

**The Resurrection of Our Lord
(Easter Sunday)**

April 9, 2023

in the 170^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.

A guide to hymnal use: LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book

**Please stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

This is the day the Lord has made! Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! Indeed, "God shows no partiality" (Acts 10:34): Christ's resurrection truly brings life to everyone. We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed, alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

C Amen.

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Silence for reflection.

P Holy God,
holy and merciful,

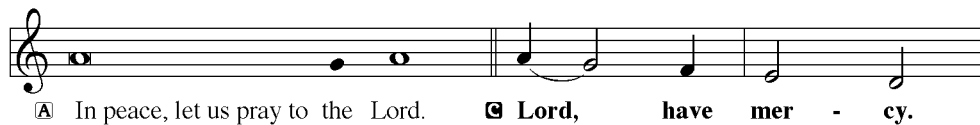
holy and mighty,
you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.
In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.
Water is poured into the font as the pastor continues.
Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.
Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all people.
Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ, the risen One,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
C Amen.

***HYMN Jesus Christ Is Risen Today LBW, "Green", 151**

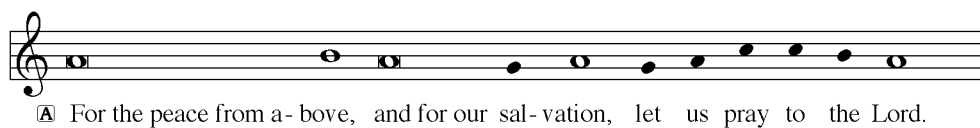
***THE GREETING**

P The grace of the risen Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **And also with you.**

*KYRIE



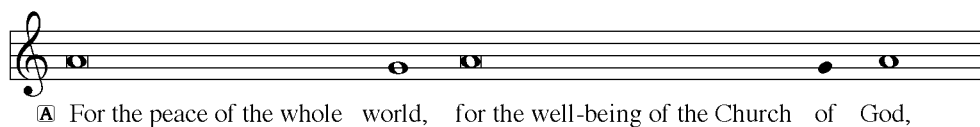
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



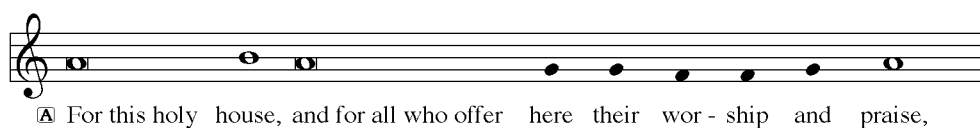
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.




C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

*HYMN OF PRAISE



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



B Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al - le - lu-ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING.....Acts 10:34-43

34Peter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for the | LORD is good;
God's mercy en- | dures forever.

2 Let Israel | now declare,
"God's mercy en- | dures forever."

14 The LORD is my strength | and my song,
and has become | my salvation.

15 Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents | of the righteous:
"The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!"

16 The right hand of the LORD | is exalted!
The right hand of the | LORD acts valiantly!"

17 I shall not | die, but live,
and declare the works | of the LORD.

18 The LORD indeed pun- | ished me sorely,
but did not hand me o- | ver to death.

19 Open for me the | gates of righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks | to the LORD.

20 "This is the gate | of the LORD;
here the righ- | teous may enter."

21 I give thanks to you, for you have | answered me
and you have become | my salvation.

22 The stone that the build- | ers rejected
has become the chief | cornerstone.

23 By the LORD has | this been done;
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the | LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

THE SECOND READING.....Colossians 3:1-4

1 If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, 3 for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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.....Matthew 28:1-10

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 28th chapter

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

1After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” 8So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

***THE NICENE CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith:

**C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

After each petition, “Risen Lord/Hear our prayer.”

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

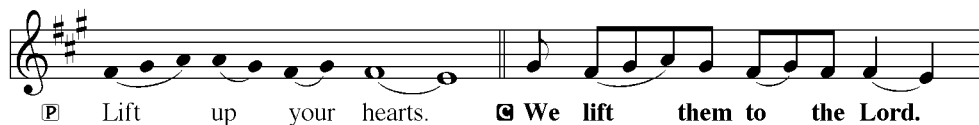
C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words and/or gestures of peace with limited physical contact.

