Disciples of Jesus, Connecting Our Community to Christ St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church 18 Victor-Mendon Road, Mendon, NY 14506 (585) 624-1766 stmarkmendon.org Pastor Brad Urlaub – pastorurlaub@stmarkmendon.org

We are glad you are here today and hope you have found a warm welcome. If you are our guest, please fill out a connection card; we would like to thank you for joining us and would appreciate feedback on your experience at St. Mark. The tall laminated card in the pew rack offers an explanation of our liturgy (order of worship).

**Thank you for Giving!** One-time or recurring donations may be made securely online by scanning the QR code. For a check or cash offering, please request an envelope from an usher.

**Yellow prayer request cards:** place in the offering plate or give to an usher.

Communion practice: Our Lord Jesus invites to His table baptized believers who repent of their sin, recognize His presence in the bread and wine as His body and blood, and trust His promise to forgive their sins and strengthen them in the faith. If you have any questions about Holy Communion, feel free to speak to the Elder before worship.

Sunday Livestream: https://stmarkmendon.com or scan QR code.

Serving in God's House		
	Today	March 2
Elder	Ted Veit	Chuck Bannister
Ushers	Guenther & Margaret Heiss	Peter Lehning & Ted Veit
Greeter	Sally Hacker	Barb Done
Altar Care	Margaret Heiss	Sharon Fiaschetti
Office Help	February 28 Barb Mitchell	March 7 Marlene Hampson

# As the Son of God Is Merciful and Forgives Your Sins, You Also Be Merciful and Forgive

Your inheritance as a child of Adam is sin and death, but in Christ you are made alive through His resurrection from the dead (1 Cor. 15:21–22). As you have died with Him in Holy Baptism, so are you raised with Him to newness of life. Therefore, "do not go on sinning" (1 Cor. 15:34). Instead of serving your desires and harming your neighbors, live as "sons of the Most High," and "be merciful, even as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:35–36). Deal with others as you would have others deal with you (Luke 6:31, 37–38). As Christ loved you when you were at enmity with Him, as He blessed and prayed for those who abused Him, and as He did good to those who hated Him and hurt Him, so also "love your enemies, do good" (Luke 6:27–29, 35). For God sent His Son to bear the cross and suffer death, not to condemn the guilty, but "to preserve life." So does He provide a place for you within His Church, where He is near and deals kindly with "you and your children and your children's children" (Gen. 45:5–10).

## In Our Prayers

Those with Health Concerns: Marilyn Ryan; Laurie Simonson (Georgette's friend); Steven Mack (Barb's son); Richard Landseadel (Deb Lillie's father); Will Dunton (Kay's son); Wayne (friend of Barb Done); Julie Hahn (Sue Henry's daughter); Craig (grandson of Ruth and Jim Meyers); Kathie Monnat; Julie Schulman (Wendie's sister); Donna Smith (Sue Henry's friend); Tim Poppenberg (Dan's brother); Nancy Dunton (Kay's daughter)

**Members and Friends in Care:** Ron Coyle, Norma Helm, June Mihalov
If you have prayer updates, please send them to <a href="mailto:secretary@stmarkmendon.com">secretary@stmarkmendon.com</a>

# Coming Up This Week

Thurs, 2/27 7pm Choir Practice Sun, 3/2 9am Worship 10:30am Sunday School

## Celebrations

### <u>Birthdays</u>

Erika Mynio 2/24 Jacob Lehning 2/24 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
Divine Service II
Order of Worship
February 23, 2025

#### Prelude

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#### **About the Cover**

Tombstones bear testimony to the sting that death still inflicts on this world. However, it could not hold Christ in the tomb. His tomb remains empty to this day. He has conquered sin, death, and the devil. At the day of His return and judgment, all shall be bodily raised to stand before the Lord. But we, the church, will be rejoicing over death's defeat and loss of its sting because Christ's forgiveness, life, and salvation is already ours today by faith.

#### SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

#### **Old Testament Reading:** Genesis 45:3-15

<sup>3</sup>Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

4So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. 5And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. 7And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 8So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. 9Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me: do not tarry. 10You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. 11There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' 12And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. <sup>13</sup>You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here."14Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. 15And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

### Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42

<sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death. . . .

30Why am I in danger every hour? 31I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! 32What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." <sup>33</sup>Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals." 34Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

35But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup>You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. 39For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. 40There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. 41There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

<sup>42</sup>So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

## Holy Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

<sup>27</sup>[Jesus said:] "But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. <sup>30</sup>Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. 31And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

32"If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. 34And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. 35But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. <sup>36</sup>Be merciful, even as your Father is merci-

<sup>37</sup>"Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; 38 give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

