

THE FESTIVAL OF CHRIST THE KING

The Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 23, 2025

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.

Offerings may be received by way of offering plates as you enter or leave.

An Order for Holy Communion, 8 & 10:30 am

(Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting 1)

A guide to hymnal use: All hymns are printed in the bulletin and when reference is available the LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book

Light print = Pastor/Leader. Bold print = Congregation.

****Please stand as you are able.***

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Sarabande

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (8am and 10:30am)**

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

Amen.

Joined to Christ our King in the waters of holy baptism,

we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.

Let us give thanks for the waters of baptism.

Water is poured into the font.

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 with the Holy Spirit.
By water and the Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for this 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.
Amen.

(10:30am)

At this time I would ask Ryan Kane,
who desires to make public affirmation of his baptism,
and be united with this household of faith,
to come forward.

Ryan, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus,
reject sin, and confess the faith of the church:

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
Ryan: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world, that rebel against God?
Ryan: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you away from God?
Ryan: I renounce them.

Let us pray: We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit
you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in
Ryan the gift of your Holy Spirit to live among God's faithful people, to hear the
word of God and share in the Lord's Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in
Christ through word and deed, to serve all people following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Amen.

Now it is our joy to welcome Ryan to our household of faith!

***HYMN All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name**
(stanzas 1-4)

LBW, "Green," 328

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
2 Crown him, you mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar call;
3 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod and crown him Lord of all.
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.



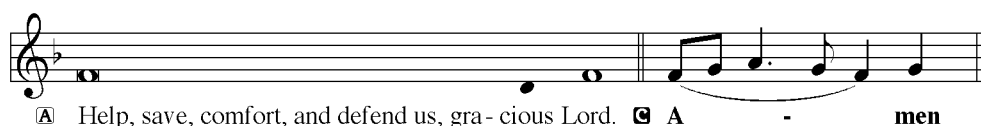
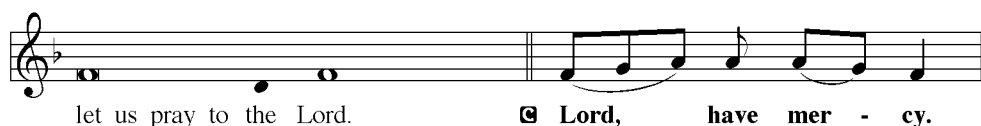
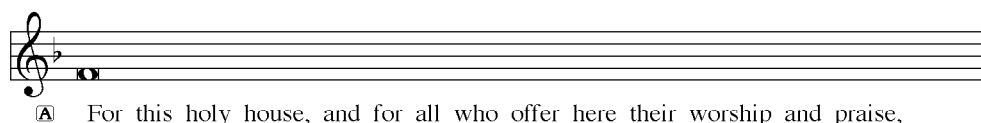
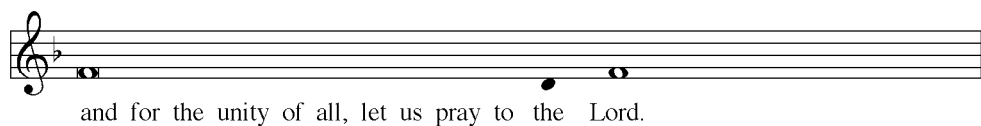
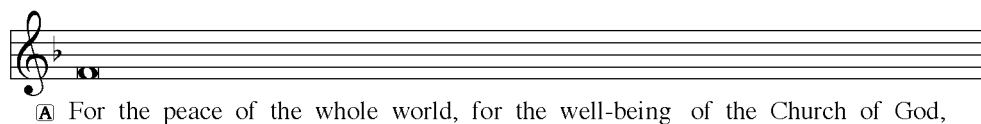
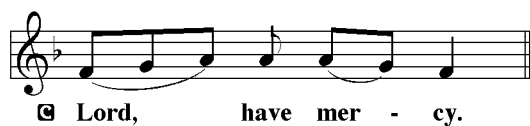
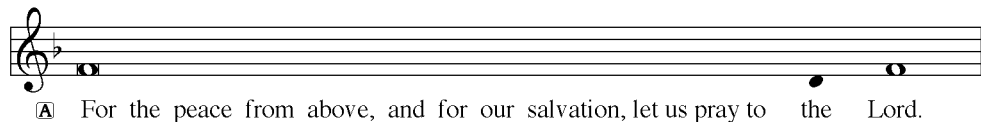
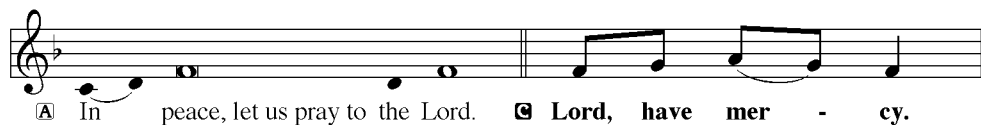
Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.