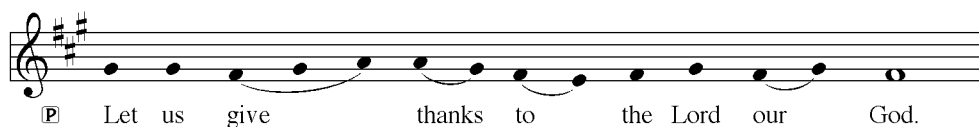
***GREAT THANKSGIVING**



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.

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, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth

and sea and all their creatures, and with angels, and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, 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.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations and made for yourself a chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you set your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. 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 which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to 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."

For as often as we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Join our prayers with those of your saints of every time and place, and unite them with ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord

of all.

☐ Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty
of the Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is
yours, al - migh - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 Come and dine with the Risen Christ..

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE COMMUNION

*AFTER COMMUNION

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

C **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray. Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

***THE BLESSING**

P The God of all,
who raised † Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

C Amen.

***HYMN Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! LBW, "Green", 131**

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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



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 (April 9, 2023)

Lector	8:00 a.m.	Drew Haussmann
	10:30 a.m.	Pam Jensen
Communion Assistants	8:00 a.m.	Becky Pryor
	10:30 a.m.	Matt and Wanda Fortin
Organist		Carol Waltz
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Herb Poff & Richard Miller
	10:30 a.m.	Matt Fortin, captain Glenn Yapple, Bud Doeblor
Altar Guild	April	Connie Shaible Sally Bjornstad Sarah Young

OUR STEWARDSHIP (April 2, 2023)

Regular Offering	\$4,803.00
Plate Offering	33.00
Easter	15.00
Lent	168.00
Initial Offering	5.00
Sunday School Offering	7.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	120.00
Easter Flowers	8.50
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	25.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$5,184.50



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:

+In Loving Memory of Francis Bigelow by Matt and Wanda Fortin.

+In Loving Memory of Mary McLaughlin by Audrey and Carl Albright.

+In Loving Memory of Robert Kuntz, husband and Mark Kuntz, son by Ann Kuntz.

+In Loving Memory of Elda Zeigler on her birthday by The Family.



Newsletter

Thank You for submitting your articles on time.

Please remember deadlines so we can get the newsletter out to the members by the first of the month.

This month April the deadline will be

Tuesday, April 18 Deadline for articles

Thursday, April 27 Assembling and mailing the "Lion".

Join us for a discussion of service times on Sunday, April 30, 2023.

The Worship and Music Committee invites all members of the congregation to join us for prayerful discussion after the 10:30 service on April 30 concerning the possibility of a single service continuing after Labor Day. We are doing this in response to much discussion at the Congregational Meeting in December.

The committee will have a brief meeting after the discussion. We realize that there are merits to keeping the two services after the single summer services. We also realize that there are merits to having one service.

A document will be available in the Narthex on April 16 and 23. Please fill it out with your comments. The document will basically have room for your comments concerning the advantages and disadvantages of having either the services as we have them now, or having a single service. We will have a method of collecting the responses by April 16.

We realize that this is a divisive situation for many members of the congregation. It's time to make a decision on the question of one or two services by the May meeting of the council. The council will make the ultimate decision per the constitution.

