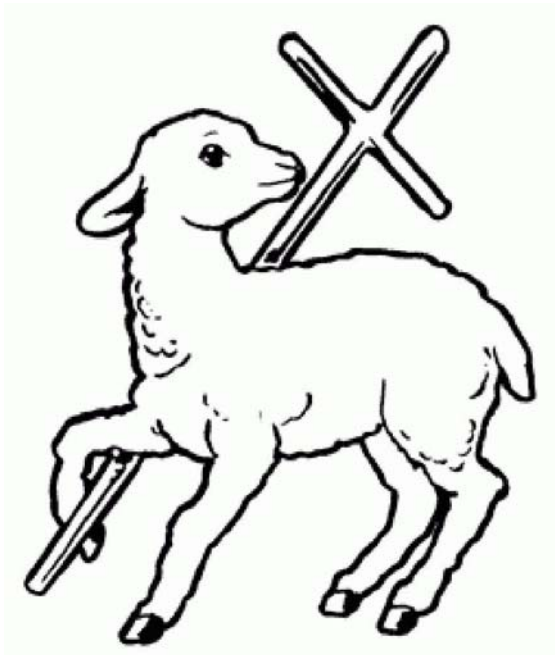


The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 30, 2023
Saint Mark's Sunday
in the 170^h Year of the Parish
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701
stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org
Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)
Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor
bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org

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.”*



Please be aware:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use.

Face masks are optional.

Offerings may be received by way of baskets as you enter or leave.

C = Congregation P = Pastor

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

**Please stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. At the same time Jesus is also the Lamb of God as referenced in our second reading. Lamb and Shepherd, both are true of the risen Christ.

In addition to the Fourth Sunday of Easter, we also remember Mark, Evangelist, the one for whom our congregation is named.

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 God Is Here!**

WOV, "Blue", 719

***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



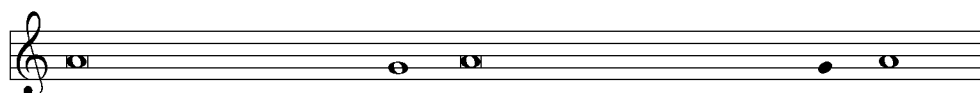
☒ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



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



☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



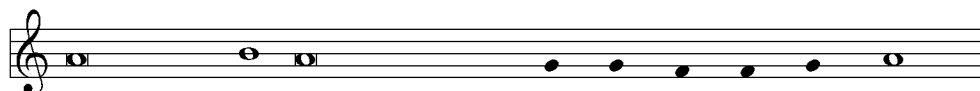
☒ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



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

*HYMN OF PRAISE



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



C 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. O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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 2:42-47

42[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

43Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. 44All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, 47praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

1The LORD| is my shepherd;

I shall not | be in want.

**2The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

3You restore my | soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

**4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no
evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

5You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

THE SECOND READING.....1 Peter 2:19-25

19It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. 20If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God’s approval. 21For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

22“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

23When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. 24He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 25For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. 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.....John 10:1-10

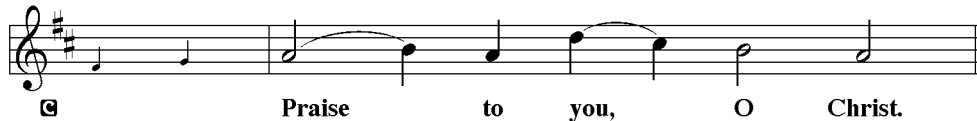
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 10th chapter.

[Jesus said:] 1“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. 2The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5They will not follow a stranger, but they

will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. 9I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. 10The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”
The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN The Lord's My Shepherd**

LBW, “Green”, 451

***THE NICENE CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, we 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.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

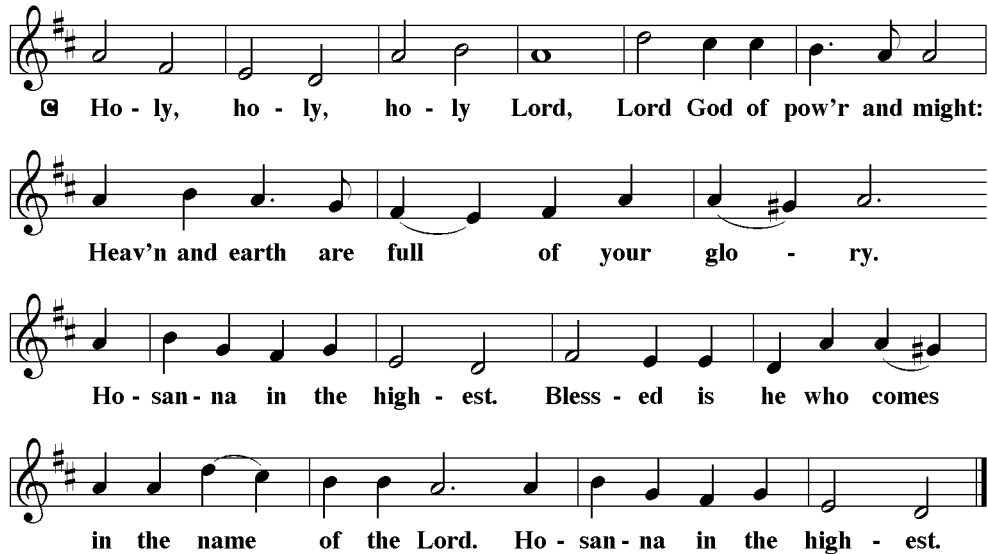
Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And also with you.

