

**The Fourth Sunday in Lent**  
**March 19, 2023**  
*in the 170<sup>h</sup> Year of the Parish*  
**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701  
[stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org)  
Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)  
Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor  
[bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org)

*Welcome to Saint Mark's!*

*This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.*

**Our Mission:** *“To know Christ and to make Christ known.”*



**Our COVID-19 Guidelines:**

**Hand sanitizer is available for your use.**

**Face masks are optional.**

**Offerings may be received by way of baskets as you enter or leave.**

**Please continue to observe social distancing when passing the peace.**

*A guide to hymnal use: LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book*

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

**PRELUDE**      *Rockingham Old*      RB Farlee

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of their baptism.*

**P**     In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C**     **Amen.**

**P**     God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the aid of your people,  
turning us from sin  
to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that,  
attentive to your Word,  
we may confess our sins,  
receive forgiveness,  
and grow into the fulness of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C**     **Amen.**

**P**     Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

*The congregation may kneel.*

**P**     Gracious God,

**C**     **have mercy on us.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown,  
things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit  
so that we may live and serve you**

**in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your holy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you all your sins  
through Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit †  
keep you in eternal life.

**C** Amen.

**\*HYMN**                      **Amazing Grace**

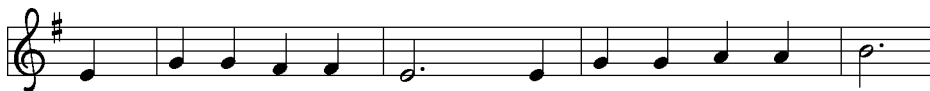
**LBW, “Green”, 448**

**\*THE GREETING**

**P** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of  
the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

**\*KYRIE**



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us.  
By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts,  
and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS**

*Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.*

### **THE FIRST READING.....1 Samuel 16:1-13**

1The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." 2Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' 3Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." 4Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" 5He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

6When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." 7But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." 8Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." 9Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." 10Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." 11Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." 12He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for

this is the one.” 13Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 23**

1The LORD| is my shepherd;  
I shall not | be in want.

**2The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures  
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

3You restore my | soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways | for your name’s sake.

**4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no  
evil;**

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.**

5You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

**THE SECOND READING.....Ephesians 5:8-14**

8Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—9for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. 10Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. 11Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. 12For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; 13but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 14for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

## \*THE HOLY GOSPEL.....John 9:1-41

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

1As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. 4We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 6When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, 7saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” 9Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” 10But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” 11He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” 12They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

13They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them,

“He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” 16Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. 17So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

18The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” 20His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” 22His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

24So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” 25He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” 26They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” 27He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” 28Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” 30The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. 31We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” 34They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

35Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” 36He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” 37Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and

the one speaking with you is he.” 38He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. 39Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” 40Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” 41Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

### **THE SERMON**

**\*HYMN**

**Be Thou My Vision**

**WOV, “Blue”, 776**

### **\*THE NICENE CREED**

**P** Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith

**C** We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,

and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;



**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**

**in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,**

**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*After each petition, “Merciful God/Receive our prayer.”*

#### **\*THE PEACE**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

*The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words and/or gestures of peace with limited physical contact.*

#### **\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

**P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in places offer

thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fulness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**P** Blessed are you Lord of heaven and earth.  
 In mercy for our fallen world  
 you gave your only Son,  
 that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
 but have eternal life.  
 We give thanks to you for the salvation  
 you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
 Send now your Holy Spirit  
 into our hearts and on these gifts  
 that we may receive our Lord  
 with a living faith  
 as he comes to us  
 in this his holy supper.

**C Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

**P** In the night in which he was betrayed  
 our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it,  
 and gave it to his disciples,  
 saying: "Take and eat;

this is my body given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.”  
 Again, after supper,  
 he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink,  
 saying: “This cup is  
 the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people  
 for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.”

**\*OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**C** **Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
**hallowed be thy name,**  
**thy kingdom come,**  
**thy will be done,**  
**on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread;**  
**and forgive us our trespasses,**  
**as we forgive those**  
**who trespass against us;**  
**and lead us not into temptation,**  
**but deliver us from evil.**  
**For thine is the kingdom,**  
**and the power, and the glory,**  
**forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*LAMB OF GOD**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*Persons may come forward to the chancel to receive Holy Communion. This format will be more “continuous” noting the following procedure:*

- *Communicants as directed by ushers are asked to come forward by way of the center aisle, take a cup from the tray provided and receive the bread.*
- *Once receiving the bread, communicants will proceed to one of two stations (left or right) to receive wine from the pouring chalice.*
- *After receiving wine, communicants will place the empty cup in the designated tray and return to their pew by way of the side aisles.*

*Please do not kneel at the rail.*

**P** Come and receive Jesus, our strength in the wilderness.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE COMMUNION**

### **\*AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C** **Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Let us pray. Embodied God,  
at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus.  
With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise,  
empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors  
and touch the world with your love.

