

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 28, 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

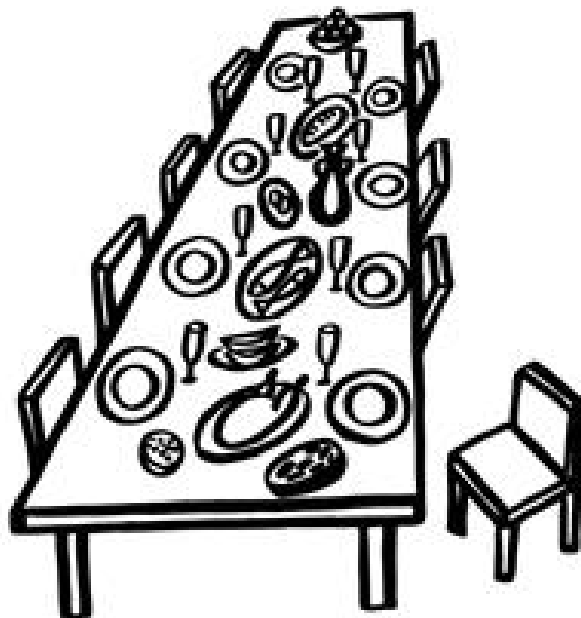
Welcome to Saint Mark's Lutheran Church!

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 D Minor* JS Bach

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***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 When Morning Gilds the Skies LBW, “Green” 546**

***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, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Proverbs 25:6-7

6Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;

7for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112

1Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!

**2Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**

3Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.

**4Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.**

5It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.

**6For they will nev- | er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**

7They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.

**8Their heart is established and | will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**

9They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever;
they will hold up their | head with honor.

**10The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and | pine
away;**

the desires of the wick- | ed will perish.

THE SECOND LESSON.....Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

1Let mutual love continue. 2Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. 3Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. 4Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. 5Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." 6So we can say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?”

7Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. 8Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. 15Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. 16Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to 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 14:1, 7-14**

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

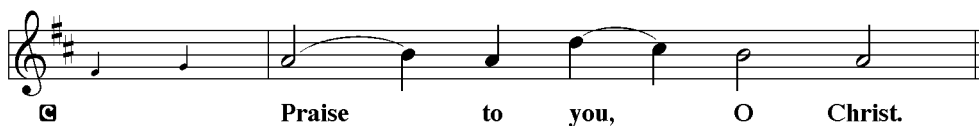
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

1 On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. 8 “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; 9 and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. 10 But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. 11 For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. 13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. 14 And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN You Satisfy the Hungry Heart WOV, “Blue”, 711**

***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**

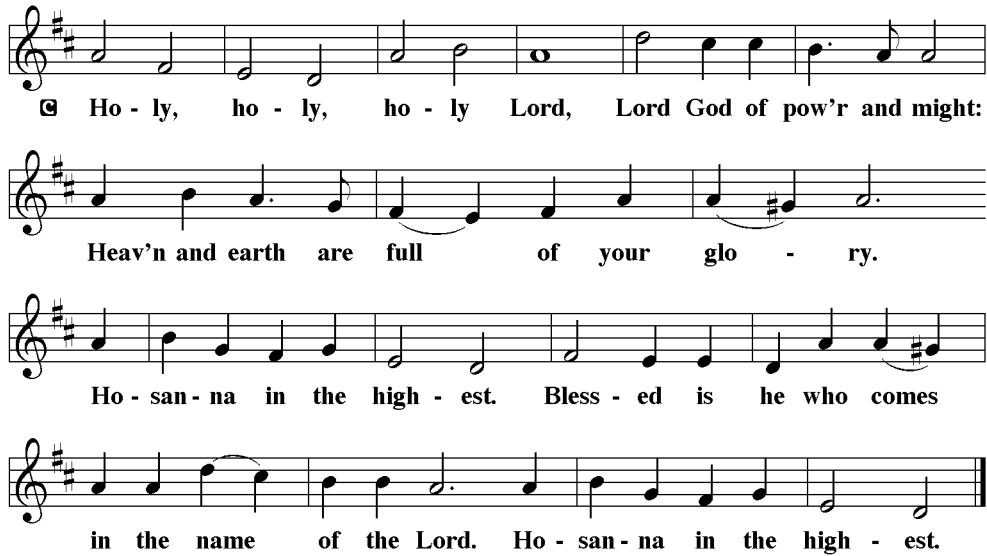
Ⓐ The Lord be with you. Ⓑ And al - so with you.

Ⓐ 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.

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**



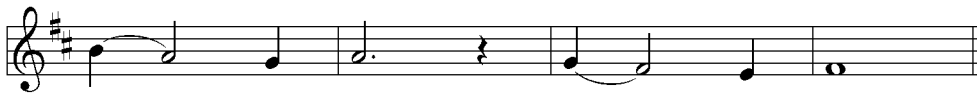
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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

***AFTER 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.**

***GODSPEED TO GREGG AND KATHY DANCHO**

P Gregg and Kathy will you please come forward and join me at our chancel. The church is a family. United in baptism with a common purpose in Jesus Christ as our Savior, we are all brothers and sisters. And for a time, St. Mark's Lutheran Church is our home.

