

# **The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*May 21, 2023*

## **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.”*



**Please be aware:**

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

**Face masks are optional.**

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

**C = Congregation P = Pastor**

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

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## **INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP**

*In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity that Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity that God intends for the whole human family.*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY**

**P Alleluia! Christ is risen!**

**C Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
by whose hand we are given new birth,  
by whose speaking we are given new life.

**C Amen.**

**P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are welcomed, restored, and supported  
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Silence for reflection.*

**P** Holy God,  
holy and merciful,  
holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,  
you are the everlasting wellspring.  
In mercy and might you have freed us from death  
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.  
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,  
and in them we are born anew.  
*Water is poured into the font as the pastor continues.*  
Glory to you for oceans and lakes,  
for rivers and streams.  
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,  
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.  
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,  
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.  
Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.  
Empower our witness to your resurrection.  
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all people.  
Satisfy the world's need through this living water.  
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.  
Where despair prevails, grant hope.  
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.  
We ask this through Christ, the risen One,  
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

**C    Amen.**

**\*HYMN                    O God beyond All Praising                    WOV, "Blue", 797**

**\*THE GREETING**

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

**C    And also with you.**

# \*KYRIE



☐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☐ Lord, have mer - cy.



☐ For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.



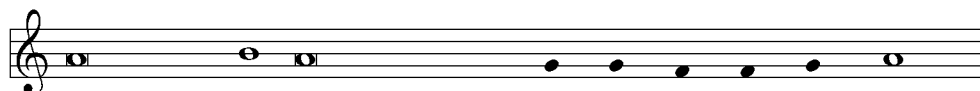
☐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.



☐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. ☐ Lord, have mer - cy.



☐ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. ☐ A - men

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE



**A** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



**B** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and

ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**THE FIRST READING.....Acts 1:6-14**

6When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 8But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” 9When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 11They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

12Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. 13When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. 14All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 68:1-10, 32-35**

1Let God arise, and let God’s ene- | mies be scattered;  
let those who | hate God flee.

**2As smoke is driven away, so you should drive | them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the pres-**

**| ence of God.**

3But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;  
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

**4Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who | rides the clouds;  
I AM is that name, rejoice | before God!**

5In your holy habita- | tion, O God,  
you are a father to orphans, defend- | er of widows;

**6you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners | into freedom;  
but the rebels shall live in | desert places.**

7O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,  
when you marched | through the wilderness,

**8the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God,  
the | God of Sinai,  
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.**

9You sent a bountiful | rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance | when it languished.

**10Your people found their | home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the poor.**

32Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth;  
sing praises | to the Lord.

**33You ride in the heavens, O God, in the | ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your | mighty voice.**

34Ascribe pow- | er to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is | in the skies.

**35How wonderful you are in your holy places, O | God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! | Blessed be God!**

**THE SECOND READING.....1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11**

12Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 13But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. 14If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is

resting on you.

5:6Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. 7Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. 8Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. 9Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. 10And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. 11To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*THE HOLY GOSPEL.....John 17:1-11**

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.

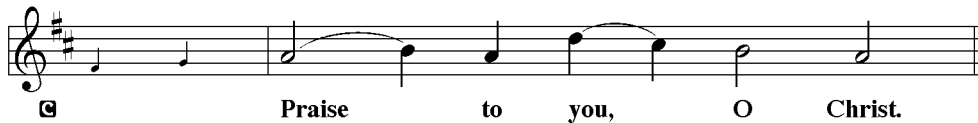
1After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples], he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, 2since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. 4I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. 5So now, Father, glorify me in your



own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

6“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. 7Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; 8for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. 9I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. 10All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. 11And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



## THE SERMON

**\*HYMN Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed LBW, “Green”, 206**

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

**P Living together in trust and hope, we 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, “Ascended Lord/Hear our prayer.”*

