

CHURCH SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

- 8:00 a.m. *Worship Service with LPE*
9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Gathering Place
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service
10:40 a.m. Noah's Park

TUESDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers
3:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice
7:00 p.m. *Church Council Meeting*

WEDNESDAY

- 1:30 p.m. *Homestead Worship with Holy Communion*
No Kid Min & Youth Meetings

THURSDAY & FRIDAY—HAPPY THANKSGIVING-CLOSED

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023—CHRIST THE KING

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service
9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Gathering Place
9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:40 a.m. Noah's Park

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023—OFFICE CLOSED

THE ALTAR FLOWERS
are given to the Glory of God by Nancy Gardner
in loving memory of departed loved ones.

ASSISTING MINISTERS THIS WEEK

- Lector (10:30) Jacob Mohr
Greeters (10:30) Roger Overholt
Acolytes (10:30) Graham Kill & Maverick Conley
Communion Servers Wes Thompson & Monica Campbell

Reminders: *Bulletin deadline* is Wednesday by 1:00 p.m. AND *deadline* for January newsletter is **December 14th**.

If you know anyone that would appreciate a card, to let them know we are thinking of them, please let me know. You may call or text me at 419-771-0795 or email me at ahickerson55@gmail.com.

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. William C. Haggis, II, Pastor

Prayer Request e-mail: stmprayer@stmarkslutheranvw.com

Church Website: www.stmarkslutheranvw.com

November 19, 2022

Welcome and Announcements; Gratitude Sunday

Prelude

"This Is My Father's World"

Thanksgiving Litany

Hymn

"How Majestic Is Your Name"

See insert

Prayer of the Day (page 98)

Handbell Choir

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Noah's Park Children's Church

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-12 (pg. 2 & 3 of bulletin)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 and Matthew 25:14-30 (pg. 3 & 4 of bulletin)

Message

Hymn

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

693

Apostles' Creed, Intercessory Prayers, The Peace (pages 105-106)

Offering: offering boxes, website, text 419-273-9947

Special Music-Sax Solo

Wes Thompson

Holy Communion (pages 107-109)

Lord's Prayer (page 112)

Blessing & Dismissal (pages 114-115)

Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

840

Doxology Sung by the Congregation

HYMN #884

Postlude

"With a Heart of Thanksgiving"

Get to Know Us on:



Prayer of Illumination

R: Before reading from the Bible,
we seek the illumination of the Holy Spirit that
we become receptive to the life-giving Word
which comes to us through both
the reading and proclamation of Scripture.

