## THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST November 9, 2025

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701 <u>stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org</u>
Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)
Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor <u>bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org</u>

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 (Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting 1)

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

We worship on the first day of the week because Jesus was raised on that day. Every Sunday is a little Easter. This Sunday feels more like Easter than many as the appointed texts celebrate the reality of the resurrection. Live it up this Lord's day. Our God is the God of the living.

#### **PRELUDE**

Piano Sonata in B-flat Major, *Adagio* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) w/ Megan Cartwright

### 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.

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.

#### Amen.

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.

### Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection and self-examination

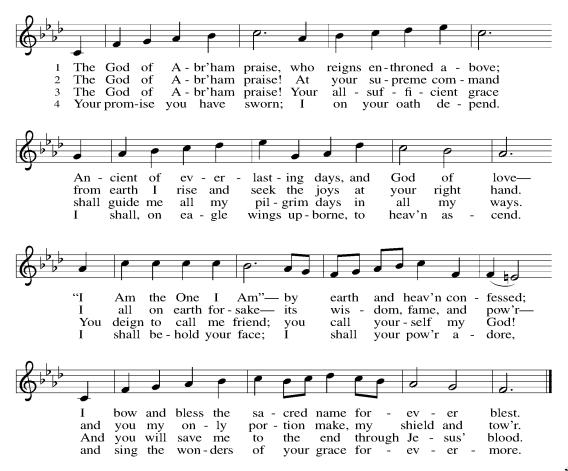
Most merciful God,

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 loved 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.

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

\*HYMN The God of Abraham Praise No Reference Available (stanzas 1-4)

### The God of Abraham Praise



\*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



## \*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

## And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

## THE FIRST READING: Job 19:23-27a

<sup>23</sup> "O that my words were written down!

O that they were inscribed in a book!

<sup>24</sup> O that with an iron pen and with lead

they were engraved on a rock forever!

<sup>25</sup> For I know that my vindicator lives

and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;

<sup>26</sup> and after my skin has been destroyed,

then in my flesh I shall see God,

<sup>27a</sup> whom I shall see on my side,

and my eyes shall behold, and not another."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

### **PSALM 17:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Hear a just cause, O LORD; give heed | to my cry; listen to my prayer, which does not come from | lying lips.

# <sup>2</sup> Let my vindication come forth | from your presence;

let your eyes be | fixed on justice.

<sup>3</sup> Examine my heart, visit | me by night,

melt me down; you will find no impuri- | ty in me.

4I have not regarded what | others do;

at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways | of the violent.

<sup>5</sup> My footsteps hold fast to your | well-worn path; and my feet | do not slip.

<sup>6</sup>I call upon you, O God, for you will | answer me; incline your ear to me and | hear my words.

<sup>7</sup>Show me your marvelous | lovingkindness,

O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who | rise against them.

<sup>8</sup> Keep me as the apple | of your eye;

hide me under the shadow | of your wings,

<sup>9</sup> from the wicked | who assault me,

from my deadly enemies | who surround me.

THE SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5; 13-17

<sup>1</sup> As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, <sup>2</sup> not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. <sup>3</sup> Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. <sup>4</sup>He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. <sup>5</sup> Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

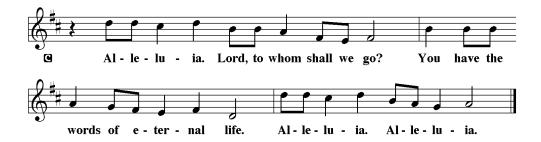
<sup>13</sup> But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. <sup>14</sup> For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>15</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

<sup>16</sup> Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, <sup>17</sup> comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

The word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## **\*THE GOSPEL: Luke 20:27-38**

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



<sup>27</sup> Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] <sup>28</sup> and asked him a question: "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies

leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. <sup>29</sup> Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; <sup>30</sup> then the second <sup>31</sup> and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. <sup>32</sup> Finally the woman also died. <sup>33</sup> In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

<sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, <sup>35</sup> but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. <sup>36</sup> Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. <sup>37</sup> And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. <sup>38</sup> Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive."