Blessings,

The Worship and Music Committee

EASTER MEMORIALS

**In Memory of Josephine and Allen Malick
In Memory of Julin and Philip Williams
*By Cheryl Williams***

**In Memory of Ralph and Elda Zeigler
In Memory of Wayne and Betty Braden
*By Lou Ann and Ralph Zeigler***

***In Memory of Charles and Helen Clokey (my parents)
Thomas J. Schramm (my husband)
*By Helen Clokey Schramm****

**In Memory of Our Parents, Eugene and Reba Jacobs
*By John and Holly Carlson and Linda Rosini***

**In Honor of my Grandchildren, Ezra, Gillian, and Asher.
My Great-Granddaughter, Ren
*By Debra Buckman***

**In Memory of Jim Buckman
My Parents, Dorsey and Mary Jane Ringler
Jim's Parents, Sydana and Davis Buckman
*By Debra Buckman***



EASTER MEMORIALS

In Memory of Bob and Shirley Campbell

By Cathy Fenderson and Bob Campbell

In Honor of Chris and Dick Manny

By Roxie Larson

**In Memory of Pop and Mom Larson,
five brothers and four sisters**

By Roxie Larson

In Honor of Annika, Gabriella and Makensi

By Poppy and Gram Doebler

**In Memory of Wilson and Emily Doebler
and Jim and Jane Horner**

By Bud and Margie Doebler

**Donation to Local Hunger Fund
In Memory of my Aunt, Marion Dailey**

By Becky Miller Pryor

In Honor of our Mothers

Ruth and Gloria

In Memory of our Fathers

Paul and Max

By Gary and Shelby Weber

EASTER MEMORIALS

**In Memory of
Joann Zeigler**

**Leon and Rosena Haines
Ruth and Jack Burkholder
Linda Kay Walter**

By Dan and Diana Zeigler

**In Honor of
Grant and Lisa Rees**

**In Memory of
John Rees**

**Ruth and Harry Ulmer
Gwyn Rees**

By Ruth Rees

**Donation to Local Hunger Fund
In Memory of Loved Ones**

By Shaible Family

**In Memory of
Bill and Prudy Poff**

Jack and Eleanor Whiting

By Herb Poff and Steve and Candy Dewar

EASTER MEMORIALS

**In Memory of
Bill and Marion Waldeisen**

By Their family

In Memory of Jack and Margaret Dewar

By Steve and Candy Dewar

In Memory of Harold and Joyce Hershberger

By Mike, Pam, Ryan, Katlin and Sean Jensen

In Memory of Harold and Joyce Hershberger.

We Love you and miss you. Jim and Sue Newcomer

**Donation to Local Hunger Fund
In Memory of Don and Helen Ochs**

By Michael Ochs

**In Memory of
Anne G. Miller (wife)
Countess Florence Miller (mother)
Clair E. Miller (father)**

By Robert Miller

EASTER MEMORIALS

In Memory of
Robert D. Clokey

By his wife Rosemary Clokey

Robert D. Clokey

By his son Robert C. Clokey and family

Robert D. Clokey

By his daughter Elizabeth Lewis and family

My Parents

By Rosemary Clokey

In Memory of
Charles and Helen Clokey

By Rosemary Clokey

Donation to Local Hunger Fund
In Memory of Forrest and Margaret Klinger

By Ron and Donna Baker

Donation to Local Hunger Fund
In Memory of Robert and Shirley Miller

By Barb and Ken Cooley

In Loving Memory of our Parents

By Ray and Cindy Huff



*Monday, April 10 to
Sunday, April 16, 2023*

Monday, April 10	EASTER MONDAY Church Office Closed Civic Chorus Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 11		
Wednesday, April 12		
Thursday, April 13	Faith Formation Billtown Brass rehearsal	10:45 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Friday, April 14	Billtown Brass Set-up Billtown Brass rehearsal	1:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 15	Billtown Brass Concert	5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 16	Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS

Sadie Wentzel	April 10
Taylor Wentzel	April 10
Robert Clouser	April 11
Geoffrey MacGill	April 13
Michael Ochs	April 13
Ezra Buckman	April 14
Veronica Doane	April 14
Steven Bieber, Jr.	April 15
Jami Larson	April 15

ANNIVERSARYS

Annette and Joe Peluso	April 16
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COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Faith Formation	April 13	10:45 a.m.
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If there is anything you would like to include in the “This Week In Your Church” please let the administrative assistant, Joe Baur, know at jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org.

COMMEMORATIONS



Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945

Sunday, April 9, 2023

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.



Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557

Monday, April 10, 2023

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.