

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 28, 2025

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 note:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use.

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

An Order for Holy Communion, 8 & 10:30 am

(With One Voice, Setting 5)

A guide to hymnal use: All hymns are printed in the bulletin and when reference is available the LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book

Light print = Pastor/Leader. Bold print = Congregation.

**Please stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of and ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. By the power of your Holy Spirit, grant that we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we

may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

With joy I proclaim to you that Almighty God †, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***HYMN Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life LBW, “Green,” 429**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
 4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
 tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
 among these restless throngs abide;
 oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
 and follow where your feet have trod;
 till glorious from your heav'n above
 shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

***THE GREETING**

The grace of our 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



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's 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.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



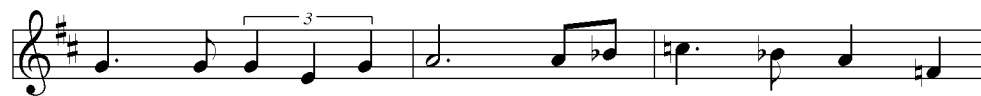
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ 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.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

I For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 II

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.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion
 and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,
⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,
⁶ who drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146

¹ Hal- | lelujah!
Praise the LORD, | O my soul!
² **I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**
I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.
³ Put not your | trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there | is no help.
⁴ **When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,**
and in that day | their thoughts perish. R
⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;
⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;**
who keeps promis- | es forever;
⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.
The LORD sets the | captive free.
⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are**
bowed down;
the LORD | loves the righteous.
⁹ The LORD cares | for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the
wicked.
¹⁰ **The LORD shall | reign forever,**
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***THE GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31**

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

***HYMN**

Build a Longer Table

No Reference Available

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

*THE APOSTLES' CREED

With all the people of God, 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**

***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.

People may greet one another with these or similar words.

ANTHEM (10:30 am) *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Alice Parker

***OFFERING**

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Lord our God, through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.
Strengthened by them we offer ourselves to your service
and dedicate our lives to work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

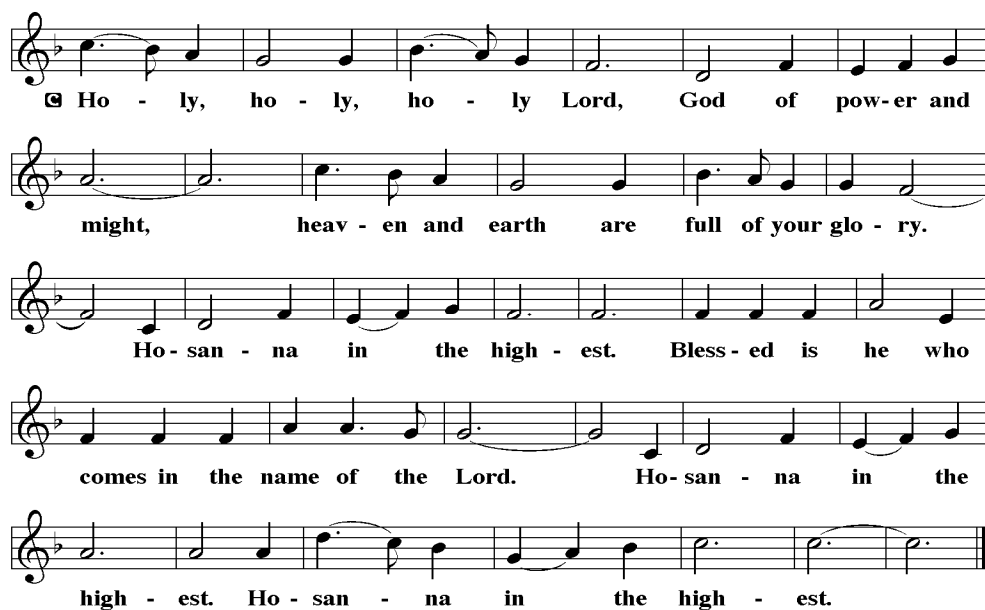
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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 Jesus Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way to eternal 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 - er and
might, heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, mighty and merciful Lord,
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 the good news to the poor,
and who on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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."

