

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 16, 2022
in the 169th year of the Parish
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



Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church!

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

This is Christ's Church. There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Please note the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has provided revised guidelines with regard to mask wearing. Following these guidelines, and the specific recommendations of our bishop, (Bishop Collins of the Upper Susquehanna Synod), Church Council strongly recommends that masks be worn, social distancing followed and to speak and sing in very low tones when worshipping at St. Mark's. Thank you!

A Guide to Hymnal Use:

LBW refers to our Green Hymnal

WOV refers to our Blue Hymnal

An Order for Holy Eucharist, Setting One, Lutheran Book of Worship

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Air in D*

JS Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCING THE DAY

***BRIEF ORDER FOR 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.**

***HYMN Jesus, Come! For We Invite You (Alt. Tune) WOV, “Blue”, 6**

***GREETING**

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

C **And also with you.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS:

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 62:1-5

- 1For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
- 2The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- 3You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- 4You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
- 5For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 36:5-10

- 5Your love, O LORD, reaches | to the heavens,
and your faithfulness | to the clouds.
- 6Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like | the great deep;**
you save humankind and ani- | mals, O LORD.
- 7How priceless is your | love, O God!

All people take refuge under the shadow | of your wings.
8They feast upon the abundance | of your house;
you give them drink from the river of | your delights.
 9For with you is the | well of life,
 and in your light | we see light.
10Continue your lovingkindness to | those who know you,
and your favor to those who are | true of heart.

THE SECOND LESSON.....1 Corinthians 12:1-11

1Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. 2You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. 3Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

4Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

***THE GOSPEL.....John 2:1-11**

P The holy gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

P 1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." 4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

P The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

*HYMN All Praise to You, O Lord LBW, "Green", 78

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (8 A.M.)

P Living together in trust and hope, let us 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 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.**

AN ORDER FOR INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS (10:30 A.M.)

P Dear Christian friends: Baptized into the priesthood of Christ, we all are called to offer ourselves to the Lord of the Church in thanksgiving for what he has done and continues to do for us. It is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation, especially those in the ministry of the Church Congregational Council.

The following persons, having been elected by the congregation to the positions of leadership, are asked to stand as their names are read:

Kathy Dancho (first term)

Glenn Yaple (first term)

Herb Poff (second term)

In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his Church. Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith. I ask all who are here gathered, to join you in standing and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we are baptized.

***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 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.

P *St. Paul writes:* There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way

in each person, for the good of all. (1 Cor. 12:4-7)

You have been elected to positions of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith reflect Christ in whose name we gather. You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world. You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers us all is glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully discharge the duties of the office to which you have been elected? If so answer, "Yes, by the help of God."

Those elected: Yes, by the help of God.

P People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? If so, answer in unison, "Yes, by the help of God".

C Yes, by the help of God.

P I now declare you installed as Council Members of this congregation. God bless you with his Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ. Let us pray: For all who offer themselves in your name, we give thanks, O God. Give them the joy of service, and constant care and guidance. Help us all to be both willing servants and thankful recipients of ministry, that your name be glorified, your people live in peace, and your will be done, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

***THE PRAYERS**

After each petition: God of Grace/Hear our prayer.

