

The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
November 13, 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!

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Our Mission: *“To know Christ and to make Christ known.”*



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 a.m., Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Two, (LBW, “Green Book”)

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *In Green Pastures* Harold Darke

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 If You But Trust in God to Guide You LBW, “Green”, 453**

***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, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

THE FIRST LESSON.....Malachi 4:1-2a

1 See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. 2a But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 149

1 Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

**2 O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

3 You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

**4 Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

5 Sing to the LORD | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.

**6 With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**

7 Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.

**8 Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge
the earth.**

9 The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity.

THE SECOND LESSON.....2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

6 Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition

that they received from us. 7For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, 8and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. 9This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. 10For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. 11For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. 12Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. 13Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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 21:5-19**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

5When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, 6“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

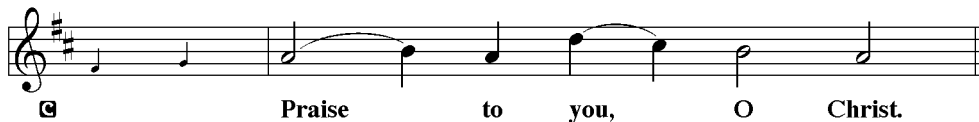
7They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” 8And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

9“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things

must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” 10Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; 11there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

12“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. 13This will give you an opportunity to testify. 14So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; 15for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. 16You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. 17You will be hated by all because of my name. 18But not a hair of your head will perish. 19By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN We Know That Christ is Raised LBW, “Green”, 189**

***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, “Lord, in your mercy/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.

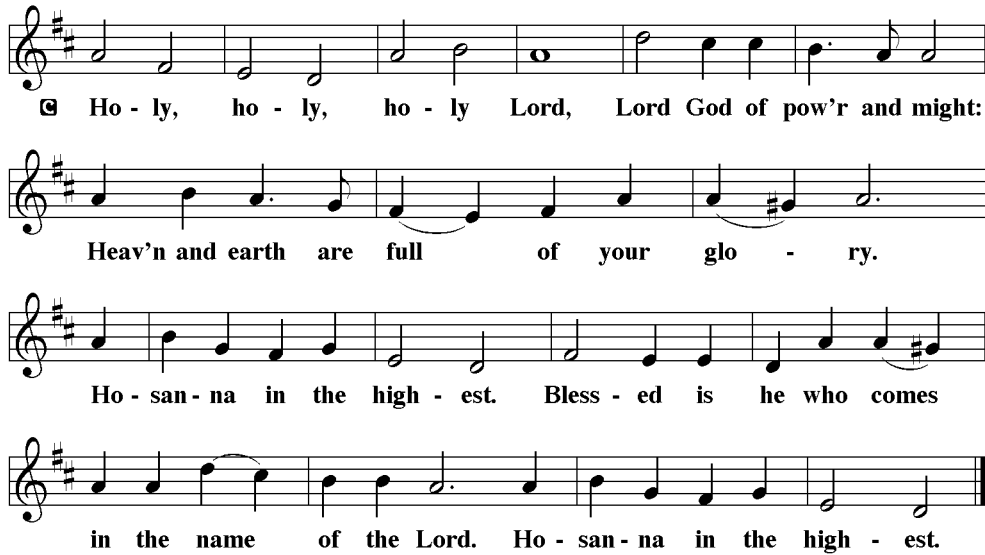


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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 for 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**



C 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 Taste and see that the Lord is good.

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. O God, we give you thanks that you have fed us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

***THE BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***HYMN How Firm a Foundation LBW, “Green”, 507**

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace! Be the Church!

C **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Joyous Acclamation David Paxton



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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, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe, Storm and Hurricane Victims, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah.

WORSHIP LEADERS (11/13/22)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--|
| Lector: | 8:00 a.m. | Drew Haussmann |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Donna Boston |
| Communion Assistants | 8:00 a.m. | Becky Pryor/Drew Haussmann/ Jackie Kinney |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Dan Zeigler |
| 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 | November | Connie Shaible and Sally Bjornstad |



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!

OUR STEWARDSHIP (11/6/22)

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Regular Offering | \$3,994.00 |
| Thanksgiving | 15.00 |
| Theological Fund | 10.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 50.00 |
| Parish Life | 31.00 |
| Operation Christmas Child | 30.00 |
| Family Promise Hosting | 25.00 |
| Flower Memorials / Tributes | 60.00 |
| Synod Benevolence | 10.00 |
| Pastor’s Discretionary Fund | 50.00 |
| Lutheran World Relief | 25.00 |
| GRAND TOTAL | \$4,300.00 |

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:

+In Honor of Charlie and Judy Fortin by Matt and Wanda Fortin and Family

+In Loving Memory of Harry and Hester Nolan by the family



THANK YOU

A heartfelt thank you to all who participated in our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing event. Thank you to our “new” packers and our seasoned veterans. Thank you to the set-up and clean-up crews. Thank you to those who brought food for our light

lunch. And thank you to all who contributed to our monthly collections throughout the year. This was truly a joint effort on the part of St. Mark’s congregation. We are so pleased to announce that we filled **77 boxes** with all sorts of gifts to be sent to boys and girls throughout the world. God is Good!



CIVIC CHORUS CONCERT

Sunday November 13, (today) at 3:00 p.m.



CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, November 24, 2022 and

Friday, November 25, 2022

In Observance and Celebration of our National Day of Thanksgiving



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ◆ Saturday, November 19, “Billtown Brass” in St. Mark's Nave, 5 p.m.
- ◆ Sunday, November 20, Christ the King Sunday (Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.)
- ◆ Thursday, November 24, “A National Day of Thanksgiving” (USA)
- ◆ Sunday, November 27, Annual Advent Wreath Making. After the 10:30 a.m. service, light lunch and all materials provided.
- ◆ Sunday, November 27, The First Sunday of Advent (Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the December Holiday edition of “The Lion” is Monday, November 21st. Please make sure all articles or submissions are in by that date, sooner is even better. We will put together newsletter for sending out on Tuesday, November 29th at 10:00 a.m.



SAINT NICHOLAS VISITS ST. MARK'S

Saint Nicholas, the Fourth Century Bishop of Myra upon whom the legend of Santa Claus is based, will visit St. Mark's Lutheran Church in worship on **Sunday, December 4, at 9:30 am.** Bishop Nicholas will share his story and witness as to how he became associated with the birth of Jesus and the Christmas Season. The event will include a blessing of children and a small Christmas Gift for all in attendance. All are welcome!

COMMEMORATIONS



Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.