

**The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 21, 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 *Prelude in F Major* J.S. Bach

WELCOME / ANNOUNCING THE DAY / ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING THE BACKPACKS

P The month of August is here which means that a new academic and work year will soon be upon us. With that in mind a “backpack” will be a constant companion for many of us. Today we remind ourselves that God is with us in our learning and work and therefore invoke God's blessing to be upon these backpacks, their contents and all they symbolize.

All who will carry a backpack please stand.

P Lord God, bless these bags and all who will use them. Assure them that you are with them as they continue to learn and grow of you and your world of wonder. Show us all how to serve you and help us to ever keep before all of us your way of service and love. In Jesus' name.

C Amen.

***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.

The pastor stands and gives words of assurance.

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 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty LBW, “Green”, 250**

***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.



C 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 God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Isaiah 58:9b-14

9b If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
10 if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
11 The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
12 Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.
13 If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;
14 then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:1-8

1 Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.

**2 Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God's benefits—**

3 who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;

**4 who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;**

5 who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.

**6 O LORD, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**

7 You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.

**8 LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**

THE SECOND LESSON.....Hebrews 12:18-29

18 You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. 20 (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") 21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

25 See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! 26 At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." 27 This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken,

let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; 29for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

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.

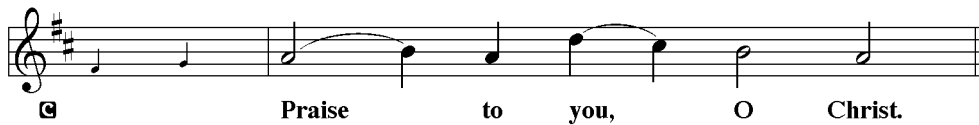
***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....Luke 13:10-17**

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

10Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” 13When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” 15But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? 16And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?” 17When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

*HYMN

O Day of Rest and Gladness

LBW, "Green", 251

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we affirm our faith, the faith in which we baptize:

**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.


*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

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

C Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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**

How Firm a Foundation

LBW, “Green”, 507

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, love your neighbor.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue in B-Flat Major

J.S. Bach

Today, Johann Sebastian Bach is considered one of the most famous composers in history. But that wasn't always so. He died at the age of 65, thinking that his music was old fashioned and that no one would remember what he had written. Today, his music is some of the most famous music there is. When Bach was around 18 years old, he was hired to be the organist at a church in Arnstadt. This organ had been played by members of Bach's family for nearly a hundred years!

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Prayer List: Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, 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, Sadie Wentzel, Steve Miller, the family of Shirley Miller, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe

WORSHIP LEADERS (8/21/22)

Lector	Linda Rossini
Communion Assistants	Carl & Audrey Albright
Organist	Sam Robinson
USHERS:	Tim Maggs – Captain, Carl Hieber, Charlie Fortin



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!



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the September “Lion” is August 22, 2022. Please have your articles in by then. August 30 in the morning we will be getting the “Lion” ready to send out. Any help is welcomed.

OUR STEWARDSHIP 8/14/22)

Regular Offering	3,011.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
Theological Fund	35.00
World Hunger	50.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Global Mission	50.00
Parish Benevolence	500.00
Disaster Relief	140.00
Capital Fund	50.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	60.00
Synod Benevolences	35.00
School Kits – Women St. Mark’s	50.00
GRAND TOTAL	4,041.00



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Celebration of our Wedding Anniversary by Karen and Steve Mariano
+In Loving Memory of Eleanor and Jack Whiting by Herb Poff and Candy Dewar
+In Loving Memory of Cora and Clement Campbell by their Grandchildren
+In Loving Memory of Chuck Campbell by Lauren, Ashley and Brett Campbell



BULLETIN SPONSOR

Thank You Charlotte and Richard Reitz for sponsoring this week’s bulletin

Going over our church finances I found a receipt from a local paint store signed by someone named Christian. I wasn't aware of anyone buying paint, so I called the store to point out its mistake.

"I'm sorry," I told the manager, "but there are no Christians here at First Baptist Church."



Your Prayers and Presence are Requested on Saturday, September 17, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. for the

*Rite of Installation of the Fourth Bishop of the Upper
Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America*

The Reverend Craig Arthur Miller

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

5th and Market Streets, Sunbury, PA 17801

A time of fellowship and light refreshments will follow the service. Clergy and deacons are invited to process.

The color of the day is red.

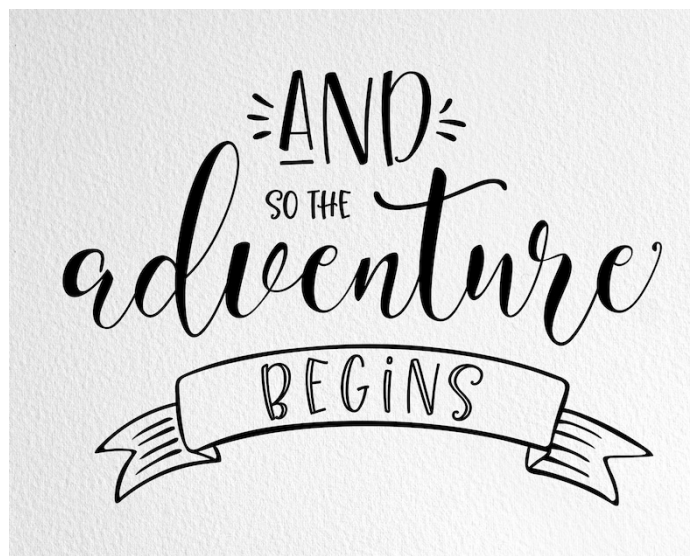
RSVP no later than September 2, 2022 at www.usse-lca.org/events/installation or scan the QR code.



Farewell and Good Luck

Join us as we celebrate the last six years of ministry of **Rev. Barbara J. Collins** as our bishop. A pizza party will be held at Camp Mount Luther on Saturday, August 27, 2022, starting at noon. Reservations will be taken at Synod Assembly and will be available online soon. In addition, the synod is providing Bishop Collins with two gifts, one for her and her husband and a monetary gift to Camp Mount Luther (again, at her request). If you or your congregation would like to add to that monetary gift, you can send a contribution to the synod office, the camp, or donate on the synod website. To register for the pizza party, click here:

<https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/5401069>

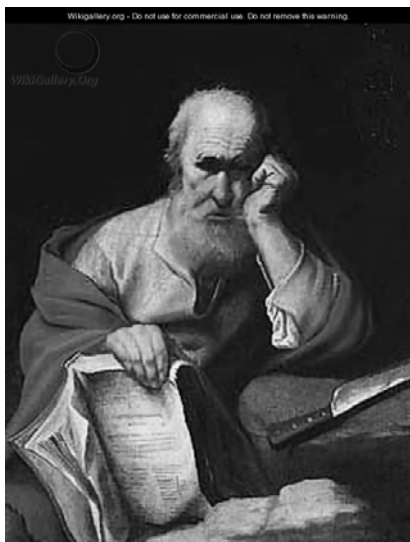


COMMEMORATIONS

Bartholomew, Apostle

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Mentioned as one of Twelve in the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew's name is replaced in the Gospel according to John by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.



The **Twelve Apostles** is a collection of limestone stacks off the shore of Port Campbell National Park, by the Great Ocean Road in Victoria, **Australia**. Sadly due to time and weather there are only 8 left.