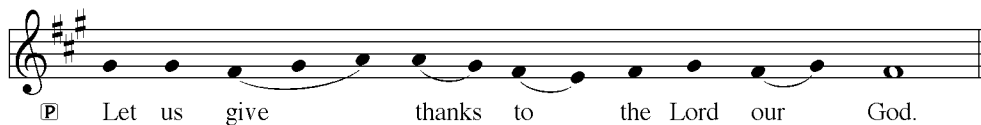
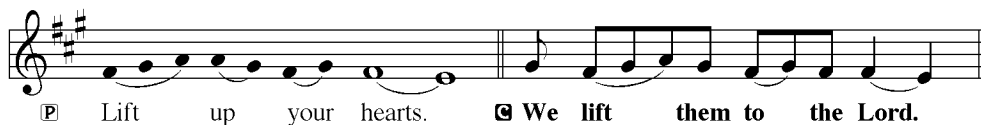
**\*THE PEACE**

**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.*

## \*GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels, and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations and made for yourself a chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to 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."

For as often as we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Join our prayers with those of your saints of every time and place, and unite them with ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the u-ni-ty  
of the Ho-ly Spir-it, all hon-or and glo-ry is  
yours, al-might-y Fa-ther, now and for-ev-er. A-men

## \*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



☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION *All Are Welcome to Receive.*

*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.*

P Come and dine with the Risen Christ!

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. Gracious God,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
With your word and this meal of grace,  
you have nourished our life together.  
Strengthen us to show your love  
and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C **Amen.**

### **\*THE BLESSING**

P The God of all,  
who raised † Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live in the new creation.

C **Amen.**

**\*HYMN Crown Him with Many Crowns**

**LBW, "Green", 170**

### **\*DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord!

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

+++++

*Portions of this service are reprinted with permission from...*

*Lutheran Book of Worship (copyright, 1978)*

*Augsburg-Fortress Publishers (#2562-L).*

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship (copyright 2006)*

*Augsburg-Fortress Publishers, under license #2562-L.*

*sundayandseasons.com (copyright 2019), Augsburg-Fortress. All rights reserved.*

*Augsburg-Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB144818.*

*“One License” A-738528.*

+++++



**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, the people of Ukraine, Eastern Europe and Afghanistan, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Steve Beiber, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Roxy Larson.



**You want your BEST. JOB. EVER. We're here to help.**

For over 60 years Camp Mount Luther has been helping young adults just like you find meaningful summer jobs that impact the lives of youth in positive and powerful ways. Because everyone deserves a job that they can be passionate about.

**Three easy steps to your BEST. JOB. EVER:**

1. Read summer staff [job description](#) and [apply](#) at [campmountluther.org/jobs](http://campmountluther.org/jobs)
2. Interview with the camp director
3. Start working at your BEST. JOB. EVER!

**Our promise to you:**

1. We will give you exceptional leadership training
2. We will offer you compensation for your work
3. We will make you a part of our exceptional community
4. We will care for your personal growth, offering you support every step of the way

*Don't get caught in another boring, meaningless summer job!*

*Apply to Camp Mount Luther today!*



## May 21, 2023

Lector	8:00 a.m.	Walt Hausmann
	10:30 a.m.	Brenda Gair
Communion Assistants	8:00 a.m.	Jackie Kinney
	10:30 a.m.	Carl and Audrey Albright
Organist		Sam Robinson
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Herb Poff and Richard Miller
	10:30 a.m.	Gary Weber, captain Shelby Weber, Dick Reitz
Altar Guild	May	Bev Hieber, Audrey Albright



**READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?** Faith Formation 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!



**CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 29, IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY. THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY, MAY 30, 9 AM.**





## May 14, 2023

Regular Offering	\$2,725.00
Plate Offerings	10.00
Bulletin Sponsors	10.00
Sunday School Offering	3.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	30.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,778.00</b>

## Thank You To Our Sponsors

Thank you to the Wentzel Family past and present for sponsoring this week's bulletin.



**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given to the glory of God:

+In Honor of my Dad by Todd Smith.

+In Loving Memory of Grace Lehman by daughter Lois Winters Goldy.

+In Loving Memory of our parents, Marion and Bill Waldeisen from their children.