Remembering therefore,
his death, resurrection and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us
the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with whom and in whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.



*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,

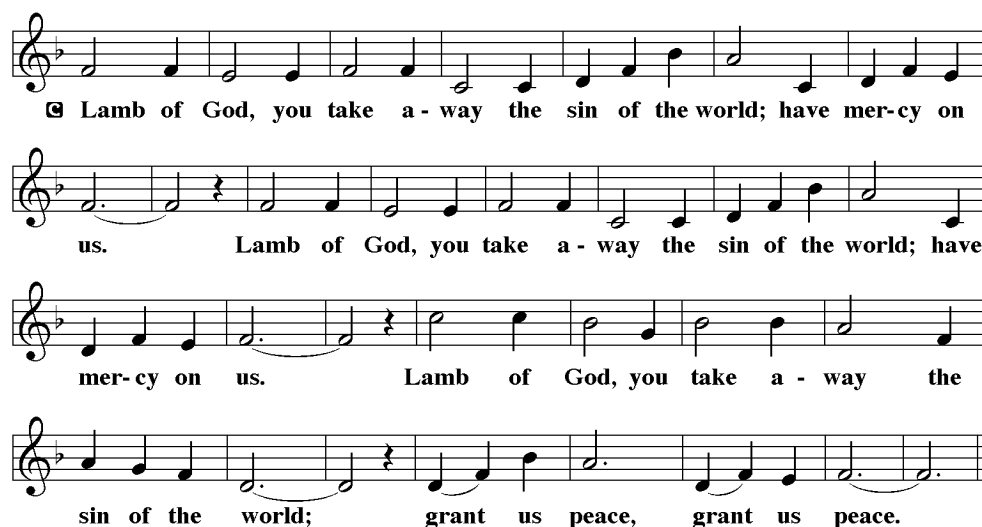
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

*LAMB OF GOD



***INVITATION TO COMMUNE**

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

Amen. Thanks be to God!

All are welcome at our Lord's Table. Use the center aisle to come forward, pick up a small cup on the way. Receive the bread from Pastor Vasey and then proceed to receive the wine from one of two pouring chalices. After communing, please return to your pew by the side aisles. Those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

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

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**

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good
and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

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

Amen.

***HYMN Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service LBW, "Green," 423**

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crating to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

OUR PRAYER LIST

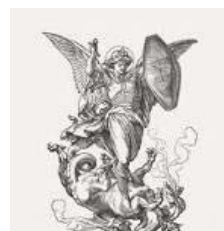
Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, Gary Cable, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, the family of Judy Fortin, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Ariel, John Tartline, Donna Baker, George Poliska, April Clark, Connie Shaible, Ann Kuntz, John and Terry Holohan, Alex & Adaline Day, Loretta Hawe, Christina Aguirre, Robert Ault and Bill Emery.

COMMEMORATIONS

Michael and All Angels

Monday, September 29, 2025

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.



Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.



Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died 1226

Saturday, October 4, 2025

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching "using words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.



Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died 1864

Saturday, October 4, 2025

Fliedner helped to bring about a revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. He was influenced in this by Moravian deaconesses he had met. The motherhouse he founded in Kaiserswerth, Germany, inspired many around the world to take up this ministry.



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

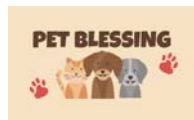
Today, September 28	Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am Ecumenical Youth Group, 6-8 pm, Trinity Episcopal Sunday School, 9:30 am Pack-up Kits for LWR – after 10:30 am
Monday, September 29	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
Tuesday, September 30	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
Wednesday, October 1	Office hours, 9 am – 1 pm Study, “The Place of Trust”, 12:10 pm, FH
Thursday, October 2	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
Friday, October 3	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
Saturday, October 4	Office Closed
Sunday, October 5	Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:15 am Pet Blessing, 2pm, Parking Lot <i>In case of in-climate weather we will meet in Fellowship Hall.</i>

New Ecumenical Youth Group

All interested youth (grades 6-12) are asked to gather for pizza, games and brainstorming at Trinity Episcopal Church, Williamsport, on Sunday, September 28 from 6-8pm. Hope to see you there!