**C** **Amen.**

### **\*THE BLESSING**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and

✠, give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

**\*HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light WOV, “Blue”, 649**

**\*DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Serve in love.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE Seelenbräutigam Paul Mantz**

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**Prayer List:** Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Patricia Alexander, Diana Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Ruth Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Susan Kalabacas, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe,

Storm and Hurricane Victims, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Ray Huff, Matt Fortin, Steve Beiber.



**READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?** Faith and Fellowship has temporarily “moved some books” from our church library to the Front Lounge in order to make them more accessible. Stop by the Front Lounge and take a look!

## OUR STEWARDSHIP (March 12, 2023)

Regular Offering	\$1,811.00
Plate Offering	40.00
Easter	10.00
Lent	141.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
Sunday School Offering	9.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	30.00
Synod Benevolence	50.00
Family Promise	50.00
Easter Flowers	40.50
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,191.50</b>



**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given to the glory of God:  
+In Loving Memory of my parents. Allen and Josephine Malick  
by Cheryl Williams  
+In Honor of our family and to the Glory of God  
by Karen and Steve Mariano



**BULLETIN SPONSOR** Thank You Charles and Ann Kuntz for sponsoring the bulletin this week.

## WORSHIP LEADERS (March 19, 2023)

Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Vicki Haussmann
	10:30 a.m.	Audrey Albright
Communion Assistants	8:00 a.m.	Becky Pryor
	10:30 a.m.	Dan Zeigler
Organist		Sam Robinson
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Richard Miller and Herb Poff
	10:30 a.m.	Carl Albright, captain Brenda, Owen and Levi Gair
Altar Guild	March	Cindy Huff and Linda Rosini



## Lutheran World Relief (LWR)

There is a great need for personal care kits for the victims of the Turkey earthquake and for war victims in the Ukraine. Kits are composed of a bath towel (dark color preferred-regular size not a bath blanket), 2 bars of soap, a comb, a toothbrush, and a nail clipper. You can provide a complete kit or bring in any of the components of the kit and I will make sure to complete the kit. Monetary donations are also welcome-make out to St. Mark's with LWR kits in the memo line.



## Family Promise

Hosting for Family Promise will begin March 26. Chefs are needed to prepare dinner for the families. Alternatives to cooking are take-out, pizza, providing the components for one of the guests to do the cooking. More information will be given toward the end of the month. If you can provide a dinner (in any form), please let me know. [dabuckman65@gmail.com](mailto:dabuckman65@gmail.com) or 570-323-1707



The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee thanks everyone who sent Valentine's Day cards to our Special Concern folks and others. We are certain there were many smiles by those receiving them.

We need the congregation's help, once again, in sending Easter greetings to our Special Concern folks and others we do not see as often as we would like.

Cards will be available in the Narthex on Sunday, March 26, 2023 before and after each service. Please add a cheery message, affix a stamp and mail in time for Easter on Sunday, April 9, 2023. Thank you for any assistance you can provide.



The St Mark's property committee would like to invite all church members to a Spring work day. Various tasks around the building need to be taken care of as we prepare for Easter and Spring! No special skills are needed, all we are asking for is some enthusiasm! We will serve coffee and breakfast snacks! Please join us for fellowship and fun, and help us care for the church building we all treasure. We will meet Saturday, March 25 at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall to enjoy light refreshments and plan the day.





## IN LOVING MEMORY OF PASTOR BOSCH

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life we remember the Rev. Paul F. Bosch, former pastor of St. Mark's from 1956-1960. Pastor Bosch passed away on March 12, 2023.



## MOSES

From the banks of the Nile River to the depths of the Red Sea, MOSES is a spectacular entertainment experience for the whole family!

Set adrift as a baby, Moses is an unlikely hero — until God calls him to lead His people out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. Journey with Moses as he ventures through the wilderness, encounters God at the burning bush, and ascends to the top of Mount Sinai.