C: **Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the Scriptures are read
and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy
what you say to us today. Amen.**

~~~~~

## Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

<sup>7</sup> Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near. The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. <sup>12</sup> At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The LORD will do nothing, either good or bad.' <sup>13</sup> Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. Though they build houses, they will not live in them; though they plant vineyards, they will not drink the wine." <sup>14</sup> The great day of the LORD is near—near and coming quickly. The cry on the day of the LORD is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry. <sup>15</sup> That day will be a day of wrath—a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness— <sup>16</sup> a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers. <sup>17</sup> "I will bring such distress on all people that they will grope about like those who are blind, because they have sinned against the LORD. Their blood will be poured out like dust and their entrails like dung. <sup>18</sup> Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath." In the fire of his jealousy the whole earth will be consumed, for he will make a sudden end of all who live on the earth.



## STUMP THE PASTOR HYMN SING—SUNDAY DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

On the piece of paper handed to you by the greeters, we are encouraging you to write down any Advent/Christmas hymns (hymn numbers 239-300) that you are hoping we sing. Papers with hymns numbers can be put in with the offering, small basket as you leave today or left in the church office. Then, on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, rather than singing 3 hymns plus the hymn sing, we are going to spread the hymn sing out. We will open the service with 1 or 2 hymn suggestions from the selections you give us today by pulling them from a bowl. Have the Bible readings. Sing a few more, have the Creed and prayers. Sing a few more, do the offering and Lord's Prayer. Finish out with a few to end the service. The idea is to sing some favorite or unusual songs, give Pastor a chance to flex his Bible muscles, and include more people.

**Blessing Box:** Our supply of food for the Blessing Box is better but still in need. The following list are items that are low in supply and needed: **Egg Noodles, soups, canned fruit, spaghetti and spaghetti noodles, snack foods like cheese & peanut butter crackers, granola bars, etc..** We are



filling the box 2-3 times a week due to the need. Thank you for your support of this ministry. Any donations are welcome. Please make sure no items are expired.

**Attention New Visitors to St. Mark's:** Located in the pews are blue Welcome Cards for our new guests. Please fill out this card and leave it on the pew when you leave the sanctuary. Greeters will be around to collect them after the service. This information is only to keep you informed of activities at St. Mark's and does not leave the office. We hope you will continue to join us for services and we are so glad you came to St. Mark's. We hope to see you again next Sunday.

**Mitten Tree Update!! WOW!! What a blessing!** Here are our totals for this year: 5 girl coats, 4 boy coats, 16 hat/glove sets for girls, 12 hat/glove sets for boys, 18 scarves, 108 hats, 109 pair of kids/youth gloves, 37 pair of adults gloves, 16 pair of toddler mittens, 9 pair of youth slipper socks, 3 ear muffs, 6 pair of regular socks and 3 fleece throws. Such a blessing to all the families that need help with necessities. Thank you for giving!



**Oodles and Oodles of Noodles:** Yep it's that time again and we have noodles again. The Salvation Army Christmas Meal Baskets are getting ready to be filled. We are in need of **450 bags** by **December 10<sup>th</sup>** (last day to collect). ***Our current count as of 11-16-23 is 141.***



This provides a Christmas meal for so many. Thank you.

## Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Update:

**As of Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 43 boxes** were filled for our annual Operation Christmas Child Shoebox drive. All boxes will be delivered to Calvary Evang. Church here in Van Wert during the upcoming week. At that time, the boxes will be blessed with prayer and thanksgiving. A huge thank you for your support and generosity this Operation Christmas Child season! Sincerely, Sr. High Youth

**Christmas At The Barn With Van Wert Jazz** at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. The barn is located at Five Oaks Farms, 12200 Dustman Road, Van Wert. Bring a friend as we come together for worship with singing of Christmas carols led by Van Wert Jazz as well as partake of cider and hot chocolate with light snacks, all under roof in a clean, cement floor barn. Chairs will be provided but please dress for cold weather. For more information about Five Oaks Farms go to [www.fiveoaksbnb.com](http://www.fiveoaksbnb.com).



**The Library Cart** has new titles for your reading pleasure. Inspirational, study helps, novels and kids books. More will be added throughout the month.

**Community Thanksgiving Dinner** from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 23, 2023. Dinner is eat-in or carry-out at Trinity Friends Church, 605 N. Franklin St. in Van Wert. Need a ride to the meal or need it delivered, call Trinity Friends at 419-238-2788 before Thanksgiving Day.



**Poinsettias** are available this year for \$11.00 each (6½" pot). Order envelopes are in the elevator room, cloak room & gathering place.

Deadline November 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Psalm 90:1-12

- R: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.
- C: **Before the mountains were born  
or you brought forth the whole world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**
- R: You turn people back to dust,  
