

The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 15, 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. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Our COVID-19 Guidelines:

- **Hand sanitizer is available for your use.**
- **Face masks are optional.**
- **Offerings may be received by way of baskets as you enter or leave.**
- **Please continue to observe social distancing and our directives as to where to sit.**

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 *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* JS Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCING THE DAY

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.
For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Water is poured into the font as the pastor continues.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.
You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.
Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.

Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.
To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

LBW, "Green", 315

*THE GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*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



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, 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

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Acts 11:1-18

1Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. 2So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, 3saying, “Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?” 4Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. 6As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. 7I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ 8But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ 9But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ 10This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. 11At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. 12The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. 13He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; 14he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’ 15And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. 16And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ 17If then God

gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?” 18When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148

1Hallelujah! Praise the LORD| from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

**2Praise the LORD, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

3Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

**4Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

5Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

**6who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.**

7Praise the LORD| from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

**8fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God’s will;**

9mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

**10wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**

11sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

**12young | men and maidens,
old and | young together.**

13Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

**14The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful
servants,**

the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!

THE SECOND LESSON.....Revelation 21:1-6

1I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2And I saw the holy city, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

5And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” 6Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”
The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***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 13:31-35

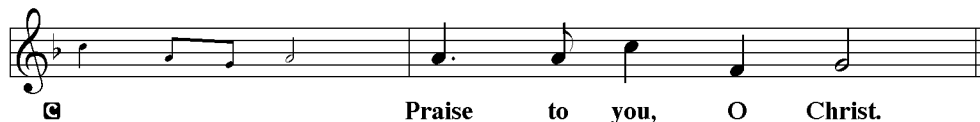
P The holy gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

31When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I

say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

*HYMN Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

WOV, "Blue", 674

*THE NICENE CREED

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

***THE PRAYERS**

After each petition: God in your mercy/Receive our prayer.

***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, limiting physical touch and physical contact.*


***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



Ⓐ The Lord be with you. Ⓑ And also 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 in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly are we 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 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, 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.

P 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, and 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.

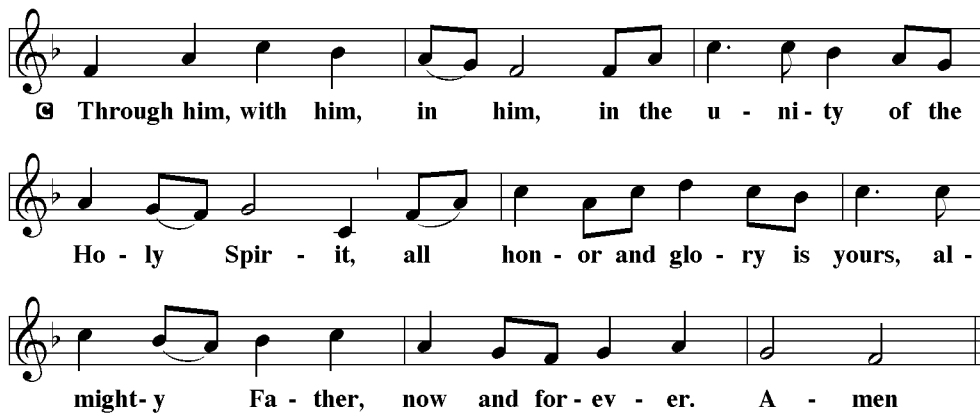
Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

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, Lord Jesus.

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**

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;

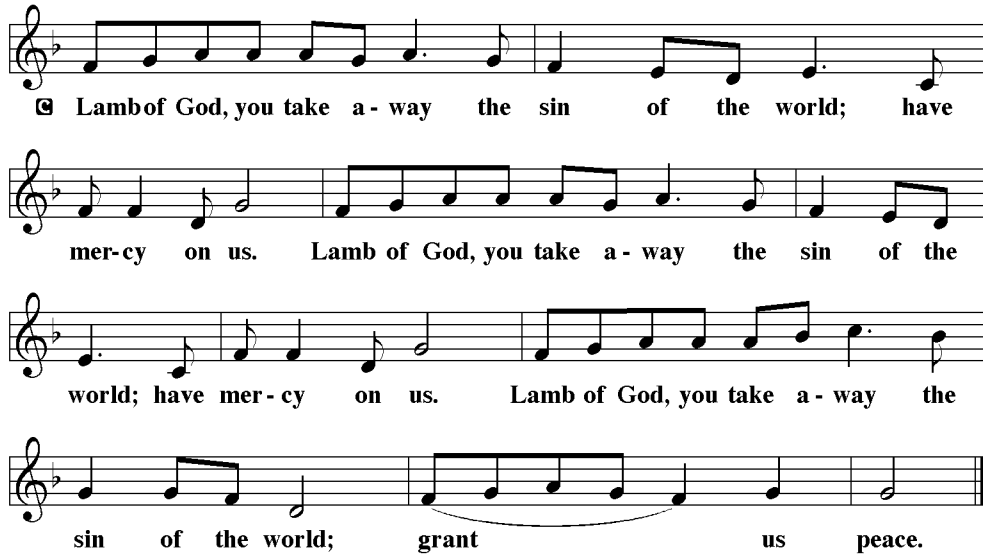
and lead us not into temptation,

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:

- *Observing social distancing communicants 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 at this time. Thank you!

P The risen Christ dwells with us here.
All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

C **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God, for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

***BLESSING**

P Almighty God, the God of resurrection and new life; Father, Son † and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

***HYMN Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee LBW, "Green", 551**

***DISMISSAL**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune Jeremiah Clarke

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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, Susan Kalabacas, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, Mary Lou Doebler, Walt Haussmann, Jeremy Splain, Marion Waldeisen, Ryan Dancho, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

WORSHIP LEADERS (5/15/2022)

Lector 8 a.m. Candy Dewar
 10:30 a.m. Audrey Albright

Communion Assistants

 8 a.m. Drew Haussmann
 10:30 a.m. Dan Zeigler

Organist Sam Robinson

USHERS:

8 a.m. Dick Miller/Herb Poff
10:30 a.m. Captain: Matt Fortin; Glenn Yaple, Bud Doebler

DO YOU ENJOY QUILTING?

St. Mark's would like to "resurrect" our Quilting Ministry! If you like to sew or quilt or are just interested contact Kathy Dancho at 570-435-2716 or dancho2@verizon.net.

THE AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and first aid kit are located in the hallway outside of the chapel.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE. Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Rest assured that gifts to Eastern Europe Crisis Response will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Should you wish to contribute please make

checks payable to St. Mark's and note, "Ukraine" on the memo line. Thank you for your gifts and prayers for the people of Ukraine.

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!

FAMILY PROMISE. Family Promise is up and running again with families staying at the Center. St. Mark's is scheduled for July 10-16, Oct. 16-22 and Dec. 11-17. Our commitment at this point would be providing evening meals. I will be getting in touch with our "cooks" later this month. Thank You! Deb Buckman.

OUR STEWARDSHIP (5/08/2022)

Regular Offering	2965.00
Sunday School	5.00
Grand Total	2970.00



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Loving Memory of Grace Lehman, by daughter Lois Winters Goldy
+In Honor of my dad, by Todd Smith





Erik, King of
Sweden



Helena, mother
of Constantine

COMMEMORATIONS

Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

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.

Helena, mother of Constantine, died around 330

Saturday, May 21, 2022

Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.

