

# **The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*The Sunday after the Ascension*

**May 12, 2024**

## **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 seek, "To know Christ and to make Christ known."*



## **An Order for Holy Communion 8 am and 10:30 am**

**(Setting One, *Lutheran Book of Worship*)**

### **Please Note:**

**Hand sanitizer is available for your use. Offerings may be received by way of offering plates as you enter or leave.**

**Bold print indicates Congregation.**

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

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

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

*Our gospel for this Seventh Sunday of Easter is an excerpt from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in the Gospel according to John on the night before his death. It includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is one of mutual abiding; interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. It is the work of the Spirit whom we have received and upon whom we also wait.*

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### **ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism,

let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep

and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool an Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia**

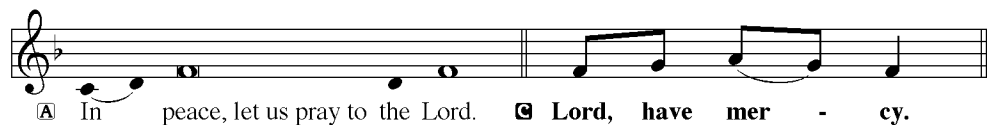
\*HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

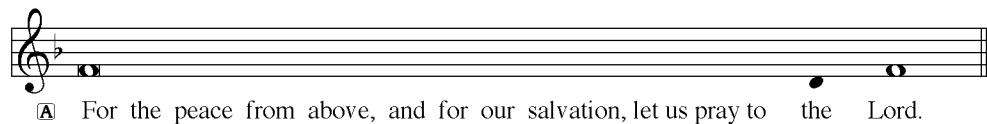
LBW, "Green", 369



# \*KYRIE



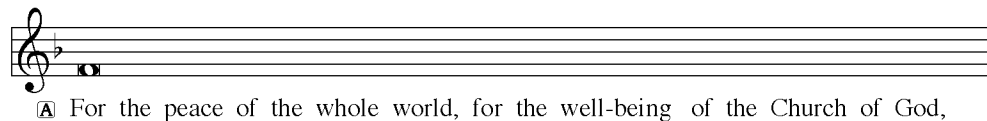
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



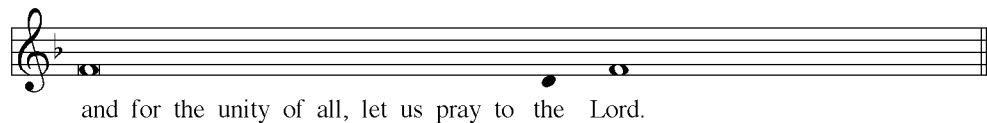
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



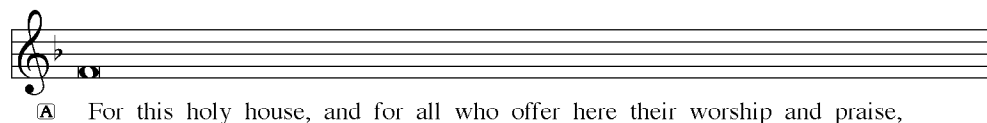
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



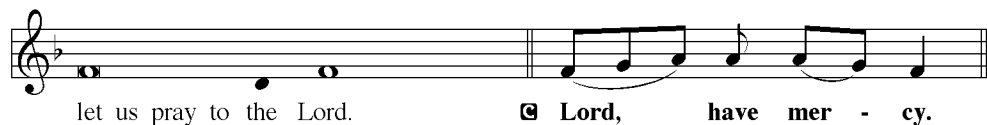
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**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

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. II. 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. III Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and  
 strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glu-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. IV Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and  
 join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glu-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. V 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.

## **\*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, 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.....Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>“Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—<sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.  
Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 1**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel | of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats | of the scornful!

<sup>2</sup>**Their delight is in the law | of the LORD,**  
**and they meditate on God’s teaching | day and night. R**

<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that | do not wither;

everything they | do shall prosper.

<sup>4</sup>**It is not so | with the wicked;**

**they are like chaff which the wind | blows away.**

5Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when | judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council | of the righteous.

6**For the LORD knows the way | of the righteous,**  
**but the way of the wicked shall | be destroyed.**

**THE SECOND READING.....1 John 5:9-13**

9If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. 10Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. 11And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

13I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*THE 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. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*THE GOSPEL.....John 17:6-19**

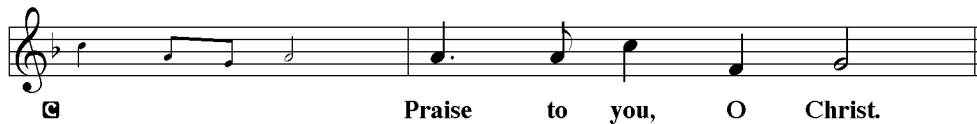
The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] 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. 12While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. 13But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. 14I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 15I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. 16They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 17Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. 18As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. 19And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