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

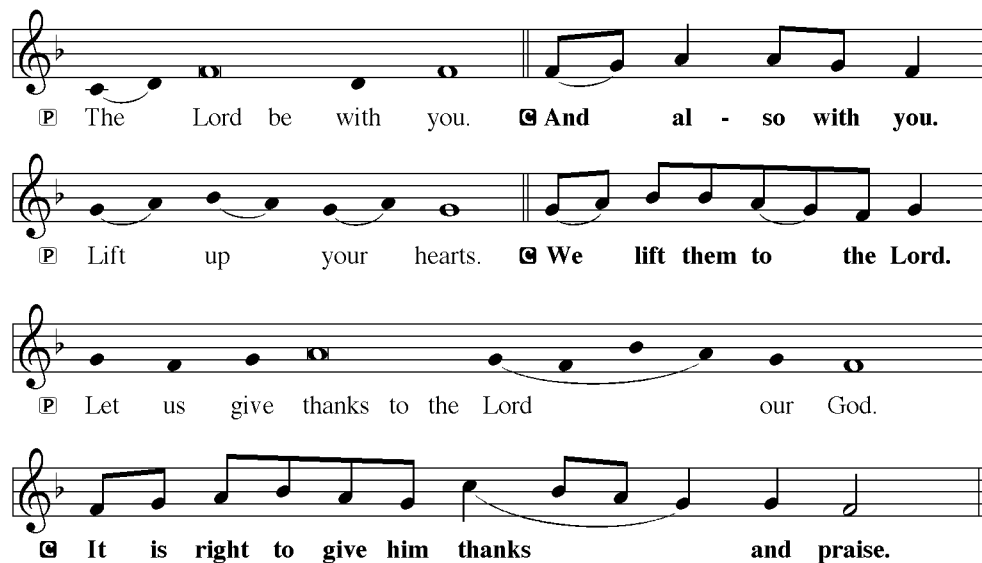
C And also with you

ANTHEM (10:30 A.M.)

Descend, O Spirit

JS Bach

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



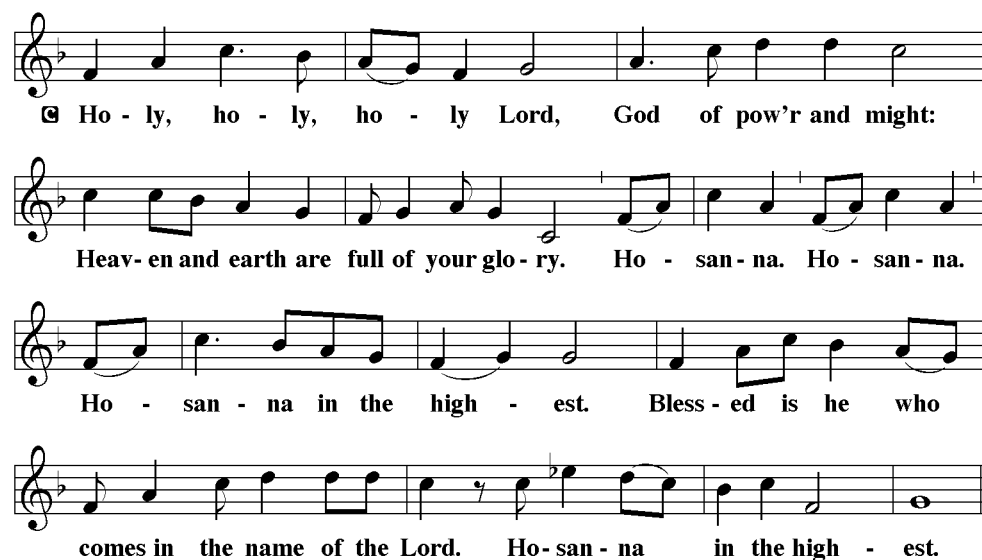
Ⓐ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

Ⓐ 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.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



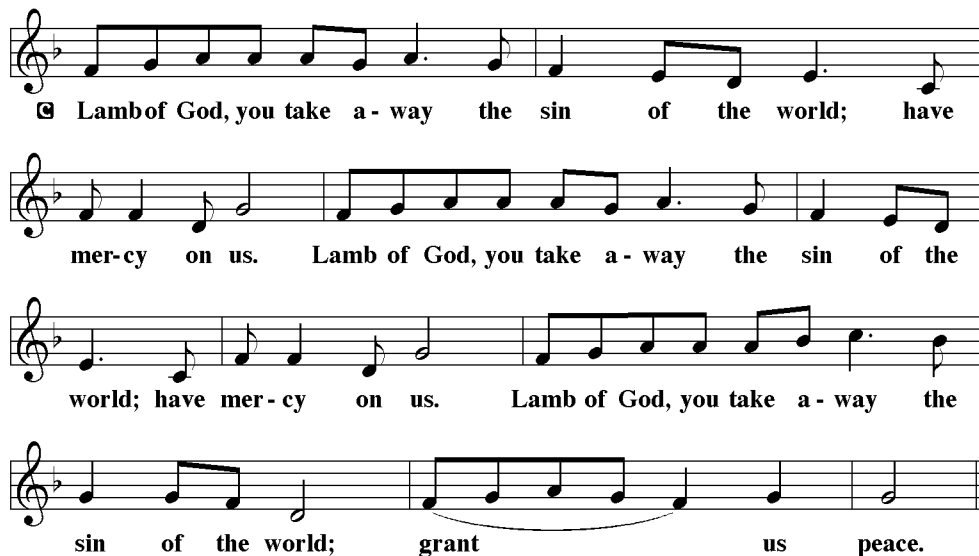
☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*OUR LORD'S PRAYER

P Let us pray as our Savior Christ has taught 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.

