

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 6, 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 Two, *Lutheran Book of Worship*)

Please Note:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use. Offerings may be received by way of offering plates as you enter or leave.

Bold print indicates Congregation.

HYMNS ARE PRINTED IN THE BACK OF OUR BULLETIN AS WELL AS HYMNALS (LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book)

****Please stand as you are able.***

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for forgiveness.

Kneel/stand

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

In our desire to be first

we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

***HYMN**

All Are Welcome

No Notation Available

***THE GREETING**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**



A Glo-ry to God in the high- est, 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

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING.....Genesis 2;18-24

18The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” 19So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. 20The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. 21So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. 22And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. 23Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.”

24Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 8

1O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

**2you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants
and children;**

**you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and
avenger.**

3When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,

4what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,

human beings that you should | care for them?

5Yet you have made them little less | than divine;

with glory and hon- | or you crown them.

6You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;

you have put all things un- | der their feet:

7all | flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

8the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,

and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.

9O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!

THE SECOND READING.....Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:12

1Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. 3He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

2:5Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. 6But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,

or mortals, that you care for them?

7You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honor,
8subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

The word of the Lord

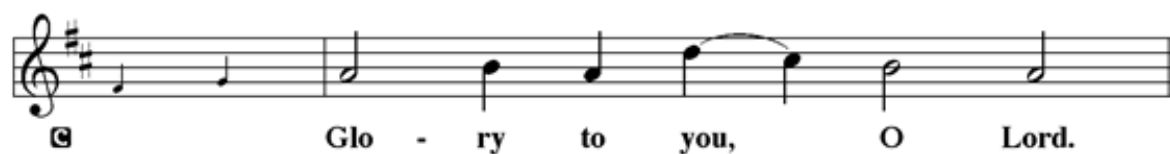
Thanks be to God.

*THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*THE GOSPEL.....Mark 10:2-16

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



²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be

joined to his wife, 8and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

10Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. 11He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; 12and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

13People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. 14But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 15Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” 16And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN God, When Human Bonds are Broken WOV, “Blue”, 735**

***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 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.**

***THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** *After each petition, “God of grace/Hear our prayer”.*

***THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

All may greet one another with these or similar words and/or gestures of peace

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P The Lord be with you. **R** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **R** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and 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 eternal life. And so with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

R 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:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In your great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
who on the cross opened his arms to all,
and by his resurrection brought eternal life.

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 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."

Remembering, therefore,
his death, resurrection and ascension
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us
the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills
of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood
of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom with you
and the Holy Spirit
be all honor and glory,
now and forever.

Amen.

*OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all! Come! **Amen**

COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Use the center aisle, pick up a small glass on the way. Receive the bread and then proceed to receive the wine by way of a pouring chalice. After communing return to your pew using a side aisle. Those not communing may come forward for a blessing.

Know that the crucified and risen Christ gives himself to you in his supper. If you cannot eat bread, drink only the wine. If you cannot drink wine, eat only the bread.

***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**

Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
✠ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

Amen.

***HYMN O Christ the Same**

WOV, “Blue”, 778

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus
Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

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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, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Yvonne and Gerry Myers, Ariel, John Bower, Joseph Baur, John Tartline, Bob Miller, Carl Hieber, Ann Kuntz, Donna Baker, Gary Weber, Tom Waffenschmidt, Phil and Barb Thomas, victims of Hurricane Helene.

OUR STEWARDSHIP September 29, 2024



Regular Offering	\$2,553.00
World Hunger	\$ 50.00
Food Pantry	\$ 100.00
Global Missions	\$ 50.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 295.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$3,048.00

ALTAR FLOWERS



In loving memory of my husband, Jim Buckman, and parents, Mary Jane & Dorsey Ringler and Doris and Sydney Buckman by Deb Buckman & family.

In loving memory of parents, Myron & Florence Ditchfield; husband, Charles Ditchfield, and daughter-in-law, Mary Ditchfield, by Bunny Ditchfield & family.

WORSHIP LEADERS October 6, 2024

Lector	8:00 AM	Drew Haussmann
	10:30AM	Karen Mariano
Communion Assistants	8:00 AM	Drew Haussmann
	10:30AM	Deb Buckman & Mindy Wentzel
Ushers	8:00 AM	Herb Poff, Richard Miller
	10:30AM	Mike Jensen, captain
		Pam Jensen, Shelby & Gary Weber
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild	October	Wanda Fortin, Mindy Wentzel

Welcome Megan Louder

Today welcome Megan Louder as our guest pianist at both services and thank her for sharing her talents with us. Welcome Megan!

Harvest Home Sunday

Harvest Home Sunday will be celebrated October 20. Please pick-up a paper bag marked for this event and fill it with non-perishable food items to be shared with the United Churches of Lycoming County Food Pantry. These bags will be displayed in our Nave Sunday, October 20.