## PASTOR'S VACATION DATES



**PASTOR ON VACATION.** Tuesday, May 30-Sunday, June 4 Pastor Vasey will be on vacation. Pr. Ron Montgomery (570-584-4465) will be on call during pastor's absence and Ray Huff (Synod Authorized Lay Worship Leader) will preach on Sunday June 4.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO VICAR CAROL JOHNSON.** Vicar Carol Johnson will be ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament (ELCA) Sunday, June 11, 3 pm, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Williamsport. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.



## PLEASE JOIN US Saturday, May 27, 2023

Memorial Service for Harold and Joyce Hershberger, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 11 a.m. Reception to follow at the Williamsport Country Club (800 Country Club Drive). All are welcome!

## Summer Hospitality!



The summer months are once again upon us and with them come long, lazy days, swimming, camping, s'mores, suntans, and all sorts of fun, summery things. At St. Mark's, **summer also means a single service beginning at 9:30 a.m. (Summer Schedule starts June 4, 2023)**

We look forward to sharing hospitality with each other after the 9:30 service, and ask that you please consider signing up to share a few treats ~ nothing fancy is required! Perhaps find a friend to help make the load just a bit lighter. Sign-up sheets may be found in the "Hospitality Binder" on the "Hospitality Table" in the Narthex. We look forward to spending a little time together on these Summer Sunday mornings. Thank you for helping!



## PENTECOST SUNDAY

On May 28, 2023 we will celebrate Pentecost. Please remember to wear an article of red clothing to worship next Sunday.

WE KNOW HOW BORING SUMMER CAN GET.

## CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

IS HERE TO HELP!

Like you, we think summer vacation should be fresh and fun, filled with new friendships and new experiences. Camp Mount Luther offers 400 acres and a host of awesome programs to feed your hunger for adventure.

### 3 EASY STEPS TO YOUR BEST. SUMMER. EVER.

1. Check out our 2023 Summer Camp brochure and pick your program
2. Register (scholarships are available)
3. Pack your bags and come to camp!

### OUR PROMISE TO YOU:

1. You will be safe
2. You will be welcomed
3. You will be loved
4. You will have fun!



*Don't suffer another long, boring summer! Come to camp and create friendships, memories, and faith that will last a lifetime!*



### CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

www.campmountluther.org  
355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844  
Phone: 570-922-1587 | Fax: 570-922-1118  
e-mail: cml@campmountluther.org





Monday, May 22, - Sunday, May 28, 2023

Monday, May 22

Tuesday, May 23

Wednesday, May 24

Thursday, May 25

Friday, May 26

Saturday, May 27

Sunday, May 28

Memorial Service for Harold and Joyce Hershberger 11 a.m.

Holy Communion 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

*Seventh Sunday of Easter*

### BIRTHDAYS

Ryan Jensen	May 24	Norma Prato	May 26
Dawson Owen	May 24	Audrey Albright	May 27
Dustin Pelleschi	May 24	Walter Haussmann	May 27

### ANNIVERSARY

Joanne and Brian Vasey May 24

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

None scheduled this week

If there is anything you would like to include in the “This Week at Our Church” please let the administrative assistant, Joe Baur, know at [jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org)

+ When you or a family member are ill, have a crisis of faith, or have a personal concern of which you wish to make the pastor aware, please contact him directly by church office telephone (570-323-4619) or email ([bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org)). Do not assume the pastor will know of your need any other way.

+ When you or a loved one has a change of address, telephone number or email, please contact the church office at 570-323-4619 or [stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org). Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family.

## COMMEMORATIONS



**Helena, mother of Constantine, died around 330**

*Sunday, May 21, 2023*

Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.



**Nicolaus Copernicus, died 1543; Leonhard Euler, died 1783; scientists**

*Wednesday, May 24, 2023*

These two men were both scientists who helped to explain the wonders of God's universe. Copernicus is best known for promoting the idea that the sun, not the earth, is at the center of our solar system. Euler was one of the founders of pure mathematics, and contributed too many other fields.



**John Calvin, renewer of the church, died 1564**

*Saturday, May 27, 2023*

Gifted both as a systematic theologian and as an interpreter of scriptures, Calvin embraced the Reformation, and as a preacher in Geneva, Switzerland, brought a theocratic government to it. He is regarded as the “Father” of Reformed (Presbyterian) theology.