***THE GREETING**

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

And also with you.

*KYRIE



*HYMN OF PRAISE

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was
 slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
 C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. II Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
 strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.
 C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. III 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.
 C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. IV For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
 C 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.

Let us pray. O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ² Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,**
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;

³ though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,**
the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;**

God speaks, and the earth | melts away.

⁷ The LORD of | hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,**

what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”

¹¹ The LORD of | hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

THE SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



*THE GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

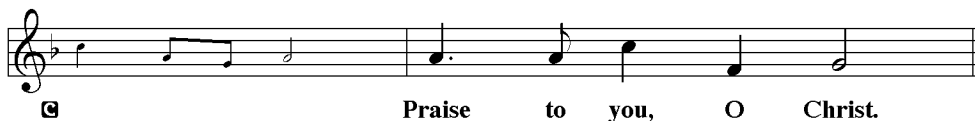
The holy gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.



³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?” ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” ⁴³ He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

*HYMN The Head That Once Was Crowned

LBW, “Green,” 173

The Head That Once Was Crowned



- 1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glo - ry now;
- 2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is his by sov'-reign right,
- 3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the joy of all be - low
- 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is giv'n;



a roy - al di - a - dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.
the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heav'n's e - ter - nal light.
to whom he man - i - fests his love, and grants his name to know;
their name, an ev - er - last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855

Music: ST. MAGNUS, Jeremiah Clarke, 1669–1707

***THE NICENE CREED**

With all the people of God, 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.

People may greet one another with these or similar words.

ANTHEM (10:30am)

Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates

William Mathias (1934-1992)

*OFFERING



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

God of healing and hope,

you bless those who are hungry,

promising to fill them with good things.

Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.

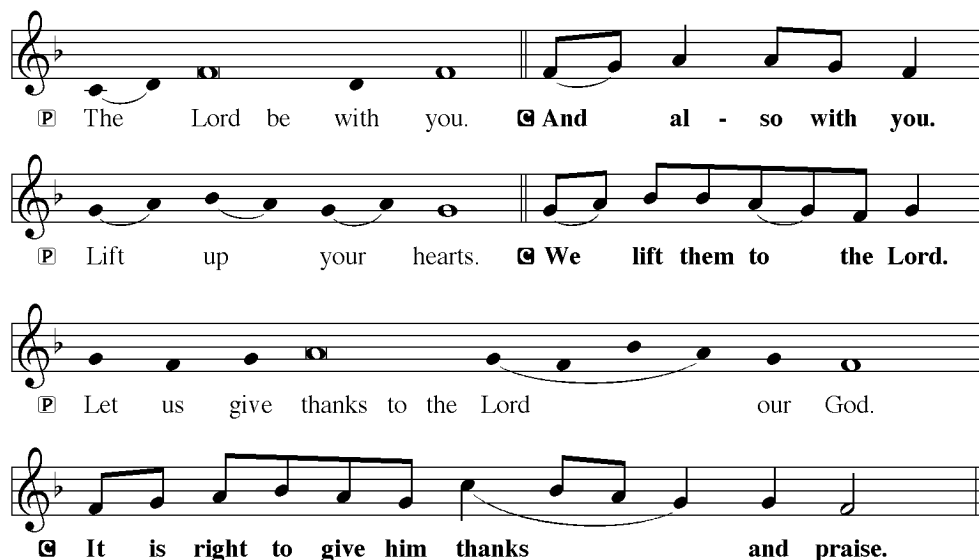
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast

and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,

now and forever.