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."
- C: **A thousand years in your sight  
are like a day that has just gone by,  
or like a watch in the night.**
- R: Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death—  
they are like the new grass of the morning:
- C: **In the morning it springs up new,  
but by evening it is dry and withered.**
- R: We are consumed by your anger  
and terrified by your indignation.
- C: **You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**
- R: All our days pass away under your wrath;  
we finish our years with a moan.
- C: **Our days may come to seventy years,  
or eighty, if our strength endures;**
- R: yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow,  
for they quickly pass, and we fly away.
- C: **If only we knew the power of your anger!  
Your wrath is as great as the fear that is your due.**
- R: Teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

## 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11      The Day of the Lord

<sup>1</sup> Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, <sup>2</sup> for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. <sup>6</sup> So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. <sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup> He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. <sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

R: The word of the Lord.

C:      **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation (page 102)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

{ John 6:68 }

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P: The Good news of Matthew’s Gospel.

C:      **Glory To you O Lord!**

## Matthew 25:14-30      The Parable of the Bags of Gold

<sup>14</sup> “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup> So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup> But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup> “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’ <sup>21</sup> “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ <sup>22</sup> “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’ <sup>23</sup> “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ <sup>24</sup> “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’ <sup>26</sup> “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup> Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. <sup>28</sup> “‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup> For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. <sup>30</sup> And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

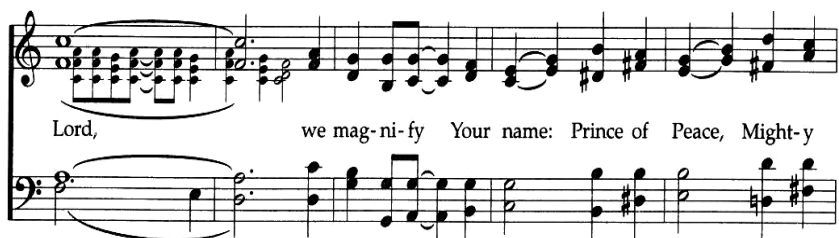
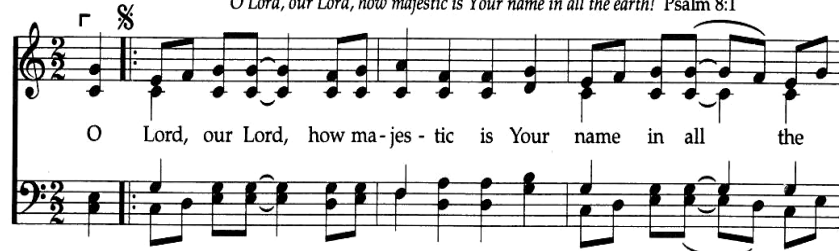
P: Word of God. Word of life.

C:      **Praise to you, O Christ.**



# HOW MAJESTIC IS YOUR NAME

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! Psalm 8:1



TEXT: Michael W. Smith  
MUSIC: Michael W. Smith

HOW MAJESTIC  
Irregular meter

© Copyright 1981 by Meadowgreen Music Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
Corner of Washington & Sycamore Streets

## ADVENT CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Stump the Pastor Christmas Hymn Sing  
8:00 & 10:30 services

**Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>**

Mid-Week Advent Services begin  
Noon & 7:30 PM

**Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

Breakfast at the Manger  
9-11:30 AM

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

Children's Christmas Pageant 10:30 Service

**Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>—7:30 PM**

Christmas at the Barn with Van Wert Jazz  
12200 Dustman Road, VW

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 AM Choir Christmas Cantata (1 service)  
10:30 AM Congregational Budget Meeting

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Christmas Eve**

9:30 AM—(one service)  
Christmas Eve Communion—7:30 PM  
Candlelight Service—11:00 PM

**Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

9:30 AM Lessons & Carols (one service)

## A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING (found in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 837)

- P: Let us give thanks to God our Father  
for all God's gifts so freely bestowed upon us.
- P: For the beauty and wonder of your creation,  
in earth and sky and sea.
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women,  
revealing the image of Christ,
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: For our daily food and drink, our homes and families,  
and our friends,
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: For health and strength to work,  
and leisure to rest and play,
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: For the brave and courageous,  
who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: For the communion of saints, in all times and places,
- C: We thank you, Lord.**
- P: Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies  
and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;
- C: To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father,  
and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.**



## Kitchen Information

I would like to express my appreciation to all who are willing to help in the church kitchen by either working or making cake for our funeral meals or special occasions.

I realize the kitchen is used by many people. It would be greatly appreciated if before purchasing your food, for whatever your occasion may be, that you would check to see what is already available. Much food is being wasted by "out of date" or being put in the freezer and never used. It becomes freezer burnt. If you have something that you want to use for sure, please mark it as yours and date it.

I am putting a sign up sheet on the dreamboard, as you enter the sanctuary, for those who would be willing to help in the kitchen, make cakes, or both. Phone numbers would be a big help or you may contact me.

Thank you for all you are willing to do regarding the church kitchen. Rita Adam

