

All Saints' Sunday

November 5, 2023

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)

Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor

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 Note:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use; face masks are optional; offerings may be received by way of baskets as you enter or leave.

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

**Please stand as you are able.*

C = Congregation P = Pastor

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled in the "new Jerusalem".

PRELUDE *Nimrod from "Enigma Variations"* Edward Elgar

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

***THANKGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠, Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed by the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

Water is poured into the font at this time

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

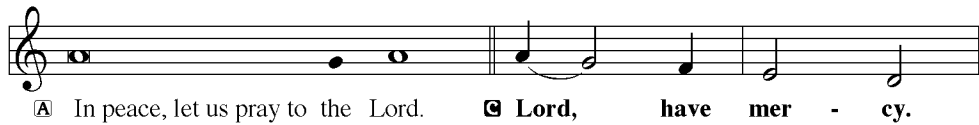
Amen.

***HYMN For All the Saints (stanzas 1,2, 3, 4, 7, 8) LBW, "Green", 174**

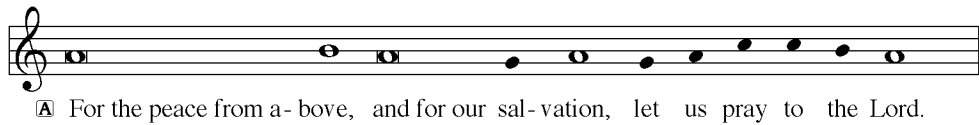
***THE GREETING**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, is with all his saints!
Amen.

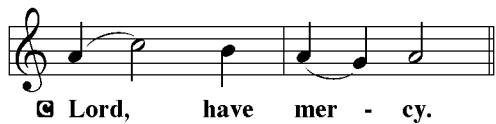
***KYRIE**



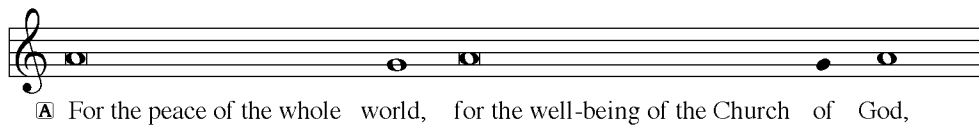
Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



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




Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



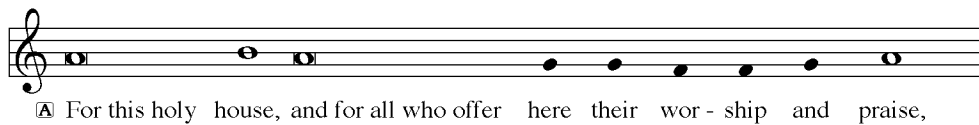
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



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



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



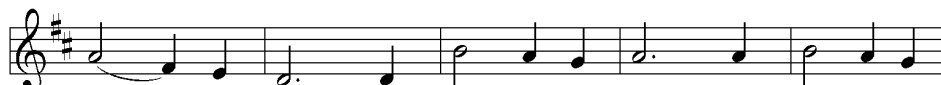
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one

communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING.....Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:1-10, 22

1I will bless the LORD| at all times;
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.

2I will glory | in the LORD;
let the lowly hear | and rejoice.

3Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;
let us exalt God's | name together.

4I sought the LORD, who | answered me
and delivered me from | all my terrors.

5Look upon the LORD| and be radiant,
and let not your faces | be ashamed.

6I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me
and saved me from | all my troubles.

7The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD
and de- | livers them.

8Taste and see that the | LORD is good;
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God!

9Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD,
for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.

10The lions are in want and | suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good.

22O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished.

THE SECOND READING.....1 John 3:1-3

1See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. 2Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. 3And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.

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.....Matthew 6:1-12 The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 6th chapter

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

*HYMN

As Saints of Old

LBW, “Green”, 404

***THE NCENE CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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, “Hear us, O God/Your Mercy is Great”

***THE PEACE**

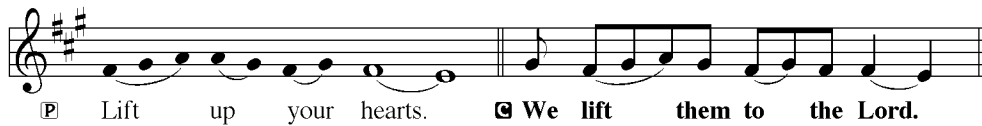
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. *The ministers and congregation greet each other.*

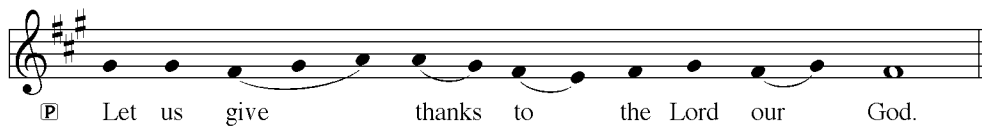
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



Ⓐ The Lord be with you. Ⓑ And al - so with you.



