

**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 1:18–25

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



**C** Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

**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.



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

DECEMBER 21, 2025

**DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE**  
**LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK, PAGE 184**



**Introit**

Psalm 130:5–8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1



Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,\*  
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.  
**I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,\***  
**and in his | word I hope;**  
my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,\*  
more than watchmen for the | morning.  
**O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is | steadfast**  
**love,\***  
**and with him is plentiful re- | demption.**  
And he will redeem | Israel\*  
from all his in- | iquities.  
**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.**  
Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,\*  
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

**Collect of the Day**

**P** Let us pray.  
Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–17

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

Psalm 24; antiphon: v. 7

<sup>1</sup>The earth is the LORD’s and the fullness thereof,  
the world and those who dwell therein,

<sup>2</sup>for he has founded it upon the seas  
and established it upon the rivers.

<sup>3</sup>Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?  
And who shall stand in his holy place?

<sup>4</sup>He who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not lift up his soul to what is false  
and does not swear deceitfully.

<sup>5</sup>He will receive blessing from the LORD  
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

<sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

<sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>8</sup>Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle!

<sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And lift them up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

<sup>10</sup>Who is this King of glory?  
The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen**

<sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

## Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.



Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*

Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.

**Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\***  
**righteous and having sal- | vation.**

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\*

From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

## Epistle

Romans 1:1–7

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:  
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.



**FOURTH SUNDAY  
IN ADVENT  
December 21, 2025**

**Entrance Hymn** p. 338  
“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

**Divine Service Three** p. 184

**Introit** (see insert)

**Kyrie** p. 186

**Collect of the Day** (see insert)

**Old Testament Reading**  
Isaiah 7:10-17

**Psalm** Psalm 24

**Gradual** (see insert)

**Epistle** Romans 1:1-7

**Gospel** Matthew 1:18-25

**Nicene Creed** p. 191

**Hymn of the Day** p. 357  
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

**Sermon** Immanuel

**Offertory** p. 192

**Offering** (Offering plates are  
near the doors as you exit)

**Prayers of the Church** p. 193

**Service of the Sacrament** p. 194

**Distribution Hymns**  
“I Come, O Savior, to  
Thy Table” p. 618

“O God, O Lord of Heaven  
and Earth”\* p. 834

“Jesus! Name of Wondrous  
Love” p. 900

“Savior of the Nations  
Come” p. 332

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye  
Mighty Gates” p. 340

**Nunc Dimittis** p. 199

**Benediction** p. 202

**Closing Hymn** p. 361  
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

\* - Hymn of the Month