

**The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 16, 2022**

***Harvest Home and Consecration Sunday
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 when passing the peace.

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

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Voluntary in C Major: Largo* John Stanley

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK Ralph Zeigler

***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** **Sing to the Lord of Harvest** **LBW, “Green”, 412**

***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, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Genesis 32:22-31

22The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. 23He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. 24Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. 25When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. 26Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." 27So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." 28Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." 29Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. 30So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." 31The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 121

1I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?

2**My help comes | from the LORD,**
the maker of heav- | en and earth.

3The LORD will not let your | foot be moved

nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.

**4Behold, the keep- | er of Israel
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;**

5the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;

**6the sun will not strike | you by day,
nor the | moon by night.**

7The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.

**8The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

THE SECOND LESSON.....2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

14But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, 15and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4:1In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: 2proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. 3For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, 4and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. 5As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

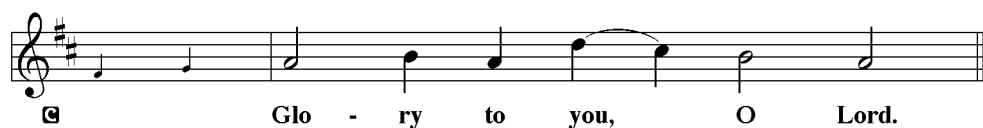
***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

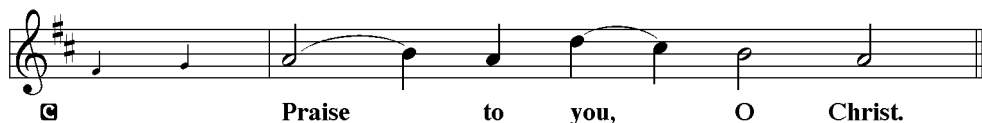
***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....Luke 18:1-8**

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



1 Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. 2 He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. 3 In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ 4 For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, 5 yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ” 6 And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7 And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? 8 I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN Come, You Thankful People, Come LBW, “Green”, 407**

***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, “Hear us, O God/Your Mercy is Great”.

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

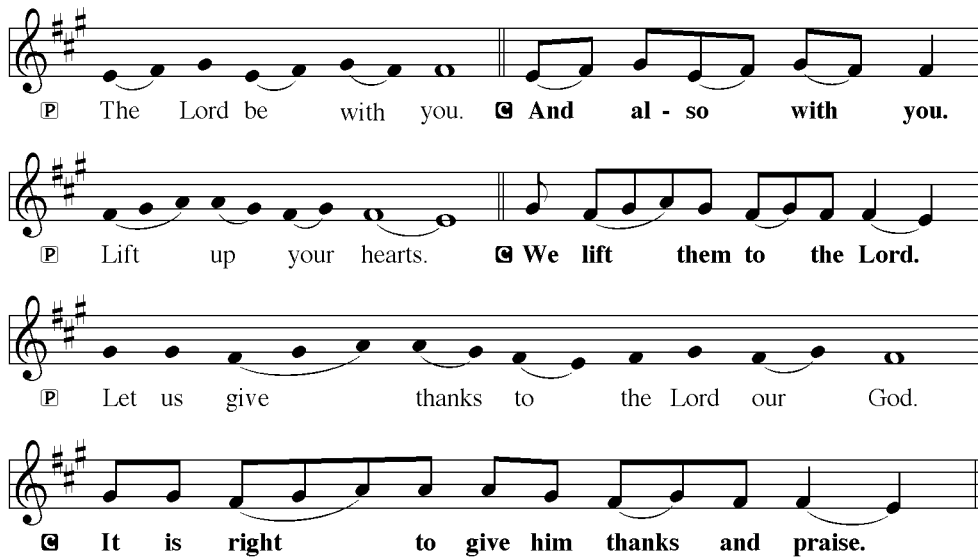
*The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words,
and/or gestures of peace, limiting physical touch and contact with one another.*

ANTHEM

Lord, for thy Tender Mercy’s Sake

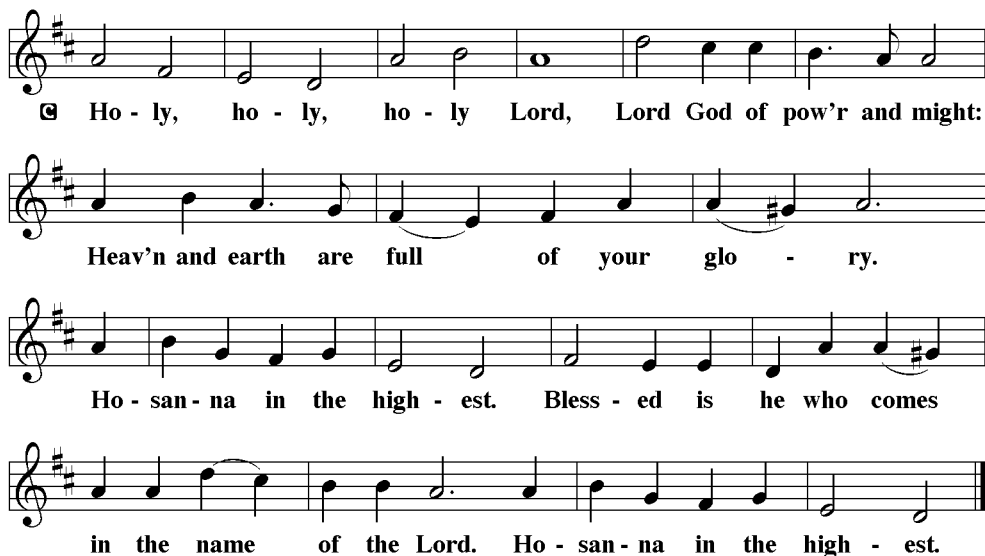
Our anthem today, *Lord, for thy Tender Mercy’s Sake*, is by Richard Farrant (1525-1580). Farrant’s life is not well-documented, but we do know that he was a successful composer of his day, particularly in the English drama. He is also credited as the first composer to write verse-anthems, a staple of music during the English Reformation. Farrant composed music for the coronation of Mary I and Elizabeth I. *Lord, for thy Tender Mercy’s Sake* is perhaps one his most well-known compositions in today’s musical world; only a forgiving, merciful God can give us grace, so that we may walk in a perfect heart.

