

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

The Last Sunday after Epiphany

February 11, 2024

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 seek, "To know Christ and to make Christ known."



**An Order for Holy Communion 8 am and 10:30 am
(Setting One, LBW)**

Please Note:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use; face masks are optional; offerings may be received by way of offering plates as you enter or leave.

Bold print indicates Congregation.

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

**Please stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

In the story of the transfiguration Jesus' three closest friends hear the words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us for others to see.

PRELUDE *Rondeau Fanfare* Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT (10:30) *Gathered Together* Arr. Saville-Iksic

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the pastor begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
creator of darkness and light,
word of truth,
wind sweeping over the waters.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Stand

God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you.

We have known you but have not always loved you.

**We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.**

**We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.**

Remember your covenant.

Renew your creation.

Restore us,

that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.

God has spoken:

The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.

By the authority of † Jesus Christ,

your sins are forgiven.

You are God's beloved.

Amen.

***HYMN When Morning Guilds the Skies**

LBW, "Green", 546

***THE GREETING**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, God's Beloved, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Ⓑ 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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING.....2 Kings 2:1-12

¹Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. ³The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

⁴Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. ⁵The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

⁶Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” ¹⁰He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” ¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 50:1-6

¹The mighty one, God the | LORD, has spoken;
calling the earth from the rising of the sun | to its setting.

**²Out of Zion, perfect | in its beauty,
God shines | forth in glory.**

³Our God will come and will | not keep silence;
with a consuming flame before, and round about a | raging storm.

⁴God calls the heavens and the earth | from above

to witness the judgment | of the people.

⁵“Gather before me my | loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me and sealed | it with sacrifice.”

**⁶The heavens declare the rightness | of God’s cause,
for it is God | who is judge.**

THE SECOND READING.....2 Corinthians 4:3-6

³Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus’ sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

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 GOSPEL.....Mark 9:2-9**

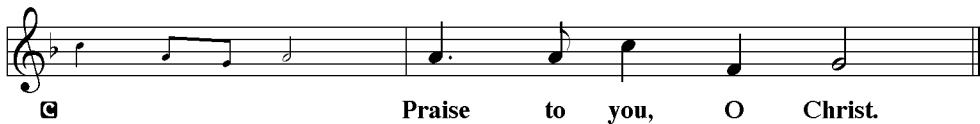
The holy gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁶He did not know

what to say, for they were terrified. 7Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” 8Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

9As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.
The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN**

Jesus on the Mountain Peak

WOV, “Blue”, 653

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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 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.**

*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition: God of Grace/Receive our prayer.

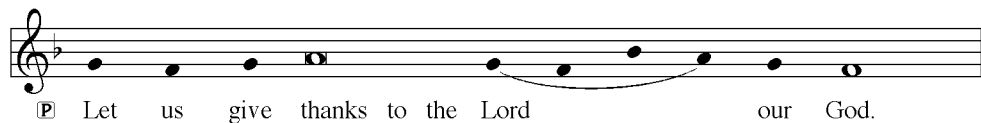
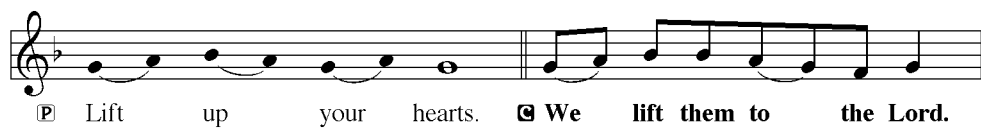
*THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. *The ministers and congregation greet each other.*

ANTHEM (10:30) *Ave Verum Corpus* W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

*GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who as Savior and Lord pierces the darkness of sin and death:



Blessed are you Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your 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.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

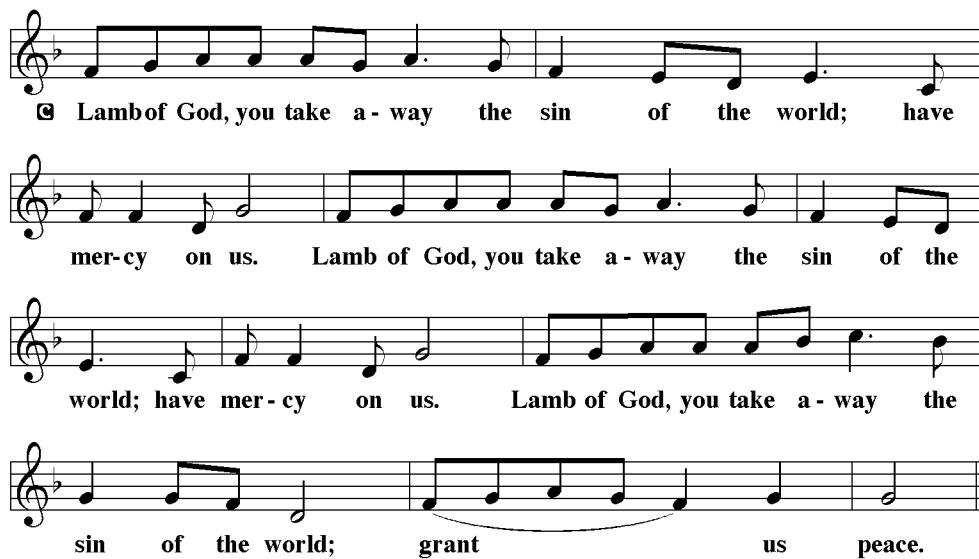
In the night in which he was betrayed
our Lord Jesus took bread,
gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples saying:
Take and eat;
this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord as you have taught us, so now we pray,
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. Please come forward as directed by ushers. Take a small cup from the tray and proceed to receive the bread from Pastor Vasey. After receiving the bread, proceed to receive the wine from two stations by way of a pouring chalice. After receiving the wine, please return to your pews by way of the side aisles.

