

**The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 24, 2022**

in the 169^h 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

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 *I Will Serve the Lord* Franklin Ritter

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.

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 \dagger Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

***HYMN For the Beauty of the Earth LBW, "Green", 561**

***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 Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.”

THE FIRST LESSON.....Genesis 18:20-32

20Then the LORD said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! 21I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.”

22So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. 23Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? 24Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? 25Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” 26And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” 27Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. 28Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” 29Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” 30Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” 31He said, “Let me take it

upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” 32Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138

1I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart;
before the gods I will | sing your praise.

**2I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast | love and faithfulness;**

for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things.

3When I called, you | answered me;
you increased my | strength within me.

4All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words | of your mouth.

5They will sing of the ways | of the LORD,
that great is the glory | of the LORD.

**6The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty | from afar.**

7Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your
right | hand shall save me.

8You will make good your pur- | pose for me;

**O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
works | of your hands.**

THE SECOND LESSON.....Colossians 2:6-19

6As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

8See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. 9For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, 10and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. 11In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by

putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; 12when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. 13And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, 14erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. 15He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

16Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. 17These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. 18Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, 19and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

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 11:1-13**

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

P 1 [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”²He said to them, “When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

3Give us each day our daily bread.

4And forgive us our sins,

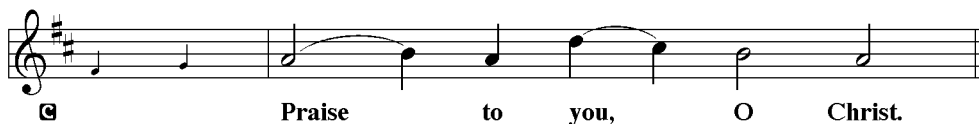
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

5And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ 7And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ 8I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

9“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. 10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The Gospel of the Lord



THE SERMON

***HYMN Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright LBW, “Green” 438**

***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, “Merciful God/Receive our prayer”

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

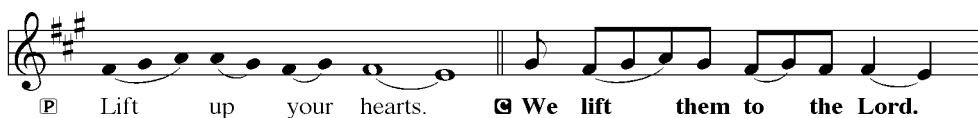
The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words, and/or gestures of peace, limiting physical touch and contact with one another.

ANTHEM *The Lord’s Prayer* Soloist: Sadie Wentzel

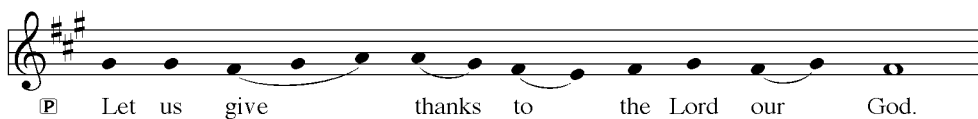
***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**



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:



C 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 fullness of joy! Come to the banquet!
 C **Thanks be to God.**

THE COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us pray. 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 the path of life,
 this day and always.

C **Amen.**

***HYMN This Is My Father's World**

LBW "Green", 554

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, love your neighbor.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Call of the Trumpets* Purcell, arr. Franklin Ritter

***SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING FOLLOWING TODAY’S SERVICE
LUNCH WILL FOLLOW IN FELLOWSHIP HALL***

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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, Ryan Dancho, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe

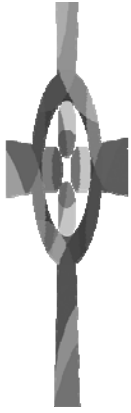
WORSHIP LEADERS (7/24/22)

Lector Vicki Haussmann

Communion Assistants Walt Doebler and Gary Weber

Organist Sam Robertson

USHERS: Captain Tim Maggs, Carl Hieber,
Charlie Fortin



OUR STEWARDSHIP 7/17/22)

Regular Offering	2,235.00
Plate Offering	30.00
Food Pantry	5.00
Parish Life	75.00
Operation Christmas Child	25.00
Family Promise Hosting	50.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	60.00
GRAND TOTAL	2,480.00



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!



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:

+In Loving Memory of Frank Doebler and in Honor of Mary Lou Doebler by Karen Mariano

+In Honor of my son, Robert Millikan on his birthday by Sally Bjornstad

Missionary Visit

Please join the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee in welcoming Pastor Linda Johnson Seyenkulo from Liberia on Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. She will discuss her ministry in Liberia and how the country has been affected by the pandemic. Light refreshments will be served.





BATTER UP!

On Sunday August 14, 2022 the Crosscutters will host “All Faiths Night” at Muncy Bank Ballpark starting at 4:05 p.m. \$10.00 per person and includes, Stadium Reserve Seating, \$5.00 Cutters Cash per guest and a video Board Welcome for our group. A Sign up sheet will be out soon be available in the Narthex. Interest parties can also contact Joe Baur in the office at 570-323-4619 or jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org. Deadline to sign up is August 11th, 2022.

BUS TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS APPROACHING FAST



Master Poet. Fearless Warrior. Anointed King. From still waters to shadowed valleys, David’s ascent to the throne is filled with towering giants, wild animals, and Philistine soldiers.

There is still a little room on the bus to see David at Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA. The bus will be leaving from the Beiter’s parking lot at 6:30 AM on Sept. 14th. The cost of the trip will be **\$139.00 per person** made payable to Cheryl

Williams. **Payment needs to be made no later than August 1.** A huge thank you to Cheryl for coordinating this trip and making all the arrangements with the bus company. If there are any questions, please reach out to Cheryl at (570) 327-1627. Checks may be made payable to and mailed to: Cheryl Williams, 249 Johnson Dr., South Williamsport, PA 17702



COMMEMORATIONS



James, Apostle

Monday, July 25, 2022

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).



Bach



Schutz



Handel

Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

Thursday, July 28, 2022

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, *Messiah*, is a setting of scriptural texts.



Mary



Martha



Lazarus

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany

Friday, July 29, 2022

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.



Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030

Friday, July 29, 2022

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.

Dixie Drive

R. Powell



one Man's Heaven...

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(See Genesis 6-8)

10-06-1998

IT WAS ONLY AFTER NOAH FINISHED HIS ARK PROTOTYPE THAT HE FINALLY ADMITTED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT A CUBIT WAS