—a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole. The very image of suffering and death was also the image of life and salvation.

I have read Numbers several times and there is no indication that the serpents ever left. The plague of serpents remained an ongoing threat and the raised bronze serpent an ongoing reminder to turn to God's healing power. This is what intrigues me, the word for fiery serpents is seraphim. Seraphim – the same angels who, with the cherubim, attend God. Could the snake angels be fiery guardian angels who bring us back to the truth that left to our own devices we are helpless and sometimes dangerous?

In the ELCA March 10th is the commemoration of Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman. Both women devoted their lives to dismantling the sinful human construct of racism. Harriet Tubman was called Moses. She led her people to freedom. Sojourner Truth spoke with a fiery passion that bit deep into the false world order that propped up slavery. They were seraphim. We need seraphim today.

**PRAY:** *Ignite your refining fire, O God. Burn away both the lie of one people's supremacy and the lie that leads another people to doubt their worth. Amen.*



**2018 United Faiths Walk of Peace  
Sunday, April 8th at 2:00 pm**

**Groups from a variety of faith traditions  
invite you to join us!**

**Plans:**

- ◆ A 2 mile route through Dunedin that begins at John R. Lawrence Pioneer Park at the corner of Douglas and Main St. in downtown Dunedin. People may join or leave at any point on the Walk.
- ◆ Gatherings along the route for reflections on peace by leaders from Jewish, Muslim, and Christian perspectives.
- ◆ If you have questions, contact the Rev. Becky Robbins-Penniman at 727-733-4125 x 206 or [RevSBRP@gmail.com](mailto:RevSBRP@gmail.com)

**Our faith communities are working together because it is our hope that  
the world might live in peace.**

**Sponsors**

Taoist Tai Chi Society  
Masjid Al Salaam  
Root Healing Zen  
St. Mark Lutheran Church  
Congregation Beth Shalom  
The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd  
First United Church of Dunedin  
First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin  
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church  
Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church  
Dunedin, Clearwater and Pinellas Baha'I Communities  
Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater  
City of Dunedin Parks and Recreation  
Interfaith Tampa Bay  
St. Francis of Assisi  
Open Door Church  
Faith UCC Dunedin



## Our Statement of Welcome

St. Mark is a spiritual community that celebrates the gifts of God that empower us to engage in the struggles of life, to care for each other, and to serve Christ where we work and live.

We welcome the participation of people of all ages, faiths, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identities, educational backgrounds, and economic conditions – all who want to join in community to honor God and be of service to people. We recognize that each person is a unique creation of God and by the grace of God is called a “child of God.”

St. Mark is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.



*The Rev. Katy A. H. Fast, Pastor*  
*Cheryl Burton, Music Director and Cantor*  
*Willie Hobbs, Office Administrator*  
*Jim Boyter & Beverly Entwisle, Property Stewards*  
*Regina Hickey, Bookkeeper*

1120 Curlew Road, Dunedin, FL 34698  
(727) 733-0474 ~ Fax (727) 736-2357  
[www.stmlc.com](http://www.stmlc.com)

**Office Hours:**

Monday – Friday  
8:00 am until 3:00 pm

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**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.