

The Second Sunday after Pentecost June 19, 2022

in the 169^h Year of the Parish

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

42 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 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.



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.

An Order for Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m., Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Two, (LBW, “Green Book”)

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Prelude on New Britain* Loras S. Kendall

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

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. The congregation may kneel.

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 In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given 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 unto 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 In Christ There Is No East or West LBW, "Green", 359**

***THE GREETING**

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

C And also with you.

***GLORY TO GOD**

A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, 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. O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

THE FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 65:1-9

1I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.

2I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;

3a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;

4who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

5who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.

6See, it is written before me:

I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their laps

7their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;
because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,
I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.

8Thus says the LORD:
As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"
so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.

9I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 22:19-28

19But you, O LORD, be not | far away;
O my help, hasten | to my aid.

**20Deliver me | from the sword,
my life from the power | of the dog.**

21Save me from the | lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have | rescued me.

**22I will declare your name | to my people;
in the midst of the assembly | I will praise you.**

23You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's | line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- | spring of Israel.

**24For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither
is the LORD's face hid- | den from them;
but when they cry out, | the LORD hears them.**

25From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear the LORD.

**26The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts | live forever!**

27All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;

all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

**28 For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations.**

THE SECOND LESSON.....Galatians 3:23-39

23 Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. 24 Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. 27 As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....Luke 8:26-39**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

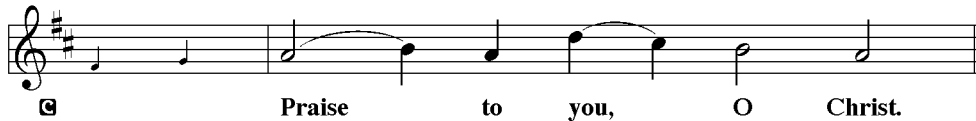
26 Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. 27 As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—29 for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) 30 Jesus then asked him, "What is your

name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. 31 They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

32 Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. 33 Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

34 When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. 35 Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. 36 Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. 37 Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. 38 The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, 39 "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing LBW, "Green", 559**

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, we 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 power of 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition, “Lord, in your mercy/Hear our prayer.”

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.


C And also with you.

*The minister and congregation greet one another with these or similar words,
and/or gestures of peace, limiting physical touch and contact with one another.*


***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give 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, through Christ our Lord; 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, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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 In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,**

thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen

***LAMB OF GOD**



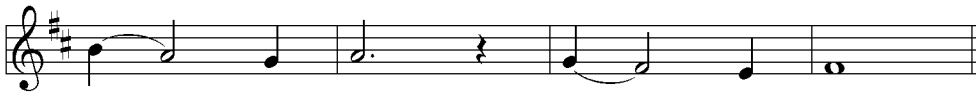
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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, 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 In Christ's presence there is fulness of joy! Come to the banquet!

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.

Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.

This we pray in the name of Jesus.

C **Amen.**

***THE BLESSING**

P The God of peace,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.

C **Amen.**

***HYMN Our Father, By Whose Name**

LBW, "Green", 357

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, love your neighbor.

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



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!



OUR STEWARDSHIP 6/12/22)

Regular Offering	2,945.00
Plate Offerings	20.00
Miscellaneous	125.00
World Hunger	50.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Operation Christmas Child	50.00
Disaster Relief	50.00
Flower/Memorials/Tributes	30.00
Memorials	50.00
Synod Benevolence	25.00
Family Promise	100.00
Pastor’s Discretionary Fund	50.00
Grand Total	\$3,545.00



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+ In honor of Sarah and Elliot Jones’ 10th Anniversary by
Sally Bjornstad



BUS TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND

A bus trip to see the show **David** at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA is being organized by Cheryl Williams. This trip is being planned for Wednesday, September 14, the 11:00 a.m. show. While the bus will be pulling out around 6:00 AM, the early start will certainly be well worth it! Bus

fare, show ticket, and dinner are all included in the price (roughly \$130-\$150 depending on number attending). If interested, please contact Cheryl Williams at (570) 327-1627.



JULY FOURTH HELP NEEDED

In just a bit over two weeks St. Mark's annual July Fourth Lawn Party will be occurring. We need help in a number of ways. Can you make a donation of candy, snacks or money? See the June "Lion" for details. Can you work the event? Sign up sheets are in the Narthex.

Can you help before the event? Next Sunday, June 26, after the service we will bring all the supplies for this event from the basement to Fellowship Hall. Many hands make for quick and easy work. Meet in Fellowship Hall to help.



DEADLINE FOR JULY NEWSLETTER

Don't forget the deadline for the July newsletter is June 20th. Thank you for all the submissions that make the newsletter such a great source of information.

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Community Blood Drive

Friday, July 8

Church in the Courtyard and Picnic

Sunday, July 24

Special Congregational Assembly

Sunday, July 24

Blessings of the Backpacks

Sunday, August 21

COMMEMORATIONS



Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

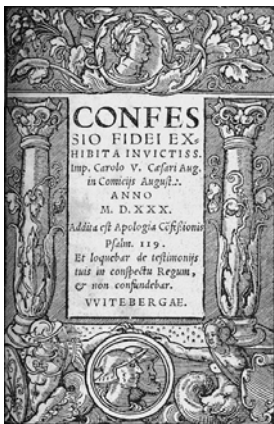
Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured, enslaved, and taken to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there.



John the Baptist

Friday, June 24, 2022

John said, "[Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease." And so his birth is celebrated half a year before Jesus', just as the daylight in the northern hemisphere begins to wane. Jesus honored John as being the greatest prophet.



Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530

Saturday, June 25, 2022

On this day in 1530 the German and Latin editions of the Augsburg Confession were presented to the Emperor Charles of the Holy Roman Empire. The Augsburg Confession was written by Philipp Melanchthon and endorsed by Martin Luther, and consists of a brief summary of points in which the reformers saw their teaching as either agreeing with or differing from that of the Roman Catholic Church of the time.



Philipp Melanchthon, renewer of the church, died 1560

Saturday, June 25, 2022

Though he died on April 19, Philipp Melanchthon is commemorated today because of his connection with the Augsburg Confession. Colleague and co-reformer with Martin Luther, Melanchthon was a brilliant scholar, known as "the teacher of Germany."



