

**The Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 18, 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.”



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.

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

**Please stand as you are able.*

C = Congregation P = Pastor

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

In baptism we are anointed for the ministry of sharing God's compassion with our needy world; to proclaim the good news, to heal the sick, and to share our bread with the hungry.

PRELUDE *Melody* J. Haydn

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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.

Please kneel as able.

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 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.**

P In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the \dagger Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

***HYMN All People That on Earth Do Dwell LBW, "Green", 245**

***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.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**



A Glory to God in the highest, 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. God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING.....Exodus 19:2-8a

²[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.³Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: “Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.”

The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all you lands!

²**Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God’s presence | with a song.**

³Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom | we belong;
we are God’s people and the sheep | of God’s pasture.

⁴**Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God’s | holy name.**

⁵Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is | everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from | age to age.

THE SECOND READING.....Romans 5:1-8

1Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

6For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....Matthew 9:35-10:8**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 9th chapter

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

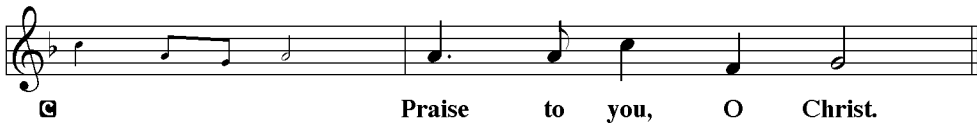
35

Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. 36When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

10:1 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over

unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.
The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN Spread, O, Spread, Almighty Word LBW, “Green”, 379**

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess 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, “God 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.


***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.

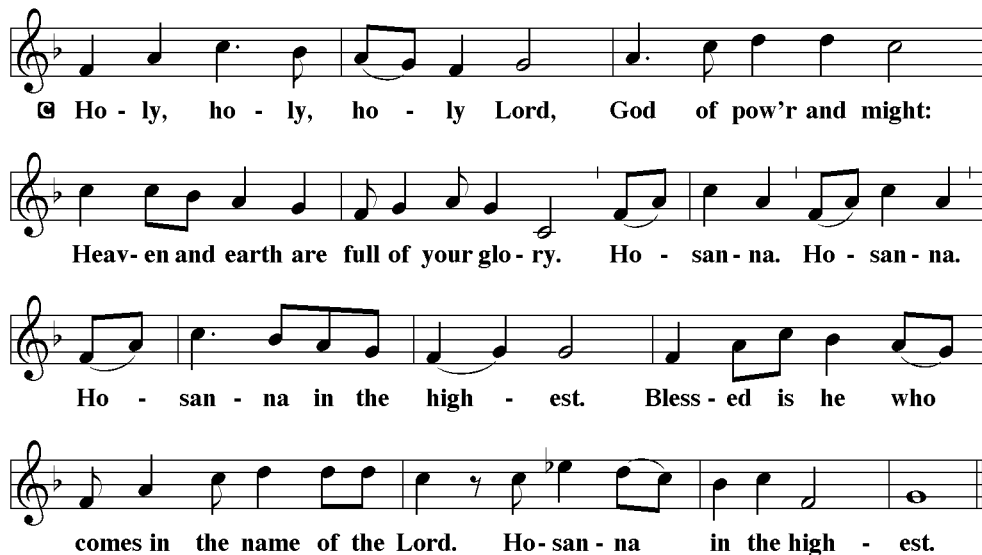


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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, 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, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
 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.

Blessed are you Lord of heaven and earth.
 In mercy for our fallen world
 you gave your only Son,
 that all those who believe in him
 should not perish
 but have eternal life.
 We give thanks to you for the salvation
 you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
 Send now your Holy Spirit,
 into our hearts and on these gifts,
 that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
 as he comes to us in this his holy supper.

C Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed
 Our Lord Jesus took bread,
 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 all people
 for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord as you have taught us, so now we 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.

***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 All people are called to Christ's table.

Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

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. We thank you, generous God,
for the refreshment we have received
at your banquet table.

Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***THE BLESSING**

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

C **Amen.**

***HYMN**

O Zion, Haste

LBW, "Green", 397

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace, share the Good News!

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Credo from Mass No. 1

J. Haydn

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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, Grant Thorne.



READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Faith Formation 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 Loving Memory of Prudence and William Poff by their son, Herb Poff
+In Honor of Sarah and Elliot Jones’ 11th Wedding Anniversary by Sally Bjornstad

**Thank You
To Our Sponsors**

BULLETIN SPONSOR

Thank You Charles and Ann Kuntz for sponsoring this week’s bulletin



June 18, 2023

Lector Vicki Haussmann

Communion Assistants Dan Zeigler and Carl Albright

Organist Sam Robinson

Ushers Tim Maggs, captain
Carl Hieber, Carl Kuntz

Altar Guild June Deb Buckman and Leah Haussmann



OUR STEWARDSHIP June 11, 2023

Regular Offerings	\$2,120.00
Plate Offerings	25.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,155.00



Thank you to everyone who donated cookies for Redeemer’s recent community dinner. The 120 cookie packets were much appreciated. We even had enough cookies left over to give cookie packets to New Covenant’s Blessing Box.