Ⓐ Lift up your hearts. Ⓑ We lift them to the Lord.



Ⓐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



Ⓑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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, through Christ our Lord. In the blessedness of your saints you have given us a glorious pledge of the hope of our calling; that, moved by their witness and supported by their fellowship, we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us and with them receive the unfading crown of glory. 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, Lord God of pow'r 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.

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.
 You rescued slaves in Egypt your chosen people.
 Through the prophets you renewed your promise;
 and, at the fulness of time, you sent your Son,
 who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom.
 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, 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.
 For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
 we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
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,
share with him and all the faithful the great and promised feast.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory
is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord as you have taught us, so now we pray,

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



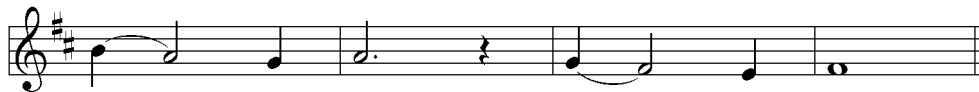
☪ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.*

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

Thanks be to God.

THE COMMUNION

*AFTER COMMUNION

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

Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus,

in this simple meal you have set a banquet.

Sustain us on the journey,

strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,

and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

***THE BLESSING**

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.

Amen.

***HYMN** **For All Your Saints, O Lord** **LBW, “Green”, 176**

***DISMISSAL**

Beloved of God,
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

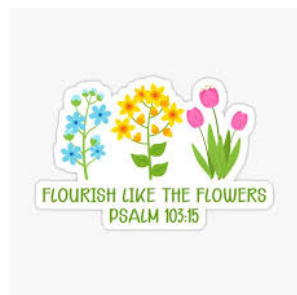
POSTLUDE *Pomp & Circumstance No. 4* Edward Elgar

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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, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Ruth Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Susan Kalabacas, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini,

Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Mike Ford, Barb Thomas.



WORSHIP LEADERS

November 5, 2023

Lector	8:00AM	Nikki Jackson
	10:30AM	Audrey Albright
Communion Assistants	8:00AM	Brian Jackson
	10:30AM	Ralph and Lou Ann Zeigler
Organist		Sam Robinson
Ushers	8:00AM	Herb Poff and Richard Miller
	10:30AM	Tim Maggs, captain Carl Hieber and Charles Kuntz
Altar Guild	November	Deb Buckman & Leah Hausmann



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!



Flowers This Week

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
 +In Loving Memory of my loved ones by Norma Feig Prato.
 +In Loving Memory of Gwen M. Rees by Ruth, Grant and Lisa Rees.



OUR STEWARDSHIP	October 29, 2023
Regular Offering	\$2,688.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Sunday School Offering	12.25
Operation Christmas Child	30.00
Family Promise Hosting	50.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	30.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	90.00
Lutheran World Relief	50.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$3,000.25



Today (November 5) begins our Annual Stewardship Campaign. Upcoming projects for the new calendar year include: Roof repair, a new sound/video system, updating the air conditioning system in the second floor of the Parish House, organ repair/maintenance, ongoing cleaning expenses, and salaries of our paid staff. If you cannot return your pledge card today, please do so in the near future. In 2024, Christ calls all of us to support the work of his church through our prayers, presence, gifts and service. May the faithfulness of all God's saints inspire us to faithfully serve our Lord through St. Mark's in 2024 and beyond.



The 2023 CROP walk was a huge success on October 8th! Members from St. James Lutheran Church joined the St. Mark's Lion team and together we raised \$940.00! Thank you for the many generous donations! Of the \$940 raised, 25% (\$235) went to our community and the other 75% (\$705) was distributed by Church World Service nationally and internationally to help people who are hungry. We enjoyed the fellowship of other walkers and although it was a windy day, discussed how those we were walking to represent have to walk in all types of weather, so we persevered. We made one more step to Help Stop Hunger. Next year, we hope you can walk with us!