## THE SERMON

**\*HYMN I Come with Joy**

**Last Page of Bulletin**

### **\*THE NICENE 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and 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,  
who with the Father and the Son 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.**

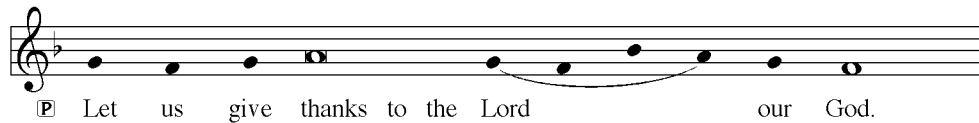
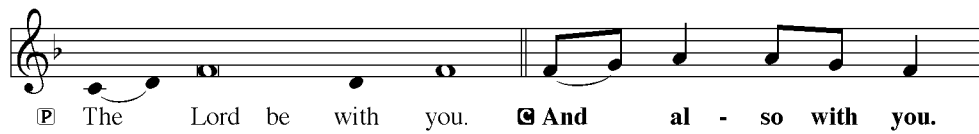
**\*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** *After each petition, “God of  
Grace/Hear our prayer”.*

**\*THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*All may greet one another with these or similar words and/or gestures of peace.*

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly we are 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 to eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels, 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, 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.

**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.

**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.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

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.



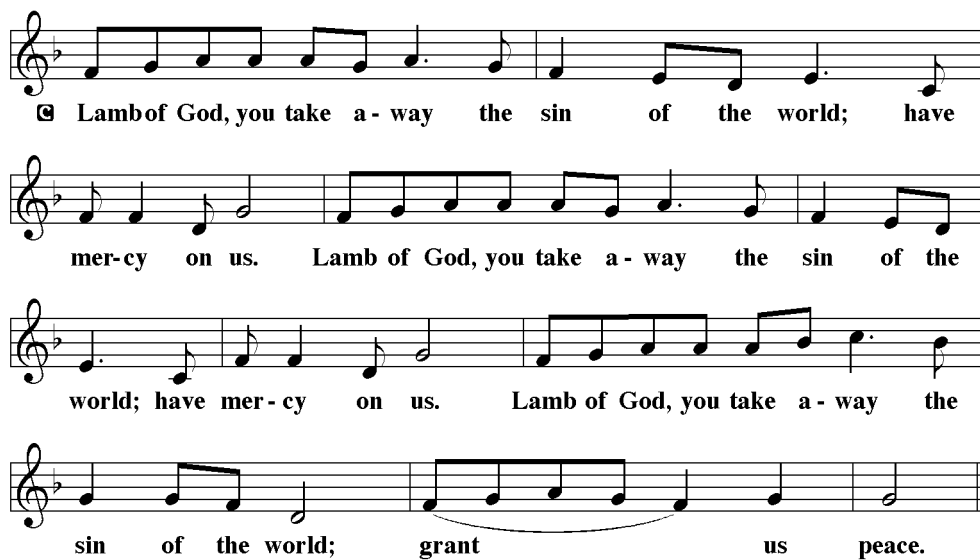
Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty of the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is yours, al -  
might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

### **\*OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.

### **\*INVITATION**

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come, share in the meal of resurrection. **Amen.**

## **COMMUNION**

*All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Use the center aisle, pick up a small glass on the way. Receive the bread and then proceed to receive the wine by way of a pouring chalice. After communing return to your pew using a side aisle. Those not communing may come forward for a blessing.*

*Know that the crucified and risen Christ gives himself to you in his supper. If you cannot eat bread, drink only the wine. If you cannot drink wine, eat only the bread*

### **\*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**

God of resurrection and new life,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

### **\*BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, unending joy and Easter hope:

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

**Amen.**

**\*HYMN      Lord, You Give the Great Commission      WOV, "Blue", 756**

### **\*DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **THE POSTLUDE**



Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Mike Ford,

Walt Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Yvonne and Gerry Myers, Ariel, John Bower, Joseph Baur, Glenn Yapple, John Tartline.

**OUR STEWARDSHIP      May 5, 2024**



Regular Offering	\$4,072.00
Plate Offerings	35.00
Family Promise Hosting	30.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	70.00
Memorials	1,000.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,207.00</b>

**WORSHIP**

**WORSHIP LEADERS  
May 12, 2024**

Lector	8:00AM	Becky Pryor
	10:30AM	Donna Boston
Communion Assistants	8:00AM	Drew Haussmann
	10:30AM	Dan Zeigler
Organist		Sam Robinson
Ushers:	8:00AM	Richard Miller and Herb Poff
	10:30AM	Tim Maggs, captain Carl Hieber and Charles Kuntz
Altar Guild	MAY	Wanda Fortin and Mindy Wentzel

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



+In Loving Memory of Rosena Haines by Dan Zeigler.