Ⓟ 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.

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 sent 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 - might - 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



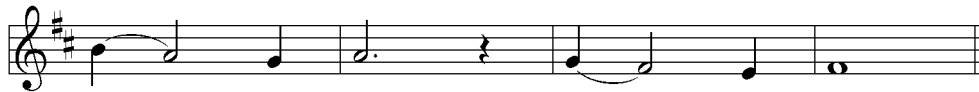
☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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** *All Are Welcome to Receive.*
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.*

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 I Know that My Redeemer Lives! LBW, "Green", 352**

***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, the people of Ukraine, Eastern Europe and Afghanistan, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Steve Beiber, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Lou Kolb, Cheryl Williams.



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!



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Celebration of our Saint Mark’s Family.



Worship Team

April 30, 2023

Lector	8:00 a.m.	Becky Pryor
	10:30 a.m.	Gary Weber
Communion Assistants	8:00 a.m.	
	10:30 a.m.	Ralph and Lou Ann Zeigler
Organist		Sam Robinson
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Herb Poff and Richard Miller
	10:30 p.m.	Mike Jensen, captain Gary Weber, Pam Jensen, Shelby Weber
Altar Guild	April	Connie Shaible Sally Bjornstad Sarah Young

OUR STEWARDSHIP (April 23, 2023)

Regular Offering	\$2,019.00
Easter	10.00
Lent	25.00
Miscellaneous	25.00
World Hunger	50.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Global Mission	50.00
Parish Life	50.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	30.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,309.00

WE KNOW HOW BORING SUMMER CAN GET.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

IS HERE TO HELP!

Like you, we think summer vacation should be fresh and fun, filled with new friendships and new experiences.

Camp Mount Luther offers 400 acres and a host of awesome programs to feed your hunger for adventure.

3 EASY STEPS TO YOUR BEST. SUMMER. EVER.

1. Check out our 2023 Summer Camp brochure and pick your program
2. Register (scholarships are available)
3. Pack your bags and come to camp!

OUR PROMISE TO YOU:

1. You will be safe
2. You will be welcomed
3. You will be loved
4. You will have fun!



REGISTER NOW!

Don't suffer another long, boring summer! Come to camp and create friendships, memories, and faith that will last a lifetime!



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

www.campmountluther.org
355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844
Phone: 570-922-1587 | Fax: 570-922-1118
e-mail: cml@campmountluther.org



PLEASE JOIN US

Saturday, May 27, 2023

Memorial Service for Harold and Joyce Hershberger, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 11 a.m. Reception to follow at the Williamsport Country Club (800 Country Club Drive). All are welcome!



Card Ministry Seeking Volunteers

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee needs additional volunteers to send cards to our Special Concern Folks and others for a month at a time. Everything is supplied (cards, stamps, names and addresses) but you. We need volunteers for July, August, November and December 2023. Please speak to Becky Miller Pryor (570-971-4585) if you wish to volunteer for a month.



SUNDAYS IN MAY:

Sunday, May 7, The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 14, The Sixth Sunday of Easter (Mother's Day)

Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 21, The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 28, The Day of Pentecost

WEAR RED ON THIS SUNDAY

Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 a.m.

ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST (SUNDAY, MAY 28) PLEASE WEAR AN ARTICLE OF RED CLOTHING TO WORSHIP IN COMMEMORATION OF THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT UPON ALL THE EARTH!

**OUR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES:
Holy Communion,
8 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School
(for all ages), 9:15 a.m.**



Monday, May 1, -
Sunday, May 7, 2023

Monday, May 1	Civic Chorus Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 2	Pastor's Lunch	Noon .
Wednesday, May 3		
Thursday, May 4		
Friday, May 5		
Saturday, May 6		
Sunday, May 7	Holy Communion	8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS

Melvin Wentzel	May 1
Jerod Barone	May 2
Robert Clokey	May 2
Jacob Schreckengast	May 2
Grace Schreckengast	May 5
Rosemary Clokey	May 6

ANNIVERSARY

Brittany and Joshua Lynch	May 2
Brian and Joanne Vasey	May 24

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Tuesday, May 2	Evangelism and Fellowship Meeting	6:00 p.m
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If there is anything you would like to include in the "This Week at Our Church" please let the administrative assistant, Joe Baur, know at jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org

COMMEMORATIONS



Philip and James, Apostles

Monday, May 1, 2023

Philip was one of the first disciples of Jesus, and called Nathanael to "come and see." He later responded to an Ethiopian official's request for teaching and baptism. Little is known of James, the son of Alphaeus, called "the Less" to distinguish him from another apostle named James.



Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, died 373

Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Best remembered for defending the teaching that Christ was fully God against those who taught otherwise, Athanasius was an influential church leader around the time of the Council of Nicea. He was banished from Alexandria five times for his forthright views.



Monica, mother of Augustine, died 387

Thursday, May 4, 2023

Monica was married to a pagan husband who was ill-tempered and unfaithful, but whom she helped bring into the Christian faith. She repeated the influence on her son Augustine, who went on to become one of the greatest church teachers.