Brenda Gair

Redeemer's November Dinner



The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee will be baking brownies for Redeemer's November dinner. We are in need of brownie mixes or brownies that have already been prepared. Mixes may be placed on the table in the Narthex. Speak with Becky Miller Pryor if you wish to donate a pan of brownies.

WOOD CARVING

The wood carving of "The Lord's Prayer" by our baptismal font was originally carved by John Michael Goertz (the great grandfather of Dick Miller).

In 1863, the German Lutherans organized Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church on the site which is now New Covenant United Church of Christ. The Goertz family became members and was gifted this carving.

Thank you Dick for sharing this with us for All Saints' Sunday.



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). 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. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family



Operation Christmas Child

Please join us in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 12th after the 10:30 service to help pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. A light lunch will be served, and a brief presentation will show

how meaningful and life-changing these gifts are to the kids who receive a shoebox filled with all sorts of goodies. Plus, packing shoeboxes for others is tons of fun! Many hands make for light work, and all are welcome to participate in this outreach project.

If November 12th doesn't fit your schedule, we also need extra hands to help unpack all of our collected treasures. We will be working in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, November 8th from 10:00-Noon. Would love to see you there!

If there are any questions, please contact Vicki Haussmann at (570)447-3263.
Thanks!



Monday, November 6, - Sunday, November 12, 2023

Monday, November 6	Finance Committee WCC Rehearsal	5:30PM 6PM	ML FH
Tuesday, November 7	City Ministerium Evangelism and Fellowship	1:00PM 5:30PM	ML ML
Wednesday, November 8	Executive Committee	1:00PM	ML
Saturday, November 11	Hometown Hereos	9:00AM	FH
Sunday, November 12	Holy Communion	8:00 AM and 10:30AM	

BIRTHDAYS

John Bower	November 7	Ann Kuntz	November 7
Brenda Gair	November 8	Cathy Fenderson	November 9
Chele Fredericks	November 9	Becky Miller Pryor	November 9

ANNIVERSARIES

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

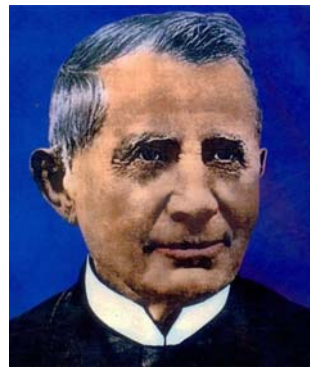
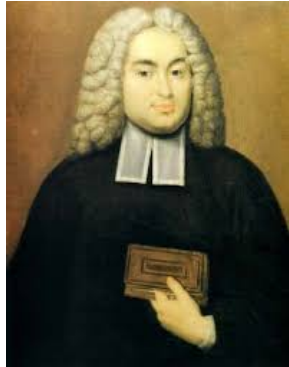
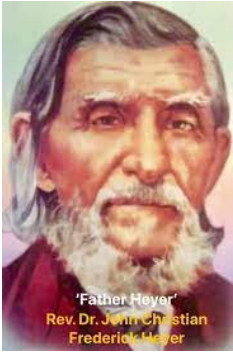
Sunday, November 5 Worship/Music Committee 10:30AM

Please remember to let the administrative assistant know when committee meetings are scheduled, or changed, so it can be included in the bulletin.

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

COMMEMORATIONS

John Christian Frederick Heyer, died 1873; Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, died 1719; Ludwig Nommensen, died 1918; missionaries



Heyer

Ziegenbalg

Nommensen

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Heyer was the first missionary commissioned by American Lutherans. After teaching at Gettysburg College and Seminary he was assigned to the Andhra region of India. A worker among the Tamil people on the southeast coast of India, Ziegenbalg was opposed both by local Hindus and by Danish authorities who favored a different missionary style. He was known for caring about the welfare of the whole person. Nommensen was born in northern Germany and was sent to Sumatra as a Lutheran missionary. Working among the Batak people, he translated the scriptures into their language, and honored their native culture.

Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397



Saturday, November 11, 2023

Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army. Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man, whom he later understood as representing Christ. He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead. After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop. Martin Luther was named for Martin of Tours.

Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855



Saturday, November 11, 2023

Kierkegaard was a Danish theologian whose writings also gave rise to the modern philosophy of existentialism. He frequently attacked the complacency of the state church of his day, as well as its desire to be accepted by polite society rather than be a stumbling block.