



Welcome Guests!

(Members for info change)

We are glad you are worshipping with us today! Please fill out for your entire family, tear off, and place in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. Thank you!

Date _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Home Church _____

Church City, State _____

I am a guest of _____

- First Time Guest
- Returning Guest
- New to Area
- Would like a visit
- Would like to know more about St. Mark
- Other _____

Prayer Request

- Today **(Please hand to Pastor)**
- Prayer Chain
- Congregation at Prayer
- Pastor Kolb

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



C Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹³When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.

¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



Acknowledgments

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St. Mark Lutheran Church

is a Christ-centered, Historic, Liturgical, Lutheran Congregation in the heart of Waco, Texas.

We have been serving Waco and the surrounding communities since 1917.



THE HOLY INNOCENTS

DECEMBER 28, 2025

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE
LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK, PAGE 184



Introit

Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b



These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*

in your righteousness de- | liver me.

For you are my rock and my | fortress;*

and for your name’s sake you lead me and | guide me.

Into your hand I commit my | spirit;*

you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth Your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with Your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:15-17

Gradual

Psalm 71:4a, 5a, 6a, b, 8



THE HOLY INNOCENTS

December 28, 2025

¹⁵Thus says the LORD:
“A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.”

¹⁶Thus says the LORD:
“Keep your voice from weeping,
and your eyes from tears,
for there is a reward for your work,
declares the LORD,
and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.

¹⁷There is hope for your future,
declares the LORD,
and your children shall come back to their own country.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 54; antiphon: v. 4

¹O God, save me, by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.

²O God, hear my prayer;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen against me;
ruthless men seek my life;
they do not set God before themselves.

⁴Behold, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of my life.

⁵He will return the evil to my enemies;
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

⁶With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷For he has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.



Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the | wicked.*

For you, O Lord, | are my hope.

Upon you have I leaned from be- | fore my birth;*
you are he who took me from my | mother’s womb.

My mouth is filled | with your praise,*
and with your glory | all the day.

Epistle

Revelation 14:1-5

¹Then I looked, and behold, on Mount Zion stood the Lamb, and with him 144,000 who had his name and his Father’s name written on their foreheads. ²And I heard a voice from heaven like the roar of many waters and like the sound of loud thunder. The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, ³and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth. ⁴It is these who have not defiled themselves with women, for they are virgins. It is these who follow the Lamb wherever he goes. These have been redeemed from mankind as firstfruits for God and the Lamb, ⁵and in their mouth no lie was found, for they are blameless.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

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“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”

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Old Testament Reading
Jeremiah 31:15-17

Psalm *Psalm 54*

Gradual (see insert)

Epistle *Revelation 14:1-5*

Gospel *Matthew 2:13-18*

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