



²⁰giving thanks always
 and for everything to
 God the Father in the
 name of our Lord Jesus
 Christ ²¹submitting to one
 another out of reverence
 for Christ.
Ephesians 5:20-21

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THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE
Wednesday, Nov 25 • 7PM

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
 his love endures forever.
Psalm 118:1

ADVENT SERIES

Single Service Each Wednesday Starting December 2nd • 7PM

**"A DREAM COME TRUE"
 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

Thursday, December 24 • 4PM & 6PM

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

Friday, December 25 • 10AM



Connecting People to Jesus

StMarkOmaha.org



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 instagram.com/stmarkomaha
 youtube.com/c/StMarkOmahaLCMS



**We Need Volunteers to Help Decorate the Sanctuary &
 Gathering Space for the Advent/Christmas Season
 on Saturday, Nov 28th at 9am!**

We especially need a few strong folks (and maybe a few people who don't mind being on a ladder) to help assemble and put up the tree. Please contact Kelly Thompson at kthompson@stmarkomaha.org or Belva Licht at bslicht@gmail.com to let them know you'll be there to help out. You can also call the church and ask for Kelly. Thank you!



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Greetings Saints of St. Mark!

In our voter's meeting this past Sunday, we learned that we have so much to be thankful for and every reason to lift our hands in praise to God for His faithfulness and work He has done in our midst. A thriving Preschool and Childcare, our new ECHO college ministry, our new IMMPACT Immigrant ministry, a growing radio broadcast ministry through The Eternal Connection, 10 baptisms so far this year, 20 new members joined our family of faith with more yet to be installed, an incredible staff who works tirelessly yet with so much joy, an incredible Parish Leadership Council and Board of Elders, countless lay volunteers and ministry leaders who have sacrificed so much time and effort to ensure the Gospel continues to be proclaimed, services held safely, and God's people cared for in their faith, and the truly inspiring faithfulness of our St. Mark members who have remained steadfast in their tithing to the Lord that has resulted in a very healthy position of stewardship going into next year.

Phew! The list could continue on for pages. How God has shown us the power of His promises to us, His presence with us, and His sovereign power over this world, no matter what chaos may come. Only the True God and Creator could work such blessings for us in the midst of such confusing and troubling times. Our Lord Jesus who promised and who did bring life through death, is working that same love and power right here at St. Mark.

In a year when we have been reminded yet again, and in a powerful way, that we should never seek our blessings from

“Let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe!”
Hebrews 12:15

a world that has nothing to give but disappointment and destruction, let us instead look to Christ and to His Church here at St. Mark and say along with Hebrews 12:15, “Let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe!”

Your Grateful Servant in Christ,
Pastor Jay

VOTER'S MEETING MINUTES FROM SUN, NOV 15TH

[Download the Voter's Meeting Minutes Here »](#)

The Eternal Connection

ON AIR

Tune in This Week for Part 2

A Conversation with an Atheist

Sunday at 9:30AM on Boomer and 10:00 PM on KCRO

Luther on Giving God Thanks

A national day of Thanksgiving wasn't part of Martin Luther's life. Thanksgiving Day is an American phenomenon. Although Americans were celebrating Thanksgiving Day on the fourth Thursday in November since the first presidential proclamation in 1863, it wasn't official until congressional legislation in 1941 made Thanksgiving Day a national holiday.

Martin Luther recognized God's blessings to every living thing when he wrote about the First Article of the Apostles' Creed in the Large Catechism. There he wrote, "Hence, since everything we possess, and everything in heaven and on earth besides, is daily given and sustained by God, it inevitably follows that we are in duty bound to love, praise, and thank Him without ceasing, and, in short, to devote all these things to his service." (*The Book of Concord, Fortress Press, 1959, page 412*)

In a world that thinks it can give God something, either by the way a person lives and by what a person does, Luther would remind us that God doesn't need anything from us. Luther goes on to say that God wants us to be grateful and to honor him as God. "We cannot give God anything; for everything is already His, and all we have comes from Him. We can only give Him praise, thanks, and honor." (*What Luther Says, Concordia Publishing House, 1959, page 1353*). And in a prayer at the end of his treatise on keeping children in school, Luther prayed, "God grant that we follow His Word to praise and thank our dear Lord for His precious blood, which He so freely offered for us. And may God keep us from the terrible vice of ingratitude and the forgetfulness of His blessings. Amen." (*What Luther Says, Concordia Publishing House, 1959, page 1354*).