Reformation Sunday

Reformation Sunday is October 27. Please wear red to worship as we celebrate our Lutheran heritage.

Lutheran World Relief



Today is Blanket Sunday! Thank you all for your donations to comfort those who are in need.

Stewardship

Stewardship Sunday will be held on All Saints Sunday, November 3, 2024. Please begin thinking about your commitment to the financial well being of our church. Right now there is a repair of the organ and replacement of the dossal. Next year, one of the roofs will have to be replaced plus there are the everyday expenses such as salaries, utilities, etc. Please think about being generous with your pledge.

Congregational Reports

**END OF YEAR CONGREGATION REPORTS
OF ALL CHURCH COMMITTEES AND MINISTRIES DUE BY
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31. Please file reports with the church office.
Thank You!**



Our Community’s annual walk to fight hunger, CROP Hunger Walk, will be held **Sunday, October 13th** at 1:00 PM, on the River Walk in Williamsport. The walk begins here at St. Mark’s and you can walk 3, 6 or 9 miles (most of us walk 3 miles).

Join the **St. Mark’s Lutheran Church Lions** team to walk or donate. Our goal is \$1,000 (last year we raised \$940)! Hungry people in developing countries can walk as many as six miles a day for food and water. We walk because they walk. By walking on a fall afternoon, you create awareness to these issues, raise funds and have

fellowship with members of the St. Mark’s congregation as well as other congregations.

25% of the funds we raise support local hunger agencies and the other 75% is distributed by Church World Service nationally and internationally. In partnership CROP walks support self-help programs, assist after disasters and help address root causes of poverty by providing water systems and tools to grow the food they need.

To register to walk or donate to our team, you can speak with Brenda Gair (text 570-220-8859) or on-line; <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/st-marks-lutheran-church-lions>

Click the orange “Donate Now”

Checks can be made payable to “CWS/CROP”



Monday, October 7, 2024 -
Sunday, October 13, 2024

Sunday, October 6 (Blanket Sunday)

Holy Communion 8 am
Sunday School 9:15 am
Holy Communion 10:30 am
Pet Blessing 2 pm (Parking Lot)

Monday, October 7

Columbus/Indigenous People Day

Office Closed

Tuesday, October 8	West Branch Pastor Conference	9:30am	Chapel
	Property Committee	6:00pm	ML
Wednesday, October 9	Bible Study "Letter to the Galatians"	12:10pm	FH
Thursday, October 10	City Pastors' Lunch/Meeting	1:00pm	ML
Friday, October 11	Church Office Closed		
Saturday, October 12	Church Office Closed		
Sunday, October 13	Holy Communion	8 am	
	Sunday School	9:15 am	
	Holy Communion	10:30 am	
	CROP Walk	1 pm	

BIRTHDAYS

Glenn Yaple October 9 Jane Zimmerer October 9

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 email jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org



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) 272-788-0161 (cell) 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.

COMMEMORATIONS

William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536

Sunday, October 6, 2024

Tyndale was ordained English pastor, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.



"I defy the Pope and all his laws. If God spare my life, ere many years, I will cause a boy who knows his plough to know more of the Scriptures than he does."

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, died 1787

Monday, October 7, 2024

Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for both the Common Service of 1888 and our present day liturgy.



Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1996

Thursday, October 10, 2024

A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.



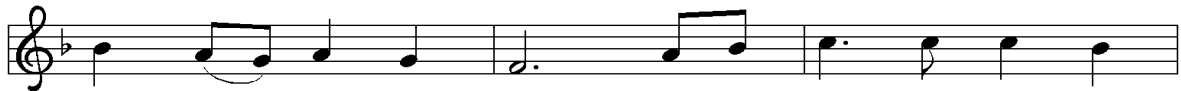
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
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God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu - man bonds are bro - ken and we lack the
 2 Through that still - ness, with your Spir - it come in - to our
 3 You in us are bruised and bro - ken: hear us as we
 4 Send us, God of new be - gin - nings, hum - bly hope - ful
 5 Give us faith to be more faith - ful, give us hope to



love or skill to re - store the hope of heal - ing,
 world of stress, for the sake of Christ for - giv - ing
 seek re - lease from the pain of ear - lier liv - ing;
 in - to life. Use us as a means of bless - ing:
 be more true, give us love to go on learn - ing:



give us grace and make us still.
 all the fail - ures we con - fess.
 set us free and grant us peace.
 make us stron - ger, give us faith.
 God, en - cour - age and re - new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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O Christ the Same

1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing
 3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing

our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
 our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;
 our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;

e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
 still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing
 our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,

un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
 the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:
 our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:

O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
 O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—
 O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,

we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
 Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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Lutheran Disaster Response

Please remember through Lutheran Disaster Response, both by your prayers and financial giving, the victims of Hurricane Helene. A basket marked “Hurricane Helene” is available in the narthex. Thank You!