*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.

*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, masked and observing social distancing, are asked to come forward as directed by ushers by way of the center aisle, take a cup from the tray provided and receive the bread from Pastor Vasey.*
- *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. Kneeling at the rail will return at a time to be determined by pastor and Church Council.

P Come to the feast; be filled with new wine!

C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.

Send us to bring good news
and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace
in your Son, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***HYMN** **Songs of Thankfulness and Praise** **LBW, “Green”, 90**

***DISMISSAL**

P Go with Christ into a weary world.
Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *In Dir ist Freude* JS Bach

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Prayer List: Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Doris Brown, 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, Bernadette Jones, Susan Kalabacas, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, Mary Lou Doeblor, Walt Haussmann, Lou DeSeau and the family of Lois Belle (Moore) Smith.

WORSHIP LEADERS (1/16/2022)

Lector 8 a.m. Becky Pryor
 10:30 a.m. Phil Thomas

Communion Assistants

 8 a.m. Becky Pryor
 10:30 a.m. Walt Doeblor & Phil Thomas
Organist Sam Robinson

USHERS:

8 a.m. Dick Miller/Herb Poff
10:30 a.m. Mike Jensen, Captain. Sean Jensen

COVID CONTACT: Please note that your attendance at worship 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.

The next **COUNCIL MEETING** is Monday, January 17 at 6 p.m. in the Crossways room.

ADVENT BLESSINGS CONTINUE IN 2022! The Outreach and Faith and Fellowship Committees would like to thank all who participated in our Reverse Advent Calendar collections this past December. All of the items you generously donated have been sorted, counted, and delivered to area agencies!

Shepherd of the Street received 34 personal care items as well as 24 calendars to be used in 2022!

The Blessing Box received 120 food/snack items!

United Churches Food Pantry received 178 food items!

Thank you for continuing to bless others through your generous giving. Working together, we accomplish much. It is appreciated!

AED INSTRUCTIONS. Dr. Drew Haussmann has agreed to speak with us on how to use our new AED. Anyone interested can meet in the Front Lounge after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, January 23. We hope to see you there!

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!

“DREAM WEEK”; **UNITED CHURCHES OF LYCOMING COUNTY:**
HONORING THE WORK AND LEGACY OF THE REV. DR. MARTIN
LUTHER KING JR.
(January 16-22, 2022).

Monday, January 17, 10:45 am. Peace Walk. Christ Community Worship Center, 436 W. Fourth St., Williamsport.

Monday, January 17, 7 pm. Pastor Drew Hart (Theology Professor at Messiah College, an Anti-Racism Leader), Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Tuesday, January 18 and Wednesday, January 19: Blood Drive at Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Wednesday, January 19, noon-6:30 pm: Virtual Zoom Simulation led by Bread for the World regarding hunger, racial equity and wealth. The Zoom Link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88609741957>.

All Week Service Project: Donation drive to benefit Dwell Orphan Care and Firetree Place. Consult Beloved Community Council's Facebook Page for more information.

Please contact the United Churches of Lycomg County for more information and/or registration (570-322-1110 or www.uclc.org).

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY (January 18-25, 2022).

My Dear Friend in Christ,

Each year the worldwide **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** (January 18-25) encourages us to renew our commitment to pray and to work for greater unity among all followers of Jesus Christ. In 2022, we joyfully commemorate the 58th anniversary of the promulgation of the **Decree on Ecumenism** of the Second Vatican Council, which brought the Catholic Church into the modern ecumenical movement.

It is a pleasure to invite you to join me for an Ecumenical Celebration of God's Word on **Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 12:10 p.m.** in Saint Peter's Cathedral, Scranton, Pennsylvania. All are most welcome to attend!

Faithfully yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L.
Bishop of Scranton

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+ In honor of Anna's and Laura's 23rd birthday by Dan and Diane Zeigler.

COMMEMORATIONS

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356

Monday, January 17, 2022

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346

Monday, January 17, 2022

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

Confession of Peter

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting

beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304

Friday, January 21, 2022

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.