*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**



L 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 with joy;
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

***THE BLESSING**

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

C Amen.

*HYMN God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending LBW, "Green", 408

*DISMISSAL

P Go in peace with Christ beside you.

C Amen. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Voluntary in C Major: Allegro John Stanley

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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, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Kim Bigelow, Jane Larsen, storm and hurricane victims, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe



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!

WORSHIP LEADERS (10/16/22)

Lectors	8:00 a.m.	Pastor Vasey
	10:30 a.m.	Pam Jensen
Communion	8:00 a.m.	Becky Pryor
Assistants	10:30 a.m.	Deb Buckman and Mindy Wentzel
Organist		Sam Robinson
Ushers:	8:00 a.m.	Richard Miller and Herb Poff
	10:30 a.m.	Tim Maggs - Captain, Carl Hieber, Charlie Fortin
Altar Guild	October	Cindy Huff and Linda Rosini

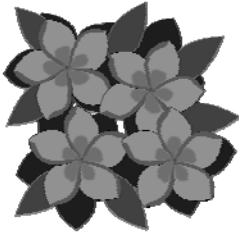
OUR STEWARDSHIP (10/9/22)

Regular Offering	\$3,450.00
Plate Offering	5.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
World Hunger	50.00
Food Pantry	60.00
Global Mission	50.00
Sunday School Offering	8.00
Blanket Appeal	75.00
Operation Christmas Child	50.00
Disaster Relief	675.00
Synod Benevolence	20.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$4,453.00

*Thank
you!*

BULLETIN SPONSOR

Thank you, Richard and Charlotte Reitz, for your kind support of this week's bulletin.



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Loving Memory of Nathan Young by his parents, Sarah and Paul Young and his siblings Matt and Jessica.
+In Loving Memory of Ed and Mary Gair by their children and grandchildren.



PUMPKIN CARVING

On Saturday, October 22, 2022 we will gather in Fellowship hall for a good old fashion “Pumpkin Carving Party”. Fun, Fellowship, Creativity and Candy Corn will be the order of the evening. Pizza will fuel your creative juices to take a pumpkin from plain to amazing. The carving will begin at 5:00 p.m. Some pumpkins will be available but please feel free to bring a few to share.



REFORMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 30, 2022

Martin Luther will “make an appearance” at both our 8 and 10:30 services. Come and witness “Pastor Luther” nailing his 95 Theses to the Church Door proclaiming the “just shall live by faith”.



Dear People of St. Mark's,

Thank you so very much for remembering me during Pastor's Appreciation Week. Your gifts, well-wishes and hospitality were wonderful and a very pleasant surprise. It is indeed a pleasure and honor serving Christ with you here at St. Mark's. May our Lord continue to bless all of you, “Always and All Ways.”

In Christ, Pastor Vasey



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, November 6, All Saints Day

Sunday November 13, Shoebox Sunday

Saturday, November 19, Billtown Brass in the Nave
at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 20, Christ the King Sunday

Thursday, November 24, A National Day of Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent. Saint Nicholas visits in worship

Sunday, December 4, **ANNUAL MEETING** following worship service

PLEASE NOTE: Sunday, December 4 there is only ONE worship service at 9:30 a.m.



LITTLE LAMBS NEWS

Noah's Ark Harvest Parade is on Tuesday, October 25, 2022. Come watch the little ones parade around dressed as their favorite animals. All are invited to come and watch this fun event. The parade will start at 9:15 a.m.

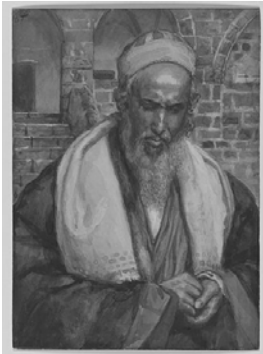
COMMEMORATIONS



Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, martyr, died around 115

Monday, October 17, 2022

Ignatius was the second bishop of Antioch in Syria, the city where the name "Christians" originated. Ignatius is known to us from his letters, which encouraged Christians to live in love, yet stand firm in true doctrine.



Luke, Evangelist

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon.