United Churches Food Pantry Needs Our Help



There is no vacation from hunger and no one knows that better than the United Churches Food Pantry. The Pantry is seeing an increase in clients, while funding is being stretched to its limit. We can help. Cereal Sundays will continue on the second Sunday of July and August. But on the other Sundays during the summer,

please consider donating an item or two of these most needed non-perishable foods. Donations may be placed in the Narthex.

*Jars of peanut butter and jelly
Pasta of all kinds*

*Cake mixes and cans of frosting
Soup*



MOSES

From the banks of the Nile River to the depths of the Red Sea, MOSES is a spectacular entertainment experience for the whole family!

Set adrift as a baby, Moses is an unlikely hero — until God calls him to lead His people out of Egypt and into the Promised Land. Journey with Moses as he ventures through the wilderness, encounters God at the burning bush, and ascends to the top of Mount Sinai.

A bus trip to see **Moses** at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA is being organized by Cheryl Williams. This trip is being planned for **Wednesday, September 20**, the **11:00 AM** show. While the bus will be pulling out around 6:00 AM, the early start will certainly be well worth it! Bus fare, show ticket, and dinner are all included in the price which will be determined based on the number attending. ****Please note that the faster we sign up, the lower the price may be. To sign up, please contact Cheryl Williams at (570) 327-1627. We can't wait to hear from you!**



Summer Hospitality

The summer months are once again upon us and with them come long, lazy days, swimming, camping, s'mores, suntans, and all sorts of fun, summery things. At St. Mark's, **summer also means a single service**

beginning at 9:30 AM.

We look forward to sharing hospitality with each other after the 9:30 service, and ask that you please consider signing up to share a few treats ~ nothing fancy is required! Perhaps find a friend to help make the load just a bit lighter. Sign-up sheets may be found in the "Hospitality Binder" on the "Hospitality Table" in the Narthex. We look forward to spending a little time together on these Summer Sunday mornings. Thank you for helping!

It's a girl!



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HANFORD AND FORTIN FAMILIES.

Addison and Paige Hanford welcome to their family their daughter Alba. Alba was born Wednesday, June 14, 2023. She weighed 8 pounds 5 ounces and was 21 inches long. Mother and daughter are doing fine. Happy Birthday Alba!

News from the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee



Next Sunday, June 25, folks are needed to bring our July Fourth items from the basement to Fellowship Hall. If you can help, meet in Fellowship Hall after 9:30 worship. With enough help it should not take long to complete this task.



Our first “Cereal Sunday” was a great success with **35 boxes of cereal** being donated! Mona, at the United Churches Food Pantry was thrilled as the cereal shelves were almost bare. Our next “Cereal Sunday” is July 9, 2023.



July Fourth Celebration

Only a few weeks remain until our annual July Fourth Lawn Party and Musical Program. Donations of candy, water, chips, pretzels and other items are still needed. See the June Lion for the complete list. Many more volunteers are also needed for this event. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please consider donating a

needed item and some of your time as we celebrate our country’s freedoms with each other and the community.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE JULY 4th EVENT

Please sign up in the Narthex.



A PRAYER AS WE REMEMBER

“JUNETEENTH”:

Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like those of generations

before us who resisted the evil of slavery and human bondage in any form and any manner of oppression. Help us to use our freedoms to bring justice among people and nations everywhere, to the glory of your Holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



“Juneteenth” is the celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation becoming national law on June 19, 1865. “Juneteenth” reminds us of the biblical truth that no human being has the right to own another person.



Monday, June 19, - Sunday, June 25, 2023

Monday, June 19	Williamsport Civic Chorus Board	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 20		
Wednesday, June 21		
Thursday, June 22	Roxie Larson Memorial Service Articles for the "Lion" are due	11:00 a.m.
Friday, June 23		
Saturday, June 24		
Sunday, June 25	Holy Communion 9:30 a.m.	

BIRTHDAYS

Brandon Fortin	June 20	Robert Campbell	June 21
Richard Reitz	June 21	Cheryl Williams	June 22
Taigen Tebbs	June 23	Robert Helm	June 24

ANNIVERSARY

Charles and Ann Kuntz	June 18
Daniel Diana Zeigler	June 20
Brenda and John Bower	June 21
Donna and Rev. Kenneth Elkin	June 23
Susan and James Newcomer, Sr.	June 23

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Monday, June 18	St. Mark's Council Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 21	Executive Committee Meeting	Noon
Wednesday, June 21	Property Committee Meeting	6:00 p.m.

Please remember to let the administrative assistant know when committee meetings are scheduled, or changed, so it can be included in the bulletin.

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



Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured, enslaved, and taken to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there.



John the Baptist

Saturday, June 24, 2023

John said, "[Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease." And so his birth is celebrated half a year before Jesus', just as the daylight in the northern hemisphere begins to wane. Jesus honored John as being the greatest prophet.

+ When you or a family member are ill, have a crisis of faith, or have a personal concern of which you wish to make the pastor aware, please contact him directly by church office telephone (570-323-4619) or email (bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org). Do not assume the pastor will know of your need any other way.

+ When you or a loved one has a change of address, telephone number or email, please contact the church office at 570-323-4619 or stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family.