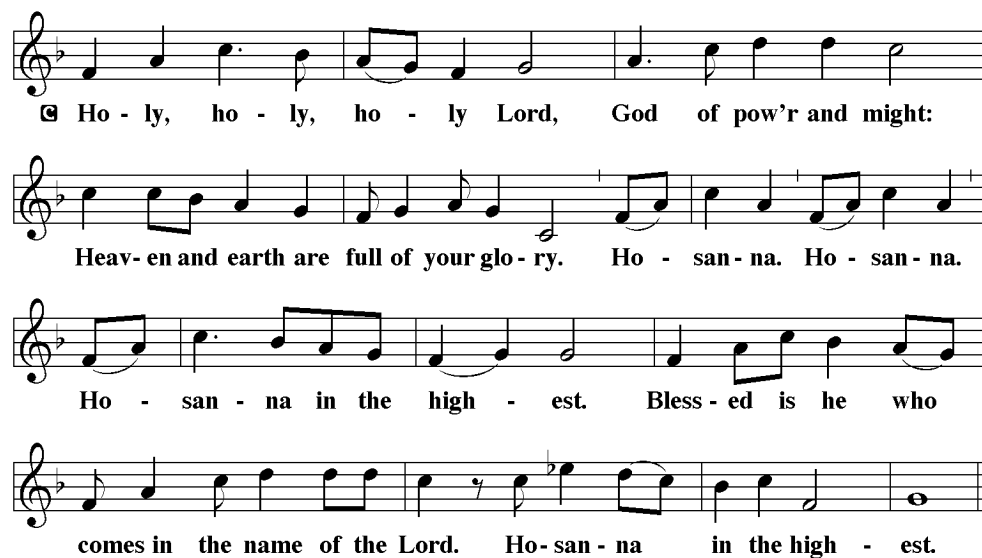
Amen.

*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.

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 Jesus Christ our Sovereign and Savior of the universe, 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'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.

Holy, mighty and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In your great love you sent to us Jesus your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached the good news to the poor,
and who on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 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."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us.

Pour out upon us
the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Christ, our Lord;
that we might be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at your heavenly banquet.
Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory are 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,

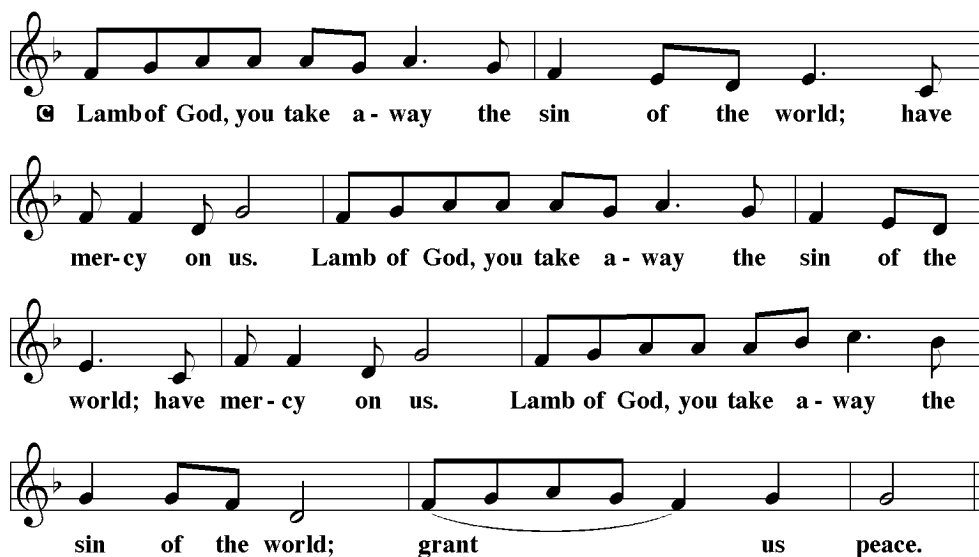
but deliver us from evil.

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.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNE**

There is a place for you at the table of God.

Come, receive the food that does not perish,

a taste of life eternal.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

All are welcome at our Lord's Table. Use the center aisle to come forward, pick up a small cup on the way. Receive the bread from Pastor Vasey and then proceed to receive the wine from one of two pouring chalices. After communing, please return to your pew by the side aisles. Those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

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

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**

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.

Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

Amen

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

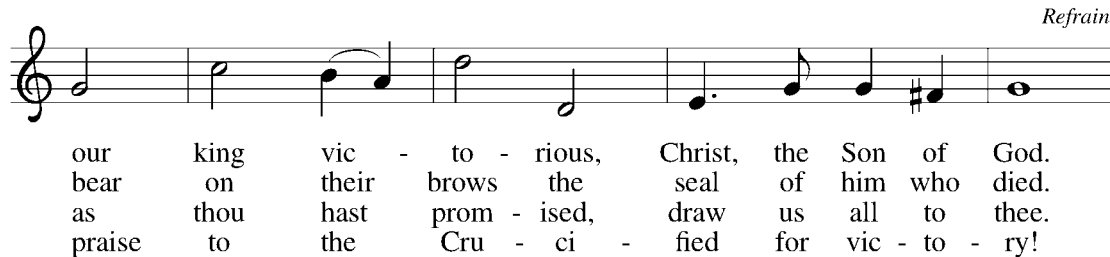
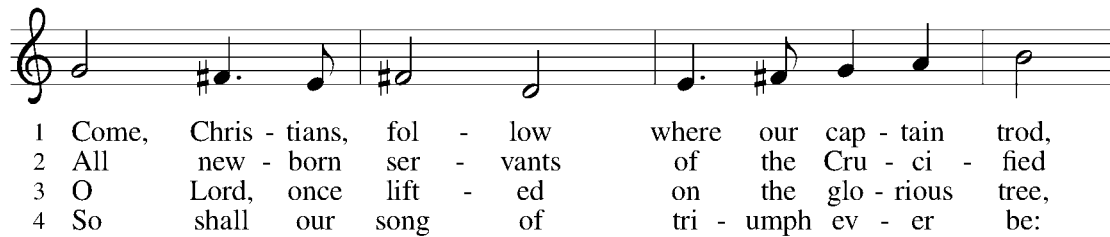
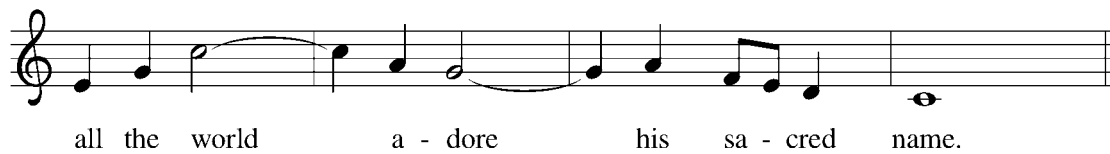
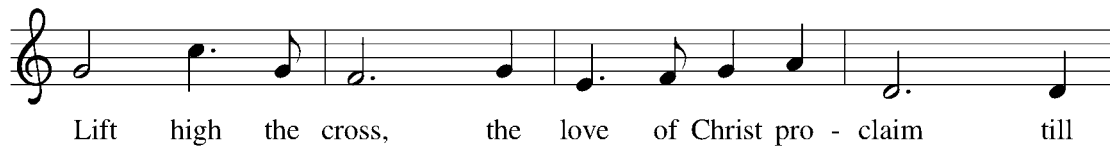
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor ☩ and give you peace.

Amen.

***HYMN Lift High the Cross No Reference Available**

Lift High the Cross



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Crown Imperial

William Walton (1902-1983)

Music Notes

For Christ the King Sunday, today's music highlights the majesty and ceremonial dignity of English choral and organ traditions, offering a musical reflection on the sovereignty of Christ. Handel's Sarabande opens worship with a sense of stately grandeur, its poised and measured lines recalling the noble bearing associated with royal ceremony. Mathias's Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates proclaims, with bold

rhythmic energy and vivid harmony, the entrance of the “King of Glory,” reflecting Psalm 24’s vision of Christ as the triumphant ruler. Walton’s Crown Imperial concludes the service with the sweeping pageantry that has made it one of the most recognizable English ceremonial marches. Originally written for the coronation of King George VI in 1937, its regal themes and triumphant spirit offer a musical image of Christ’s eternal kingship, fulfilled in glory over all creation.