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one.
Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Amen.

THE COMMUNION

***AFTER COMMUNION**

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

Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Giver of every gift,
Christ’s body is our food, and we are Christ’s body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever. **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

The God who names you, claims you, dwells in you,
Father, Son ✠, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and remain with you always.
Amen.

***HYMN** **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise** **LBW, “Green”, 526**

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, you are God's Beloved
Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE** *Psalm XIX* Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

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Prayer List: Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Ruth Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Susan Kalabacas, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Mike Ford, Walt Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Yvonne and Gerry Myers, Eileen Montgomery.

WORSHIP LEADERS February 11, 2024

Lector	8:00AM	Nikki Jackson	
	10:30AM	Linda Rosini	
Communion Assistants	8:00AM	Drew Haussmann	
	10:30AM	Walt Doebler and Gary Weber	
Organist		Sam Robinson	
Ushers	8:00AM	Herb Poff & Richard Miller	
	10:30AM	Carl Albright, captain Brenda and Levi Gair	
Altar Guild February		Connie Shaible, Sally Bjornstad and Sarah Young	



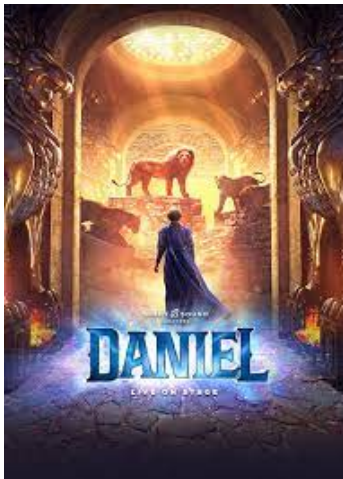
READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Faith Formation has temporarily “moved some books” from our church library to the Front Lounge in order to make them more accessible. Stop by the Front Lounge and take a look!

OUR STEWARDSHIP February 4, 2024

Regular Offering	\$7,100.00
Plate Offerings	70.00
Lent	15.00
Initial Offering	5.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	35.00
Synod Benevolence	50.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$7,275.00



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Loving Memory of our Parents, Luella and Lawrence Bair
by the children.
+In Loving Memory of Robert and Shirley Campbell by the
family.



MARK THE DATE

Bus trip to Sight and Sound to see "Daniel".
September 11, 2024
More information to come soon.



10:30 Today we welcome the Lycoming College Choir

The Lycoming College Choir, established in 1947 by Walter McIver, boasts a storied history of musical excellence. At Lycoming College, the choir is an integral part of campus life, providing music for important school events and nourishing the hearts of students, faculty, and staff. Additionally, the choir

frequently performs at local Williamsport-area churches and collaborates with visiting college choirs, including international friendship choirs from Europe and local orchestras. This vibrant musical community has cultivated a strong alumni base, highlighting the enduring spirit of the Lycoming College Choir.

Over seven decades, the Lycoming College Choir has graced renowned venues such as the National Cathedral, the White House during Holiday Celebrations, the Crystal Cathedral, Coral Ridge, Saint John the Divine, and Saint Patrick's Cathedrals in New York City.

Thank You for sharing your talents with us today.



Monday, February 12, -
 Sunday, February 18, 2024



Monday, February 12	WCC Rehearsal	FH	7:00PM
Tuesday, February 13	Fastnacht Day/Shrove Tuesday	ML	5:30PM
Wednesday, February 14	Ash Wednesday		
	Ashes and Communion	Chapel	12:10PM
	Ashes and Communion	Nave	7:00PM
Thursday, February 15			
Friday, February 16			
Saturday, February 17			
Sunday, February 18	Holy Communion		8:00AM
	Holy Communion		10:30AM

BIRTHDAYS

Lisa Lewis	February 13	Emily Newcomer	February 13
Michele Owen	February 13	Elsie Sechler	February 13
Rick Robertson	February 17		

ANNIVERSARIES

Diane and H. Vincent Bardsley February 18

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

- St. Mark’s will observe “*Shrove Tuesday*” (*February 13*) with our third annual “Fastnacht Day” or Donut Day event. We invite everyone to join us in Fellowship Hall beginning at ***5:30 for light refreshments and Fastnachts.
 - **LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 14).**
 - TWO WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**
 - 12:10 pm in our Chapel (Ashes and Holy Communion)*
 - 7 pm in our Nave (Ashes and Holy Communion)*
 - ALL ARE WELCOME!**
- The Faith Formation Committee will offer a ***Bible study from the Gospel of St. Mark*** during Wednesdays in Lent. All are welcome! The study begins Wednesday, February 21, 12:10PM in Fellowship Hall and concludes Wednesday, March 20.

COMMEMORATIONS

**Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885;
missionaries to the Slavs**

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

