

The Second Sunday of Easter
April 11, 2021
in the 168th Year of the Parish
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.”

An Order of Holy Communion, 8 am and 10:30 am

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

Adagio Voluntary

John Stanley

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,
let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water is poured into the font as the pastor gives thanks.

P We thank you, risen Christ,
for these waters where you make us new,
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,
like rains to our thirsting earth,
like streams that revive our souls,
like cups of cool water shared with strangers.

Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.
Make us one, risen Christ.
Cleanse our hearts.
Shower us with life.
To you be given all praise,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God,
now and forever.
C Amen

***HYMN Thine Is the Glory**

**Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.**

Refrain

**Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!**

**No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
through thy deathless love;**

**bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above.
*Refrain***

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939
Tune: JUDA MACCABAEUS

***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**

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

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

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

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

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

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

***THIS IS
THE
FEAST**

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

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was

slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

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

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and

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

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

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, 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. Al-le-lu-ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ For the Lamb who was

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

☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu-ia, 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. Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord’s resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ’s presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Acts 4:32-35

32Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. 33With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. 34There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. 35They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133

1How good and how pleas- | ant it is,
when kindred live togeth- | er in unity!

**2It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up- | on the beard,
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar | of his robe.**

3It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the | hills of Zion.
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life for- | evermore.

THE SECOND LESSON.....1 John 1:1-2:2

1We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—2this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—3we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 4We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

5This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. 6If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; 7but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

2:1My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; 2and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....John 20:19-31**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter.



19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

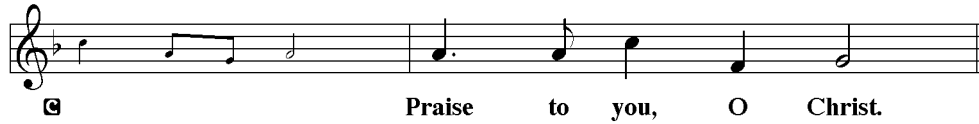
24But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

26A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 27Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” 28Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 29Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing

you may have life in his name.

P The Gospel of the Lord



THE SERMON

*THE NICENE CREED

P Living together in trust and hope we affirm 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: Hear Us, O God/Your Mercy is Great.**

***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 masks in place, avoiding physical touch and consciously staying six feet apart from one another.

***THE GREAT THANKSIVING**

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, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; 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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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.

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**


***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat and be satisfied.

C Amen

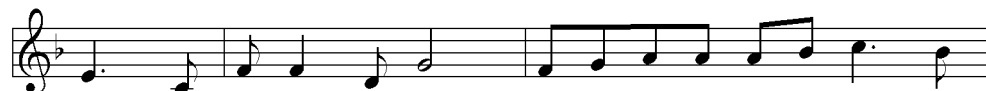
THE COMMUNION



☞ 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.

**LAMB
OF
GOD**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Wellspring of joy,
through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.
Satisfy the hunger still around us,
and send us as joyful witnesses,
that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THE BLESSING**

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.
The God of life,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C Amen

***HYMN O Sons and Daughters of the King**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**O sons and daughters of the King,
whom heav'nly hosts in glory sing,
today the grave has lost its sting!
Alleluia!**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

**“My pierced side, O Thomas, see,
and look upon my hands, my feet;
not faithless, but believing be.”
Alleluia!**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
Tune: O FILII ET FILIAE

***DISMISSAL**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Allegro Voluntary

John Stanley

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Prayer List: Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Ruth Pile, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Doris Brown, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Gladys Knauss, Patricia Alexander, Joann Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Bernadette Jones, Gregg, Kay Poliska, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, the families of Ruth Pile and Ann Sue McCormick.

LEADING US IN WORSHIP

LECTORS 8 am Becky Pryor/10:30 am Drew Hausmann
CANTOR/SONG LEADER Deb Buckman (10:30 am)
ORGANIST Sam Robinson

USHERS: April 11

8 am Dick Miller, Herb Poff

10:30 am Carl Albright- Captain, Brenda, Owen and Levi Gair, Ruth Sherlinski (side door).

Our Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God:

In loving memory of Francis Bigelow by Matt and Wanda Fortin.

In loving memory of Mary McLoughlin by Audrey and Carl Albright.
In loving memory of Robert Kuntz, husband and Mark Kuntz, son by Ann Kuntz

Our Stewardship (4/1/2021-4/4/2021)

Regular Offering	\$9, 131.50
Plate Offering	\$ 115
Easter Offering	\$2, 153
Lent	\$ 125
Theological Fund	\$ 10
Initial Offering	\$ 5
Miscellaneous	\$ 20
World Hunger	\$ 50
Food Pantry	\$ 20
Capital Fund	\$ 600
Flower Memorials/Tributes	\$ 150
Synod Benevolence	\$ 620
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$ 20

GRAND TOTAL **\$13, 019.50**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Camp Mt. Luther is gearing up for Summer 2021! Camping brochures, information regarding openings for staff and volunteers and special events held at the camp are available from our Church Office (570-323-4619).

By action of our Congregational Council, Sunday in-person worship and Sunday Church School have resumed (Worship, 8:00 am and 10:30 am; Church School, 9:15 am). Please follow all CDC and St. Mark protocols which include mask-wearing, social distancing, singing and speaking in very low tones. Should you be in need of pastoral care, please contact our church office (570-323-4619).

COVID CONTACT: Please note that your attendance at both of the worship services will be recorded. This serves as a precaution in case contact tracing due to the pandemic is warranted. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

COMEMMORATIONS

Olavus Petri, pastor, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church.

Monday, April 19, 2021

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms.

Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.