+In Honor of our Mothers, Judy Fortin and Ruth Ann Bigelow by Wanda and Matt Fortin.

+In Loving Memory of Shirley Miller by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

## **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!

## **May Bible Study**



The Faith Formation Committee is pleased to once again be offering the opportunity to grow in our faith through a 4 week study focusing on women of the Bible. Which women you ask? You will have to join us Wednesdays in

May from 12:10 -12:45 for the answer to that question! We look forward to our time together, and hope you will join us.

## **The Bus Trip to see “Daniel” at Sight and Sound Theatre**



Wednesday, September 11, 2024. The cost of the trip, which includes the show, meal and bus fare is \$153.00/person. We will depart from the lower west end of Beiter’s Parking Lot (Williamsport) at 6 am sharp. Please contact Cheryl Williams (570) 327-1627 to reserve space and to answer any questions concerning the trip.



## Summer Hospitality!

The summer months are once again upon us and with them come long, lazy days, swimming, camping, smores, suntans, and all sorts of fun, summery things. At St. Mark's, summer also means a single service beginning at 9:30 AM.

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!

## Spring Cleaning? Got Stuff?



The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee and the Women of St. Mark's need donations for our annual Fall Sale. We will need many more donations than we currently have if we are to have a sale in 2024.

We are accepting holiday decorations, housewares, linens, toys, small working electronics, gadgets, dishes, jewelry, lamps, art work and the list goes on. If you don't want it, we probably can sell it. Not certain we can use it, speak to Becky Miller Pryor before bringing it.

Please place your donations in boxes small enough for us to lift and place them in the Bazaar Room in the basement. If you cannot get to the basement, leaving them on the stage is fine.

## Family Promise



Our next hosting begins on May 19 and runs to May 25. Please think about donating a dinner one day during that week - it can be something you make, something you have delivered or ingredients to make a meal. If you can help, please let me know - Deb Buckman, [dabuckman65@gmail.com](mailto:dabuckman65@gmail.com), 570-323-1707





## Senior Voice Recital: Alanna Ramos

Sunday, May 26 at 2pm  
St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
All Are Welcome



Worship and Music Committee will meet on Sunday May 19, 2024 after the 10:30 Service.



**Don't forget to wear Red on Sunday May 19, 2024 in celebration of Pentecost**

## Busy Bags for Hospitalized Children



Church Women United of Lycoming County (CWU) are requesting items for Busy Bags. These colorful bags are given to pediatric patients, ages three through twelve, who are recovering from illness or injury while hospitalized. Please help by donating one or more of the following items.

- Coloring books, crayons, colored pencils, finger puppets, fidget toys, socks, Slinkys, Nerf balls, sticker books, Play-Doh and small puzzles.

Items will be collected now through June 2. A tub for your donations is in the Narthex.

## Danville State Hospital Shoe Drive



Again, this year, Danville State Hospital is sponsoring a shoe drive for its residents. They are collecting new and gently used sneakers and shoes for both men and women in adult sizes. Please note they cannot accept high heels or other “fancy” shoes.

Donations will be accepted through June 2 and may be placed in the tub in the Narthex.

## Blessing Box Needs



With the hot temperatures of summer, it is difficult to provide our usual meat and cheese sandwiches. In addition to the many peanut butter and jelly sandwiches we will provide during the summer months, the Parish Life and Evangelism and Fellowship Committees are asking for two specific donations. They are **Star-Kist Deli Style Tuna Salad** and **Star-Kist Chicken Salad**.

Both come in a foil packet and are ready to eat. These items do not need refrigeration and resist spoiling due to extreme temperatures. A container is available in the Narthex for these specific items. We will be collecting these packets throughout the summer.

P.S. Many times these items are on sale at our local super markets.

## Desserts for Redeemer’s Community Dinner



The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee needs your help in providing June’s dessert. We are asking congregation members to donate boxes of Tastykake’s of any kind. Donations may be placed on the table in the Narthex.

Monday, May 13, -  
 Sunday, May 19, 2024



Monday, May 13	Church Council	ML 6:00PM
Tuesday, May 14		
Wednesday, May 15	Bible Study	FH 12:10PM
	Holy Communion Williamsport Home Building A	2:00PM
Thursday, May 16	WCCO Spring Concert Rehearsal	7:00PM
Friday, May 17	WCCO Spring Concert	7:30 PM
Saturday, May 18		
Sunday, May 19	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>8:00AM</b>
	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>10:30AM</b>

**BIRTHDAYS**

Catherine Lundy	May 13	Karen Mariano	May 14
Jane Larson	May 15	Stephen Boone	May 18
Candace Dewar	May 19	Kenneth Schreckengast	May 19

**ANNIVERSARIES**

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 email [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

## Matthias, Apostle



*Tuesday, May 14, 2024*

Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.

## Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160



*Saturday, May 18, 2024*

Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden. As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia. He was also known for his attempts to make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.

## I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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