A bus trip to see **Moses** at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA is once again being organized by Cheryl Williams. This trip is being planned for Wednesday, September 20, the 11:00 AM show. While the bus will be pulling out around 6:00 AM, the early start will certainly be well worth it! Bus fare, show ticket, and dinner are all included in the price (roughly \$130-\$150 depending on number attending). \*\*Please note that the faster we sign up, the lower the price may be. To sign up, please contact Cheryl Williams at (570) 327-1627. We can't wait to hear from you!



## HELP IS NEEDED FOR THE THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER AND FEAST OF THE RISEN CHRIST

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. in the Nave will be this year's event. We need eight lectors (at least 8, more is better) to assist in this program. If you are interested, please let the Pastor or Joe know at [stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org) or give us a call 570-323-4619. Your involvement makes this a very special evening.





# HOLY WEEK and EASTER SCHEDULE

## *HAPPENING THIS MONTH:*

Sunday, March 19, Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, March 22  
Midweek Service of the Word, 12:15  
p.m., Chapel

Sunday, March 26, Fifth Sunday in Lent  
Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, March 29  
Midweek Service of the Word, 12:15  
p.m., Chapel

Sunday, April 2, Sunday of the Passion (Palm  
Sunday)

Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 6, Maundy Thursday

Holy Communion, 12:05 p.m. (Chapel)

Holy Communion with Foot Washing,  
7:30 p.m. (Nave)

Friday, April 7, Good Friday

Ecumenical Service, Trinity Episcopal  
Pro-Cathedral, Noon  
(844 West 4th Street)

Tenebrae (Service of the Shadows), in  
our Nave 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 8, Holy Saturday

The Great Vigil of Easter, 8 p.m.

(We will gather in the Chapel and move  
to the Nave)

Sunday, April 9, Easter Sunday

The Feast of Resurrection (Easter Holy  
Communion), 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 30, "St. Mark Sunday"

(Remembering our patron)

Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.



Monday, March 20- Sunday, March 22, 2023

Monday, March 20	Civic Chorus Board Meeting (Fellowship Hall)	6:00 p.m.
	Civic Chorus Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)	7:00 p.m.
	Chamber Choir and Orchestra (Nave)	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 21	Deadline for “The Lion”	
Wednesday, March 22	Mid-Week Lent Service (Chapel)	12:15 p.m.
Thursday, March 23		
Friday, March 24		
Saturday, March 25	Church Work Day Meet in Fellowship Hall	9:00 a.m.
Sunday, March 26	Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

## BIRTHDAYS

Randy Lukens	March 21
Lauren Sims	March 22
Gary Weber	March 24
Leah Hausmann	March 25
Sara Larson	March 25

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday, March 20	Church Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.
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If there is anything you would like to include in the “This Week In Your Church” please let the administrative assistant, Joe Baur, know at [jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org)

## COMMEMORATIONS



### **Joseph, Guardian of Jesus**

*Sunday, March 19, 2023*

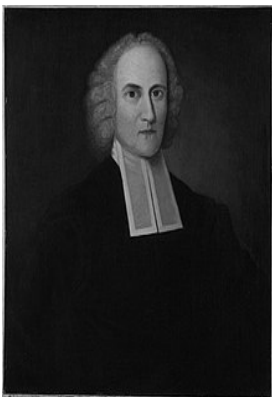
Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.



### **Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556**

*Tuesday, March 21, 2023*

Cranmer's lasting achievement is contributing to and overseeing the creation of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains (in revised form) the worship book of the Anglican Communion. He was burned at the stake under Queen Mary for his support of Martin Luther and other reformers of the 16<sup>th</sup> century.



### **Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, died 1758**

*Wednesday, March 22, 2023*

A Puritan pastor in Connecticut, Edwards is remembered as being a great preacher. Though his most famous sermon talks at length about hell, he was more concerned with God's love. He served both as missionary to the Housatonic people in Massachusetts, and as president of the future Princeton University.



**Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador, martyr, died 1980**

*Friday, March 24, 2023*

Romero was deeply concerned with injustices evident toward the poor and powerless in El Salvador, and worked forthrightly against political repression. He was assassinated while presiding at the eucharist in a chapel near the cathedral in San Salvador.



**Annunciation of Our Lord**

*Saturday, March 25, 2023*

Nine months before Christmas Day we celebrate the annunciation, in which the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God. The early church believed that this was also the date of the world's creation and of Jesus' death on the cross.