

**The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

*A Service of Word and Table*

in the 167th Year of the Parish

August, 16, 2020. 8:00 & 10:30 am

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

142 Market St., Williamsport, PA (17701)

stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

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

**Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor**

bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org



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

**PRELUDE**

*Prelude on New Britain (Amazing Grace).....Peter Pindar Stearns*

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY**

*(Please stand where there is an asterisk.)*

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**C** **Amen**

**P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord..

C Amen.

**\*HYMN**

*All Are Welcome* ..... ELW 641

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

**Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

**Refrain: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

***Introduction:** In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

**THE FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.  
The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 67**      (*Read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

<sup>2</sup>**Let your way be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup>**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations on earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup>**The earth has brought forth its increase;  
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

<sup>7</sup>**May God give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.**

**THE SECOND LESSON.....Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

[Paul writes:] <sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

<sup>2</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

<sup>29</sup>for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**\*THE GOSPEL.....Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter

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

[<sup>10</sup>[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: <sup>11</sup>it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" <sup>13</sup>He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." <sup>15</sup>But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." <sup>16</sup>Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup>Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup>But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup>These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

<sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup>He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup>He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup>She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## THE SERMON

### \*THE APOSTLES' CREED

**P** Living together in trust and hope we affirm our faith:

**C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

### \*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Response:* **P** Lord, in your mercy      **C** **Hear our prayer.**

**\*THE PEACE** **P** The Peace of the Lord be with you.      **C** **And also with you.**  
*Please remember to share the peace without 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 our thanks and praise.**

**P** 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;  
 who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
 and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
 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 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.

**\*OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us.

**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.**

**\*THE COMMUNION**

**P** Friends of Jesus, come to the table.  
Receive nourishment for your journey.

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

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** God of the welcome table,

**C** **in this meal we have feasted on your goodness  
and have been united by your presence among us.**

**Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts  
so that we may share your neighborly love with all,  
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.**

**Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*THE BLESSING**

**P** Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the Father, † God, the Son,  
and God, the Holy Spirit,  
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

**C** **Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

***In Christ There Is No East or West*.....ELW 650**