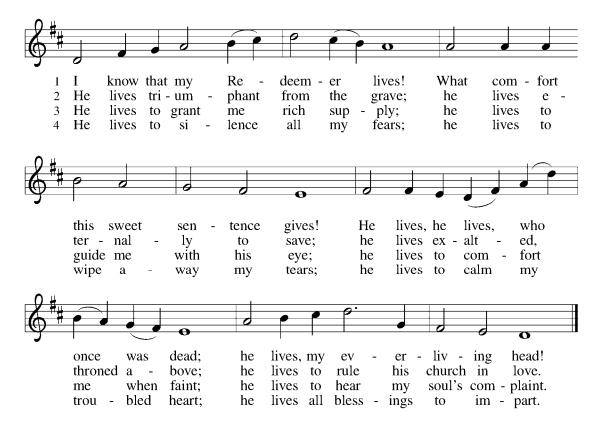
#### THE SERMON

**\*HYMN** I Know that My Redeemer Lives

LBW, "Green," 352

(*stanzas 1-4*)

## I Know That My Redeemer Lives!



## \*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: Hear us O God/Your mercy is great.

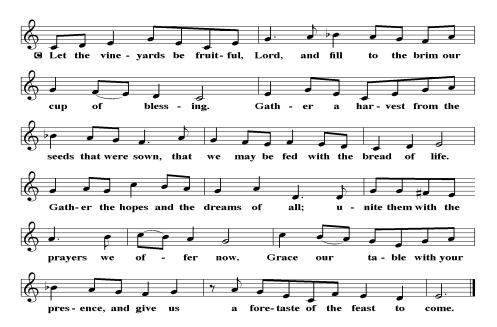
### \*THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## And also with you.

People may greet one another with these or similar words.

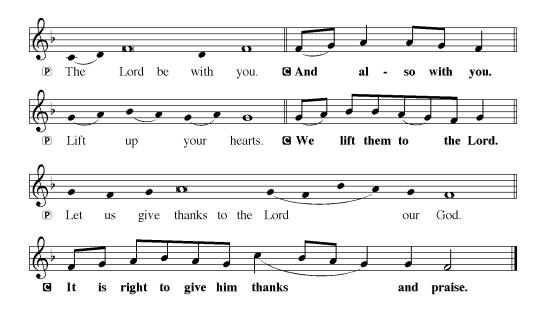
## \*OFFERING



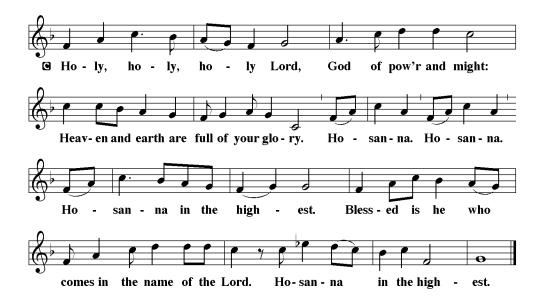
#### \*OFFERING PRAYER

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. **Amen**.

### \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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 of everlasting life. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us.

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;
that we might be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at your heavenly banquet. Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.** 

## \*OUR LORD'S PRAYER

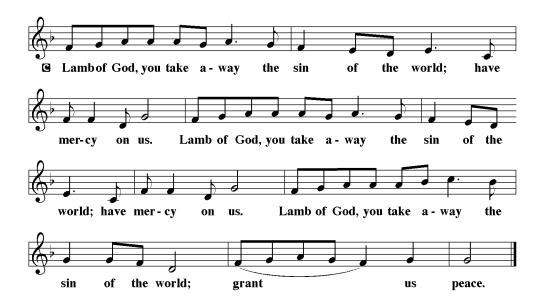
Lord as you have taught us, so now we pray: Our Father, who art in heaven,

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

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

## 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

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world.

Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

#### Amen

#### \*BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Amen.

## Blessed Assurance



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood. an - gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

### \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

Piano Sonata in B-flat Major, *Allegro* Mozart w/ Megan Cartwright

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **OUR PRAYER LIST**

Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, Gary Cable, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Ariel, John Tartline, George

Poliska, Connie Shaible, Ann Kuntz, John and Terry Holohan, Loretta Hawe and Len.

### **COMMEMORATIONS**

# Martin, Bishop of Tours, died 397

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Martin's pagan father enlisted him in the Roman army.

Approached by a beggar, Martin cut his cloak in half and gave part to the man, whom he later understood as representing Christ. He asked to leave the army, but was jailed instead. After his release, he became a preacher, and later a bishop. Martin Luther was named for Martin of Tours.



## Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, died 1855

Tuesday, November 11, 2025

Kierkegaard was a Danish theologian whose writings also gave rise to the modern philosophy of existentialism. He frequently attacked the complacency of the state church of his day, as well as its desire to be accepted by polite society rather than be the stumbling block of the gospel.



### THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today, November 9 Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Williamsport Civic Chorus, 3 pm

Monday, November 10 Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm

Executive Committee, 1:30 pm

Tuesday, November 11 Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm

West Branch Conference, 9:30 am

Wednesday, November 12 Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm

Faith Formation, 10:30 am

Thursday, November 13 Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm

City Pastors' Lunch, 1 pm

Friday, November 14 Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm

WCCO Concert, 5 pm

Saturday, November 15 Office Closed

Sunday, November 16 Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am

Sunday School, 9:15 am

## STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN: NOVEMBER 2-23, 2025

Our 2025 Stewardship Campaign begins today, November 2 and concludes Sunday, November 23. During these several weeks think and pray about how you can support all our congregation does in Jesus' name within St. Mark's, our community and our world.

"...in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

- I Peter 2:9

God has made us God's own people "in order that" we might proclaim through word and deed all that God has done in our lives. We do that individually as we live our faith in our daily lives. We also do that collectively in our congregation.

Our congregation proclaims God's mighty acts within our walls through worship, through Christian education for our children and youth, through the many groups that meet to learn and serve. Our congregation proclaims God's mighty acts in our community as we make a difference for good in the lives of people around us who are in need. Our congregation proclaims God's mighty acts across our country and around the world as we support important ministries that are making a difference near and far.

Your giving to our congregation makes all of this possible. Because of you, we "proclaim the mighty acts of him" who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

## **OUR STEWARDSHIP for November 2, 2025**

Regular Offering	\$4,792.00
Plate Offerings	15.00
Thanksgiving	10.00
Food Pantry	60.00
Sunday School Offering	6.00
Christmas Flowers	66.00
Family Promise Hosting	30.00
Flower Memorials/Tribute	es 35.00

Synod Benevolence 10.00 **Grand Total** \$5,024.00

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God; and

In loving memory of Judy Fortin, our Mother, by Matt & Wanda Fortin and Family; and

In loving memory of Harry and Hester Nolan by the Family.

## **WORSHIP LEADERS for November 9,, 2025**

Lector 8:00 am Vicki Haussmann

10:30 am Donna Clark

Communion Assistants 8:00 am Drew Haussmann

10:30 am Matt & Wanda Fortin

Ushers 8:00 am Miller/Poff

10:30 am The Gairs

Hospitality 8:00 am The Newcomers Organist Sam Robinson

Altar Guild (NOVEMBER) Matt & Wanda Fortin

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Cathy Fenderson 11/9
Becky Miller Pryor 11/9
Elizabeth Haussmann 11/13

#### **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."



So we are done for this year however, please do not stop thinking about the kits and the items for them! Watch the clearance racks and shelves for items and snap them up. If you do not want to store them at home, you can bring them to the church and put them in the office opposite the middle lounge - you will know which one it is - the messy one with boxes, etc. Baby clothes, towels, etc. can be found on clearance. Deb Buckman