October Bible Study

Please join us Wednesdays in October as we take time to learn and grow in our faith. Pastor Vasey will lead us in a study based on the Beatitudes in the Gospel according to Matthew. Our texts will be scripture and The Place of Trust (an understanding of the Beatitudes from the writings of Martin Luther) by Dr. Martin Marty. Both will be available for use. You are invited to bring a brown bag lunch to munch as we meet from 12:10-12:45 in Fellowship Hall. We are excited for this opportunity, and look forward to sharing this time of study and fellowship.



Pet Blessing

Please join us Sunday, October 5 at 2:00 PM for our annual Pet Blessing! We invite you and your pet to meet in the back parking lot for a short service including the blessing of pets as we remember God's gift of animals in our lives. Should there be rain, this service will be moved indoors. We hope to see you, your family, and your pets as we celebrate the gift of furry friends in our lives.

Harvest Home

On Sunday, October 12 we will celebrate Harvest Home. There will be empty grocery bags available to take with you after worship on Sunday, October 5. Please fill the bag or bags with nonperishable food items and return them to worship on Sunday, October 12. All items will be donated to the United Churches Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity.

Reformation Sunday

Reformation Sunday will be celebrated October 16, 2025. Bishop Miller (Upper Susquehanna Synod) will join us in worship at both services. Following our 8 am Service and Hospitality there will be a "question and answer" time with our bishop in Fellowship Hall.

Remember...Reformation Sunday is October 26, 2025. Don't forget to "Wear **Red**" to worship as we celebrate this special day!

OUR STEWARDSHIP for September 21, 2025

Regular Offering	3,232.00
Plate Offerings	30.00
Sunday School Offering	5.00
Capital Fund	1,000.00
Flower Memorials/Tributes	175.00
Grand Total	\$4,442.00

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God; and
In loving memory of Ralph Zeigler, Sr. on his birthday by his family and;
In loving memory of loved ones by Donna Baker.

WORSHIP LEADERS for September 28, 2025

Lector	8:00 am	Becky Pryor
	10:30 am	Theresa Furman
Communion Assistants	8:00 am	Becky Pryor
	10:30 am	Deb Buckman & Mindy Wentzel
Ushers	8:00 am	Miller/Poff
	10:30 am	Gary & Shelby Weber
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild (SEPTEMBER)		Deb Buckman

BIRTHDAYS

Dave Williams 9/28

KEEP IN MIND:

~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) email (bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org) or his cell phone (272-788-0161). Do not assume the pastor will know of your need any other way.

~ When you or a loved one has a change of address, email, or telephone number, please contact the church office at stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org or 570-323-4619. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family, so that in may be included in the weekly bulletin and/or the "Lion."



Lutheran
World
Relief

~Pack-up for the kits will be Sunday, Sept. 28 after the 10:30 am service. We need to secure the boxes and pack the remaining items.

~Blanket Sunday is Oct. 5. Remember, Blankets need to be 60x80" and cotton - please no fleece. Quilts are really appreciated.

~Kits will be delivered to the Synod on Sat. Oct. 18 so I will need help to put all the boxes in my car. The Boy Scouts will unload them at the Synod location so that is not a problem.

Family Promise

Our next hosting is coming up soon. All dates are open except Tuesday, Oct. 7. We need coverage for Sun. Oct. 5, Mon. Oct. 6, Wed. Oct. 8, Thurs. Oct. 9 and Fri. Oct. 10. Please see me as to which date you would like and if you know your menu, thank would be great. Deb B dabuckman65@gmail.com.