Source: Excerpt from November 1, 2017 letter by Rev. Ken Hennings, President, Texas District, LCMS



THANK-YOU TO ALL THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION. WE WERE ABLE TO PACK 202 REALLY GREAT BOXES.

Our prayer should be that each boy and girl receiving a box will be filled with joy. They will also receive a Bible Story book and be invited to a class to hear the stories.

Thank-you also to the great helpers on Saturday who spent many long hours sorting and packing.

Thank-you,

*Rhonda Zebolsky and
Helen Oldenkamp*



Project Hope, Inc.
6201 N 60th Street
Omaha NE 68104
(402) 453-7649
www.projecthopeomaha.org

PROJECT HOPE Helping Neighbors - Improving Lives - Spreading Blessings

We are called to feed and clothe God's people in need.
We believe nutritious food contributes to good health.
We value people with love, hope, compassion and dignity.

November 12, 2020

St. Mark Lutheran Church
1821 N 90th St
Omaha, NE 68114

Dear St. Mark members,

It is with great appreciation that I write to thank you for your support with Thanksgiving program donations delivered to Project Hope, Inc. on November 3rd and 10th. You helped us by donating canned yams, marshmallows, and cream cheese frosting which helped us provide 400 families who come to us for assistance and hope with a Thanksgiving meal. Thank you also for the miscellaneous food items you donated with each delivery.

Project Hope is proud that we are able to offer our clients food, clothing, and personal care items at no cost and that is because of the donations such as yours.

Your generosity allows us to serve the hungry and those in need during difficult times.

Blessings to you,

Veda Keebler
Executive Director



**FREE ADVENT CALENDAR
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE**

For those families with children ages 2-12 years who would like to have an Advent Countdown experience at home, we have **15 copies to give away**—first come, first serve.

The format is a 5-minute “devotion a day”. They come with an advent calendar on the back cover and can be used every year. If you would like one, please contact Kirsten Suhr at ksuhr@stmarkomaha.org.



A Big Thank You to Andy Rygol for his quick assistance repairing a portion of the exterior sheathing that came off during a wind storm last week. Also for help repairing the sidewalk!



THIS WEEK WE LAUNCHED A NEW WEBSITE FOR ETERNAL CONNECTION

EternalConnectionRadio.com

Thank you to all of you who have listened to St. Mark's weekly radio ministry! Your support and encouragement are greatly appreciated.

We've been approached by a number of stations outside the Omaha market to add our program to their lineup. As we consider these opportunities to share the Gospel even beyond our local community, each requires additional financial support in order to broadcast on the expanded stations. We ask God to guide us in planning and lead us where He wants this ministry to grow.

We are excited for 2021 as we begin to line up some guests that we know you will enjoy. One of the best ways you can help us (besides listening) is to share it with others! Remember, we are on Boomer Radio Sundays at 9:30am and again on KCRO Sundays at 10pm. You can also listen to the show on our new site and on [our St. Mark app](#).



DAILY DEVOTIONALS by Pastor Jay -
Subscribe to get these by email here!

For week of 11/16

We are now meeting at church in the new youth room. Use the lower southwest door #9 to enter.



Looking Ahead: No Band of Brothers Thanksgiving Weekend.

We all encounter or have encountered atheists. How did you do? This week we will skip ahead to episode 33 in our listening and discussion of the Eternal Connection. In this episode, Pastor Jay and Chip host a discussion with a guest to the EC studio, Jason. Jason is an atheist. There will be much to discuss! I hope you can join us.

Verse of the Week: Psalm 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law

Quote of the Week: Paul David Tripp: The sovereignty of God means that since I don't have to be in control, I can focus on being a servant.

Fun Fact of the Week: Bees can be trained to detect explosives, illegal drugs, and even various diseases that affect humans.

If you can't join us in person, look for the Zoom link in your reminder email. If you are not on the email list, contact Jack Swanda at jswanda@cox.net.