OUR PRAYER LIST

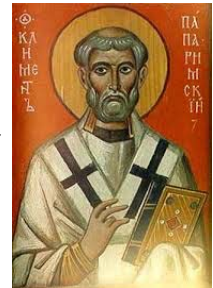
Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, Gary Cable, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Ariel, John Tartline, George Poliska, Connie Shaible, John and Terry Holohan, Loretta Hawe, Carol Waltz, and the family of James Masser.

COMMEMORATIONS

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.



Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"



Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America

Monday, November 24, 2025



Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms.



WELCOME RYAN!

Today we welcome Ryan Kane into the membership of St. Mark's! Ryan joins St. Mark's by way of transfer from Bethany Lutheran Church, Montoursville. Welcome Ryan!

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today, November 23	Stewardship Commitment Sunday Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:15 am
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Monday, November 24	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
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Tuesday, November 25	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
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Wednesday, November 26	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
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Thursday, November 27	Office Closed, Happy Thanksgiving
Friday, November 28	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
Saturday, November 29	Office Closed
Sunday, November 30	First Sunday of Advent Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: NOVEMBER 2-23, 2025

Our 2025 Stewardship Campaign concludes today, Sunday, November 23. As you make your financial commitment to serving Christ in 2025, think about all St. Mark's does to know Christ and to make Christ known in our community and our world.

Today is Commitment Sunday for our "Because of God's Great Mercy" stewardship campaign.

Many of us have brought our commitment card form to worship today.

Others have filled out a card that is within your bulletin.

All are invited to place your commitment card in the offering plate.

OUR STEWARDSHIP for November 16, 2025

Regular Offering	\$2007.00
Plate Offerings	40.00
Thanksgiving	225.00
Bulletin Sponsor	20.00
World Hunger	50.00
Food Pantry	150.00
Global Mission	50.00
Parish Life	20.00
Christmas Flowers	168.00
Flower Memorials/Tributes	70.00
Synod Benevolence	10.00
Grand Total	\$2810.00

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God; and
In Celebration of our St. Mark's Family; and
In loving memory of Shirley Miller on her birthday by her children and
grandchildren.

BULLETIN SPONSOR:

The bulletins were sponsored by Sarah Young, thank you Sarah!

WORSHIP LEADERS for November 23, 2025

Lector	8:00 am	Candy Dewar
	10:30 am	Donna Boston
Communion Assistants	8:00 am	Jackie Kinney
	10:30 am	Ralph & Lou Ann Ziegler
Ushers	8:00 am	Miller/Poff
	10:30 am	Gary & Shelby Weber
Hospitality	8:00 am	Candy Dewar
	10:30 am	Parish Life
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild (NOVEMBER)		Matt & Wanda Fortin

BIRTHDAYS

Sally Bjornstad	11/23	Stephen Dewar	11/25
James Newcomer (Jr)	11/23	Kaitlin Jensen	11/27
Nancy Bieber	11/25		

KEEP IN MIND:

~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) email (bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org) or his cell phone (272-788-0161). Do not assume the pastor will know of your need any other way.

~ When you or a loved one has a change of address, email, or telephone number, please contact the church office at stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org or 570-323-4619. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family, so that in may be included in the weekly bulletin and/or the "Lion."



So we are done for this year however, please do not stop thinking about the kits and the items for them! Watch the clearance racks and shelves for items and snap them up. If you do not want to store them at home, you can bring them to the church and put them in the office opposite the middle lounge - you will know which one it is - the messy one with boxes, etc. Baby clothes, towels, etc. can be found on clearance. Deb Buckman



WANT TO EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN? Adults wishing to unite with St. Mark's in church membership are invited to contact PASTOR VASEY at 570-323-4619 or email: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org.



Urgent Needs At.....

Shepherd of the Streets: Women's deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, bar soap and baby wash, wipes and shampoo. Any other hygiene item is also greatly appreciated.

Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM): Needed are brown, large-size lunch bags, Dixie paper bowls (10-12 oz.) and plastic forks. FYI: STM serves more than **600** meals each week that include both eat-in and brown bag lunches to go.

United Churches Food Pantry: Still needed are jars of peanut butter, spaghetti sauce, canned pineapple, pancake syrup, jelly, boxed potatoes and boxed stuffing. As we near the holiday season, please consider continuing to offer non-perishable food items to be used by the Pantry. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated as the need is great and growing.