Finance

There will be a finance committee meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 2025 at 5pm to work on the budget.

Committee Chairpersons – By now you should have received your budget paperwork. Please return no later than October 13, 2025. Place in my mailbox – Thanks, Deb B.



A great big THANK YOU to everyone who continues to donate items for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! Never doubt that God is using these seemingly small items for good. **“Our economic condition is very poor, so my parents cannot afford to buy toys for me. When I heard that I would get a gift box, I was so excited! Thank you to all of my foreign friends who sent me the toys and other amazing things.”**

–Samia, East Asia

~Our red bin has been overflowing all year which is absolutely wonderful! This September we are collecting, **Small Games/Puzzles**, and **School Supplies**. Not a huge fan of shopping? Please consider a donation of \$10.00 which will be put toward our \$750.00 (or more) shipping costs.

~These items (or any others you find) may be placed in our red, OCC bin located in the narthex. Your generosity is very much appreciated! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

*The age ranges for the boxes we fill are 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14 (both boys and girls)



WANT TO EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN? Adults wishing to unite with St. Mark's in church membership are invited to contact PASTOR VASEY at 570-323-4619 or email: stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org.



A bus trip to Stone Gables Estate* in Elizabethtown, PA is being organized by Cheryl Williams. This trip is being planned for Wednesday, November 19, 2025. The bus will be pulling out around 9:00 AM from Beiter's parking lot. The trip will include bus fare, a meal catered by "Food for Thought Catering", a ride on the Santa Express train, and the National Christmas center followed by the Christmas light drive-thru. All are included in the price of \$145.09 per person. If interested, please contact Cheryl at (570) 327-1627.

* Stone Gables Estate is a biblical faith-based ministry/business. Their mission is to donate 100% of net profits to aid abandoned children worldwide.

CROP Walk

Our Community's annual walk to fight hunger, CROP Hunger Walk, will be held **Sunday, October 12th** 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 \$1,065)! 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/crophungerwalks/team/st-marks-lutheran-church-lions>

Checks can be made payable to “CWS/CROP”



Urgent Needs at Shepherd of the Streets

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee recently received news of an urgent need for specific hygiene products for men and women who come to the Shepherd’s office. **Their greatest needs are women’s deodorant, toothpaste, baby wipes, bar soap, bodywash, baby bodywash, shampoo and paper towels.** Any assistance you can give to this request is greatly appreciated.

A Concert in SOUND and SIGHT –
The Seipp/Fickley Trumpet/Organ Duo
VIDEO illustrating MUSIC

From Copland’s *Fanfare for the Common Man*, to the 1917 silent film *Teddy at the Throttle*, to Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue*, enjoy unprecedented entertaining and musical heights through all styles of specialized arrangements synchronized to captivating and moving videos. An entertaining and engaging program for all ages.

Covenant Central Presbyterian Church
807 West Fourth Street, Williamsport
Saturday, October 4, 3 p.m.

No tickets, but donations welcome to benefit veterans



The Annual Fall Hymn Sing at Old Immanuel Lutheran Church (2633 Lime Bluff Rd, Muncy) will take place on Sunday, October 5, 2:30 pm. Old Immanuel is considered to be the "mother church of Lutheranism in Lycoming County". Founded in 1791, the church was an active congregation until its closing in 1920. The public is invited and an offering will be received to help with upkeep and maintenance costs. Please be aware that the building does not have running water or electricity.

Men's Fellowship

We are excited to announce that our Men's Fellowship Group will officially meet on Wednesday, October 8 at 6:00 PM. This month's meeting will focus on a discussion of the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Pizza will be provided!

Since the Men's Fellowship Group is a new ministry at St. Mark's, the structure and focus for this group is still evolving. A combination of monthly study and activity is being discussed, but most importantly this group hopes to offer fellowship to one another. We encourage all men, both young men and "wise" men, to come be involved in this opportunity. Ideas and input are welcome! We are looking forward to seeing you on October 8th!

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