YOUR MINISTRY SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL!

stmarkomaha.org/giving



Setting Up Your Online Giving is Easy!



COLLEGE MINISTRY

If you're a college student and want to join in on some great food, fun and fellowship, contact Regan Burke at echo@stmarkomaha.org or (402) 769-9495.

GET THE ST. MARK APP TODAY!

The things you have access to now in the St. Mark app are getting better all the time (you really need to check it out if you haven't already).



It's available for both Apple and Android devices. You can download either version at StMarkOmaha.org/media

BIRTHDAYS

Nov 1

Jayden Swale

Nov 2

Emmeline Barry
Nancy Holder

Nov 3

Justin Shockley

Nov 4

Dillon Nelson
Raymond Thompson

Nov 5

Judy Peil

Nov 6

Cameron Higgins
Lorraine Juul
Dee McGill
Katrina Muganyizi
Matt Pistillo

Nov 7

Michelle Anderson
Becky Niemack
Woodensky Senechal
Bruce Sharp

Nov 8

Lilly Wacker-Munderloh

Nov 9

Connor Groothuis
Cindy Shockley

Nov 10

Jayne Dunn
Liz Messel
Cathy Munderloh

Nov 11

Lynsey Crnkovich
Tony Jaynes
Milton Warner

Nov 13

Ryan Nelson

Nov 14

Lisa Hayes
Nicholas Leach

Nov 15

Andy Pistillo
Debra Sales

Nov 16

Nancy McAlpin

Nov 18

Zachary Krichau

Nov 19

David Watson

Nov 20

Denise Wessels

Nov 21

Judith Ketcham
Dana Mathiasen

Nov 23

Scott Camenzind
London Dahlquist

Nov 24

Seth Hallberg
Ruthie Peters
Dan Platt
Gene Wahl

Nov 25

Jason Groothuis
Anah Moe
Heather Westerlin

Nov 26

Paul Boyer
Donna Rundlett

Nov 27

Amanda Collins
Pauline Peyton

Nov 28

Stephanie Glass
Brianna Munderloh
Marion Oetter
Barbara Stout
Jessica Vanderloo

Nov 29

Rylan Howe
John Peyton
Robert Pistillo



ANNIVERSARIES

Nov 1

Fantaye Girma & Eddie Mekasha
*24 Years

Nov 7

Lisa & Nathan Steinbach
*17 Years

Nov 12

Karen & Bob Rosse
*37 Years

Nov 13

Kym & Kevin Abraham
*15 Years

Nov 15

Marjorie & Gary
Garabrandt
*40 Years

Nov 18

Sandy & Bill Rolles
*58 Years

Nov 23

Cindy & Chuck Kuntz
*29 Years

Donna & Orville Leu
*64 Years

Nov 29

Kiley & Brandon Awender
*6 Years

Nov 30

Dee & Patrick McGill
*35 Years

CHURCH STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Rev. Eric Jay, **Pastor**
Julie Kyriss, **Preschool & Childcare Director**
Kelly Thompson, **Director of Administrative Operations**
Kirsten Suhr, **Director of Children and Family Ministry**
Chip Thompson, **Director of Creative Communications**
Daren Clark, **Facility Technician**
Glenda Bock, **Organist**

Elders: Steve Barry, Doug Doerr, Andy Groothuis, Peter Oldenburg, Mike Ringler, Jack Swanda

Parish Leadership Council: TBA – President; Chuck Kuntz – Vice President; Mike Munderloh – Treasurer; Jolene Scalzo – Secretary; Lisa Buchele, Lisa Hayes, Bruce Sharp, Gale Suhr

WEEKLY PRAYERS

Cancer: Cindy Kuntz, Linda Hedges, Johnnie Dunn, Pastor Jon Meraz

Health & Healing: Angie Stone, Matthew P

Military: Jordan Hammond, Meghan Murry, Andrew Toman, Zach Karels, Scott Lewis, Quenten Oldenkamp, Amber Phipps, Jarod Suhr

To request public Prayers of the Church e-mail Kelly Thompson at kthompson@stmarkomaha.org or call the church and ask for Kelly.