Gifts to the Ladies of CM-6 and the Residents of the Danville State Hospital

Due to the various schedules of the Selinsgrove Center and the Danville State Hospital, we need to start now to collect gifts for their Christmas celebrations.

For the ladies of CM-6, we are in need of cozy slipper socks, pudding cups in all flavors but vanilla, (Vanilla is the only flavor the center serves.) moisturizing body

wash and money to offset the cost of items not donated. We will also take a basket of individually wrapped snacks for the caregivers. Donations of needed items and snacks can be placed in the tub in the Narthex. Monetary donations may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating "Selinsgrove Party." Thank you in advance for any help you are able to give.

For the Residents of the Danville State Hospital, we supply general gifts that can be used where they are most needed. This need is greatest for those residents who arrive at the hospital in November or December. Items being requested this year for both men and women include socks, hats, gloves, scarves, inexpensive wallets and watches, underwear, sweatshirts, sweat pants, t-shirts and slippers in sizes large and up. Regular sizes of body wash, shampoo, conditioner, body lotion and deodorant are also requested. All donations should be left unwrapped and placed in the tub in the Narthex. Thank you for any assistance you can give to this outreach.

Donations for the Ladies of CM- 6 and Danville State Hospital are due ASAP and no later than Sunday, December 7, 2025.

Holiday Cookie Trays

Need cookies for Christmas? The Rise Up Village Bakery (riseupvillagebakery@gmail.com) is offering Holiday Cookie Trays. One tray contains three dozen assorted cookies plus extra sweet surprises. Profits benefit the United Churches of Lycoming County.

Price: \$25.00 (Prepay by December 2)

Pickup: Choice of December 9 or December 16

Order Link: <https://forms.gle/uXJdp35RoJmD4Wq97> or call 570-215-3577

Thanksgiving Day Greetings

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee thanks the congregation for their assistance in sending Thanksgiving greetings to our Special Concern Folks and others we do not see often enough. We are certain these greetings will bring smiles to many faces.

Church Women United - Update

Members of CWU make fidget bags and small fidget quilts for hospitalized children and nursing home residents. If any members of St. Mark's have cotton or cotton/polyester material they wish to donate to the ladies, please leave it in the Narthex and the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee will deliver it to them.



Christmas Flower Orders: The order form for Christmas flowers is available today in the narthex. Flower orders must be ordered by **today, November 23**. You may return order forms to the collection plate or the church office. Thank you!



Please join us on Sunday, November 30, for our annual Advent Wreath-making event. We will gather in Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour (9:15 ish) to create an Advent Wreath for your family to use at home during the Advent season. We will be making our wreaths in a variety of vessels and containers, using wet floral foam to keep the greens fresh throughout the Advent season. All materials will be provided! Please sign up in the Narthex or RSVP by contacting Vicki Haussmann at (570) 447-3263. We look forward to seeing you there!

* Materials will also be available after the 10:30 service should you wish to meander on over to Fellowship Hall and create a wreath for your home.



175th Anniversary Committee

The 175th Anniversary of the founding of St. Mark's Lutheran Church (formed as the First English Evangelical Lutheran Church) will take place in early 2027. This milestone anniversary is worthy of celebration, and we would like to begin planning for this special occasion. In an effort to accomplish this task, a 175th Anniversary Committee has been formed, and our first meeting took place in September. If you missed this meeting, no worries! We are meeting again in Middle Lounge today, **November 23 after the 10:30 service**. If you are interested please come ~ along with any and all ideas you may have. If you are interested

but can't make this meeting, please reach out to Vicki Haussmann. Looking forward to seeing you there!



St. Mark's Church Council cordially invites you to attend a brunch immediately following the December 7th Annual Congregational Meeting. Our brunch menu, catered by The Food Guy, is tentatively set for quiche, egg casserole fresh fruit, sweet treats, and beverages and will be served in Fellowship Hall. We look forward to this time of Christian Fellowship, and hope that our time together might be a blessing to you during the busy holiday season.

We ask that you please RSVP by November 30 so that we have an accurate count to give to the caterer. You can drop your RSVP in the offering plate any time!
Thanks!

**Annual Congregational Meeting
Brunch RSVP**

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

Please return by: November 30, 2025

* A free will donation will be taken.



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