Like every human family, our church family is formed and reformed over time:

As members are born, as they are baptized, as they pass away, as members are adopted into our family, and as they leave our congregation for a new home in a different place.

For a time, Kathy and Gregg you have lived among us and with us.

We have shared with each other good times and bad,
we have shared each other's joys and sorrows
we have lightened each other's loads.

Together we have laughed and cried,

together we have worshipped and praised God,
together we have learned from one another,
together we have lived.

We feel sorrow in your leaving,
yet we rejoice with you in anticipation of this new phase of your life.

We will miss your love and support,
yet we know that as you have added to our lives,
so you will add to the lives of those in your new church family.

Let us pray. O God, you are the strength and the protector of your people. We humbly place in your hands Gregg and Kathy of this congregation who are about to leave us. Keep and preserve them, O Lord, in all health and safety, both of body and soul; as we wish them, "Godspeed"!

C Amen.

P Go forth in peace and know our prayers go with you.

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** **Bind Us Together** **WOV, "Blue", 748**

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, love your neighbor.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Fugue in C Major* JS Bach

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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, Sadie Wentzel, family of Shirley Miller, the family of Marion Waldeisen, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe

WORSHIP LEADERS (8/28/22)

Lector

Dan Zeigler

Communion Assistants

Audrey and Carl Albright

Organist

Sam Robinson

USHERS:

Mike Jensen - Captain, Gary Weber, Sean Jensen, Shelby Weber



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!



PASTOR'S VACATION, SEPTEMBER 1-8.

Should you need a pastor during this time please contact the Rev. Ron Montgomery (570-584-4619 or 570-584-4465).

OUR STEWARDSHIP 8/21/22)

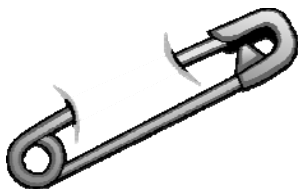
| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Regular Offering | 3,605.00 |
| Plate Offering | 20.00 |
| Disaster Relief | 50.00 |
| Flower Memorials / Tributes | 90.00 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 3,765.00 |



MARION WALDEISEN'S MEMORIAL SERVICE, who passed away on May 17, is Saturday, September 10, 10:30 a.m. at St. Mark's. All are welcome.



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Loving Memory of Pastor Duane Nelson (brother of Leah Haussmann) by the Haussmann Family
+In Honor of Shirley Kinney's 91st Birthday by Jackie and Mike Kinney



Thanks to all of you who have filled and returned backpack kits; these are so appreciated. There are still more backpacks in the Narthex and some supplies there also. I have some extra receiving blankets for the baby kits if you need them. Prefolded diapers can be purchased via Amazon. If you need diapers but do not want to order them, contact me. There is an example of the type of blanket needed in Narthex also. Blankets can be knitted also but must be 60x80 inches or close to that. Deadline for all kits is Sunday Oct.2



Please join the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee and the Faith Formation Committee on Sept. 11 for “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace.

We will meet in Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service to share in light refreshments before beginning our work. Two simple activities will be available including working on fleece knot blankets and making hygiene kits for the Blessing Box. Both of these activities will greatly benefit those in the Williamsport Community. We look forward to this opportunity of fellowship and outreach as we lovingly serve our neighbor.



Camp Mount Luther will be holding a 5- and 10- kilometer trail run race at the camp on Saturday, September 3, 2022. This is an entry-level trail race on Mount Luther grounds with proceeds going to the camp. The start time for the race is 9:00 a.m. Runners decide on race day if they want to do a 5k or 10K (a double loop of the 5K) run. You must be registered by August 8 by 6:00 p.m. to receive a

hoodie. Registration is \$35. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. on race day. Shower facilities are available after the race. All miles for the course will be marked and there is one water stop on the course. Timing will be electronically done. To register, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Mifflinburg/DandelionRun5k10kTrailRac>

COMMEMORATIONS



Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430

Sunday, August 28, 2022

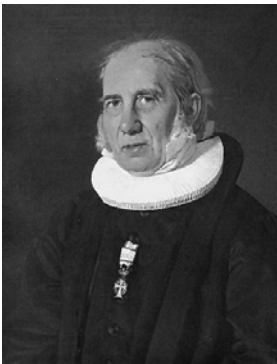
Augustine was one of the greatest theologians of the Western church. A native of North Africa, he recovered from a debauched young adulthood through the influence of his mother, Monica, and Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Besides writing influential theological books, he served as bishop of Hippo, in present-day Algeria. Martin Luther was heavenly influenced by Augustine's writings.



Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400

Sunday, August 28, 2022

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.



Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872

Friday, September 2, 2022

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the nineteenth century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation and wrote over a thousand hymns.