



St. Mark's

United Methodist Church

April 13, 2025 - 9:30am Service



Ushers: Sherry Kesselring and Kay Seagren

Acolyte: Melanie Justice

**Special Offering: Emma Nugent Scholarship Fund and
Iowa City Animal Shelter**

St. Mark's UMC, 2675 E. Washington Street, Iowa City
Facebook - www.facebook.com/stmarksumcic/
Office – (319)337-7201 - Email – office@stmarks-umc.net
Rev. Alberta Ervin – (712)269-6968 – Email – alberta.ervin@iaumc.net

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship

Averie McCormick

Leader: God plants the seed of God's Holy Spirit within us at birth.

People: God waters the seed with family and friends who offers us God's love and grace.

Leader: Through the life of the church, we discover the truth of God through sermons, studies, and relationships with other Christians.

People: Now, we have become Passionate Spiritual Disciples of Christ ready to serve God in this world

All: Let us celebrate the glory of God in our lives!

Opening Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

pg. 585UMH

Children's Moment

Izzy Berwald

Special Music

His Eye Is On the Sparrow
Martin/Gabriel; arr. M. Hayes

Chancel Choir

Offertory & Prayer – Doxology

pg. 95 UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Alberta

The Lord's Prayer

pg. 895 UMH

Hymn of Preparation

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

pg. 277 UMH

Statements of Faith

**“Growing in Faith”
Izzy Berwald and Averie McCormick**

Uniting of Confirmands to St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Through the Sacrament of Baptism we are initiated into Christ's holy church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price.

Through confirmation, and through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church.

Today I present Isabelle Berwald and Averie McCormick for confirmation.

On behalf of the whole church, I ask you Confirmands:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sins?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as our Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

I will.

As new members of Christ's universal church will you be loyal to the United Methodist church and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?

I will.

As members of this congregation will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness?

I will

Will you, parents and mentors, who sponsor these candidates support and encourage them in their Christian lives?

We will.

Do you, the congregation, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons now before you in your care?

With God's help we will proclaim good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround these persons with a community of love and grace that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others. We will pray for them, that they may be true disciples who walk in the way that leads to life.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Life up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

On this day we come before you Lord, to give thanks and praise for these people who have decided to dedicate their lives to you, acknowledging your presence in their lives. And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give you our thanks for the water that was used to baptize your Son and ask for your blessings to be placed on this water as we remember our baptisms.

Averie, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

Isabelle, may the Holy Spirit work with you, that having been born through water and the Spirit, you may live as a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Remember your baptism and be thankful. **Amen.**

Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

May the God of all grace who has called us to eternal glory in Christ, establish you and strengthen you by the power of the Holy Spirit, that you may live in grace and peace. Amen.

Hymn *Hymn of Promise* **pg. 707 UMH**

Benediction **Izzy Berwald**

Closing Hymn *Shalom to You* **pg. 666 UMH**

Postlude

Announcements



Golden Valley District Superintendent has put together a 2025 District Church Prayer List asking us to pray for specific churches and their clergy. Please pray this week for the Letts UM Church-Riverside, Trinity UM Church and Pastor Marsha Gerot.

Special Worship Services During Lent

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

April 17th – **Maundy Thursday**

April 18th – **Good Friday**

Today's Offerings

Emma Nugent Scholarship and Iowa City Animal Shelter

Emma Nugent Scholarship Fund - supports a scholarship to a City High senior as we remember and honor Emma Nugent.

The Iowa City Animal Shelter - supports and expands the animal care seeking health, comfort, freedom from fear, and a loving guardian for our Iowa City area animals.

Special Offering envelopes are located in the sanctuary door bulletin holders.

Free Lunch

This month's day for St. Mark's to provide lunch at the **Free Lunch program is Monday, April 21st**. Pans will be available to pick up Sunday, April 13th for volunteers to prepare Tater Tot casserole (recipe provided). Also needed are bars and cookies.

Please bring these donations to church Sunday morning April 20th. There is also the opportunity to volunteer on Monday, April 21st beginning as early as 10:30 preparing silverware packets, salad and dining room setup and serving food at noon and then cleanup after 1:00. This is a wonderful mission to those in need of a good meal.

Any questions, contact St. Mark's faithful Free Lunch Coordinator, Truda Kruger 319-354-5595.

Upcoming Weekly Calendar

- 4/13** 9:30am – 10:30am – Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
10:45am – 12:45pm – ASL Movie Review Bible Study – Youth Room
- 4/14** 10:30am – 11:30am - Loom Mat Making – Youth Room
11:30am – 1:00pm – Holy Art – Fellowship Hall
6:00pm – 7:00pm – American Sign Language – Fireside Room
6:00pm – 7:00pm – Trustees Meeting – Wesley Room
6:30pm – 9:00pm – Scouts Troop 250 – Fellowship Hall
- 4/15** 6:00pm – 7:30pm – Odd Fellows – Fellowship Hall
6:30pm-8:00pm – Council Meeting – Youth Room
7:00pm – 8:00pm – Narcotics Anonymous Meeting – Wesley Room
- 4/16** 1:00pm – 5:00pm – Christmas Stockings – Wesley Room
4:00pm – 5:00pm – Men’s Book Club – Fireside Room
6:00pm – 8:00pm – Loving Arms Staff Meeting – Rooms 108 and 109
6:30pm – 7:15 pm – Bell Choir – Music Room
7:15pm – 8:00pm – Choir Practice
- 4/17** 6:00am – 8:00am – Kiwanis – Fellowship Hall
10:30am – 11:00am - Library Bookmobile – parking lot
6:30pm – 8:30pm – Cub Scouts Pack 251 – Fireside Room and Fellowship Hall
7:00pm – 8:00pm – Maundy Thursday Worship - Sanctuary
- 4/18** 6:30pm - 9:30pm – Dungeons and Dragons – Fireside Room
7:00pm – 8:00pm – Good Friday Worship - Sanctuary
- 4/19** 9:00am -11:00am – Overeaters Anonymous – Youth Room
-