## **Family Promise**

Thanks to all who helped with our family promise hosting. Our next hosting is coming up quickly Nov. 16 to Nov. 22. This is our last hosting for this year. Currently there are two families - a mother with 7 children and another mother with 2 children. As you know this can change quickly so I will keep you up to date as I receive information. Sunday and Tuesday are already spoken for. Also - I am looking for a co-worker to help me with this task. It is not hard - scheduling the meals and making sure there are not three nights of spaghetti is the hardest part. If you are interested in helping please talk to me - Deb Buckman



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

November brings much excitement for Operation Christmas Child as it is time to pack our shoeboxes! We have been collecting all sorts of items over the past 10 months, and it is now time to pull everything together! We will be packing our shoeboxes in Fellowship Hall today, **November 9th.** Due to the Civic Chorus concert in the afternoon, we will begin packing shoeboxes after the 8:00 service to get a bit of a "head start". Have no fear though, packing will also take place after the 10:30 service. A light lunch will be served around 11:30, and a brief presentation will show how meaningful and life-changing these gifts are to the kids who receive a shoebox filled with all sorts of goodies. Plus, packing shoeboxes for others is tons of fun! This promises to be a fun hour (or less) with the goal of packing *at least* 75 boxes to be sent out to children in need. Come see what this outreach is all about. You won't be disappointed!

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



Become Part of 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.



## **Urgent Needs At.....**

**Shepherd of the Streets: SHAMPOO** for men, women and children. As of press time the Shepherd's office had none!

Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM): Needed are brown, large-size lunch bags, Dixie paper bowls (10-12 oz.) and plastic forks and knives. FYI: STM serves more than 600 meals each week that include both eat-in and brown bag lunches to go.

<u>United Churches Food Pantry:</u> As we near the holiday season, please consider continuing to offer non-perishable food items to be used by the Pantry. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated as the need is great and growing.

## **Thanksgiving Day Greetings**

Please help the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee send Thanksgiving Day greetings to our Special Concern folks and others. Next Sunday, November 16, greeting cards, with a name and address on the envelope, will be available in the Narthex after both services. Please consider taking a card or two, writing a cheery greeting, adding a stamp and placing it in the mail in time for Thanksgiving. Thank you for any help you can give in spreading good cheer.

## **Church Women United - Update**

A lovely time was had by the attendees of World Community Day sponsored by the Church Women United of Lycoming County. The theme of kindness was refreshing during these unsettled times. We were able to donate sewing material that had been previously stored and not used. Members of CWU make fidget bags and small fidget quilts for hospitalized children and nursing home residents. If any members of St. Mark's have any cotton or cotton/polyester material they wish to

donate to the ladies, please leave it in the Narthex and the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee will deliver it to them.



## **Williamsport Civic Chorus Concert**

Sacred Voices: Divine Harmony from Martines to Mozart today, November 9 at 3 PM here at St. Mark's. Cost: general admission - \$12 at door, Senior/Student \$10 at door. \$2 discount if purchased online through Williamsportcivicchorus.org or at RM Sides or Otto's bookstore.



## Williamsport Chamber Choir & Orchestra present:

### REFRAINS OF THE REFORMATION

Samuel Robinson, Artistic Director

"The centerpiece of the concert will be Johann Sebastian Bach's Cantata 80, Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott ("A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"), based on Luther's well-known hymn. The program will also include works by Felix Mendelssohn and feature a special collaboration by the Williamsport Youth Choir."

Concert Details: Friday, November 14, 2025 7:30 PM

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Williamsport, PA Tickets: \$10 adults/\$5 students at the door.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Portions of this service are reprinted with permission from...

Lutheran Book of Worship (copyright, 1978)

Augsburg-Fortress Publishers (#2562-L).

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (copyright 2006)

Augsburg-Fortress Publishers, under license #2562-L.

sundayandseasons.com (copyright 2019), Augsburg-Fortress.

All rights reserved.

Augsburg-Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB144818.

"One License" A-738528