

**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 11, 2022**

*God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
in the 169^h Year of the Parish*

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

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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 when passing the peace.

An Order for Holy Communion, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Two, (LBW, “Green Book”)

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Mitten wir im Belen sind* S. Scheidt

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 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise LBW, “Green”, 526**

***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.**



Welcome
—We are glad you are here—

*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, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Exodus 32:7-14

7The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; 8they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " 9The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. 10Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

11But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? 12Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. 13Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " 14And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 51:1-10

1Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

**2Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

3For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.

**4Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your judgment.**

5Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

**6Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

7Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

**8Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

9Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.

**10Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**

THE SECOND LESSON.....1 Timothy 1:12-17

12I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, 13even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. 16But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. 17To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

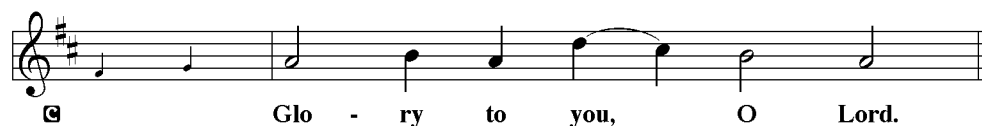
***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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 15:1-10**

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

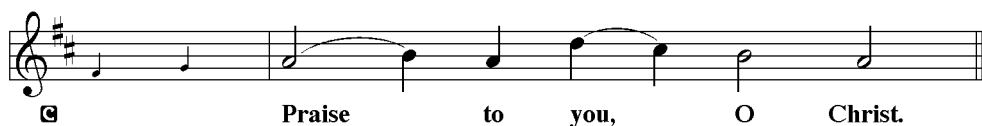


1Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] 2And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

3So he told them this parable: 4“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? 5When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. 6And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ 7Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

8“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? 9When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ 10Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN God's Work, Our Hands**

**God's work, our hands: working together,
 building a future, repairing the world,
 raising up homes, planting new gardens,
 feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,

**following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom,
running the race with God's future the goal.**

**Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

**God's work, our voice: singing together,
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice,
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.**

**Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

**God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.**

**Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.**

Text: Wayne L. Wold Tune: EARTH AND ALL STARS
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***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, “God of Grace/Hear 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:

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**



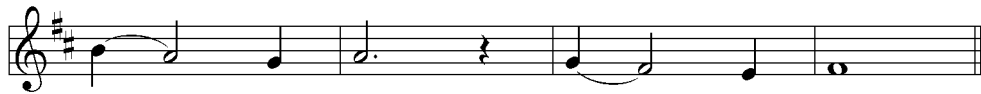
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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 as directed by ushers are asked to come forward by way of the center aisle, take a cup from the tray provided and receive the bread.*
- *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.

P Christ invites you to his table.

Come, taste and see.

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. God of the abundant table,
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal
with bread for the journey.

Give us your grace on the road

that we might serve our neighbors by your Word with our hands for the sake of
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

***THE BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
free you from despair,
bless you with truth and peace,
and always guide you in ways of faith, hope and love.

C Amen.

***HYMN**

Amazing Grace

LBW, “Green”, 448

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace with Christ beside you.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Gott der Vater wohn uns bei

S. Scheidt

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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, the victims of heat, drought and floods across the states, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

WORSHIP LEADERS (9/4/22)

Lector	8:00 a.m.	Vicki Haussmann
	10:30 a.m.	Donna Boston
Communion Assistants	8:00 a.m.	Becky Miller Pryor
	10:30 a.m.	Walt Doebler & Gary Weber
Organist		Sam Robinson

USHERS:	8:00 a.m.	Richard Miller Herb Poff
	10:30 a.m.	Carl Albright – Captain, Brenda, Owen and Levi Gair



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!



GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY 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.

**God's Work
OUR HANDS**

OUR STEWARDSHIP 9/4/2022)

Regular Offering	5,057.00
Plate Offering	5.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
World Hunger	50.00
Food Pantry	70.00
Global Mission	50.00
Disaster Relief	50.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	30.00
Synod Benevolence	25.00
GRAND TOTAL	5,347.00



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
 +In Honor of Stefan’s 23rd Birthday by the Webers.
 +In Loving Memory of Bill and Marion Waldeisen by her family.



BULLETIN SPONSOR

Thank You Charles and Ann Kuntz



Our Community's annual walk to fight hunger, CROP Hunger Walk, will be held Sunday, October 9th at 1:00 PM, at the River Walk in Williamsport. The walk begins here at St. Mark's and you can walk 3, 6 or 9 miles (most of us walk 3 miles).

Join the St. Mark's team to walk or donate and help us make this the most successful year. Our goal is \$1,000 (last year we raised \$920)! We walk because they walk for food. By walking on a fall afternoon, you create awareness to these issues, raise funds and have fellowship with members of the St. Mark's congregation as well as other congregations.

25% of the funds we raise support local hunger agencies plus we impact families in more than 35 countries. In partnership CROP walks support self-help programs, assist after disasters and help address root causes of poverty by providing water systems and tools to grow the food they need.

To register to walk or donate to our team, you can speak with volunteers in the Narthex or on-line; <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/williamsportpa>
Click: Donate > Donate to a Team > enter "St. Mark's Lutheran Church Lion" > enter your donation.



BUS TRIP TO SIGHT AND SOUND

It's time to root on David as he takes on his most awesome foe. On September 14th, those who signed up for the bus trip to Sight and Sound to see "David" will be able to park in the west parking lot of Bieter's. The bus will be leaving at 6:30 a.m. sharp so don't be late.

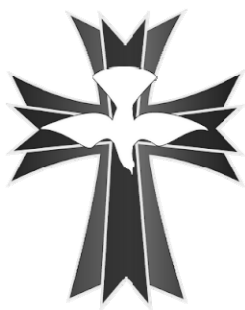
COMMEMORATIONS



John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, died 407

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

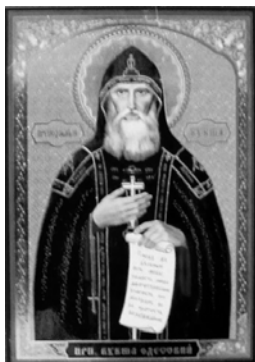
John was a pastor in Antioch and an outstanding preacher. His eloquence earned him the nickname "Chrysostom" ("golden mouth"). Appointed bishop of Constantinople, seat of the empire, he criticized corruption in the court. As a result, he was exiled by the empress.



Holy Cross Day

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Helena, mother of the emperor Constantine, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and found what may be the actual site of Jesus' crucifixion. Her son built two churches there, and the dedication of one of them gave rise to this celebration of our Lord's victory on the cross.



Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, died around 258

Friday, September 16, 2022

Cyprian served as a bishop during a time of great persecution of Christians. He insisted on receiving back those who had left the faith under duress. He also provided medical care during a severe epidemic.



Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, died 1179

Saturday, September 17, 2022

A mystic who was widely influential within the church, Hildegard advised and reprovved kings and popes, wrote poems and hymns, and produced treatises in medicine, theology, and natural history. She was also a musician and artist.