

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 15, 2026

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; *Bread of Life Setting (With One Voice)*

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

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** (*stand*)

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

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the aid of your people,
turning us from sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that, attentive to your Word,
we may confess our sins,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

Kneel/Stand. Silence is kept for reflection.

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 Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you,

forgive you all your sins

through Jesus Christ,

strengthen you in all goodness,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit

keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

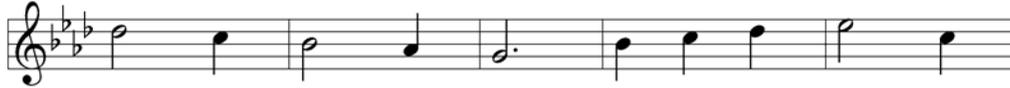
***HYMN O God of Mercy, God of Light**

LBW, "Green," 425

O God of Mercy, God of Light



1 O God of mer - cy, God of light, in love and
2 You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: to feel for
4 For all are kin - dred, far and wide, since Je - sus



mer - cy in - fi - nite, teach us, as ev - er
world might hear your call; oh, hear us lest we
those his blood has bought, that ev - 'ry deed and
Christ for all has died; grant us the will, and



in your sight, to live our lives in you.
stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.
word and thought may work a work for you.
grace pro - vide to love them all in you.

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
each other's burdens help us share;
may we, where help is needed, there
give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
all those who live to live in love,
till you receive in heav'n above
those who have lived to you.

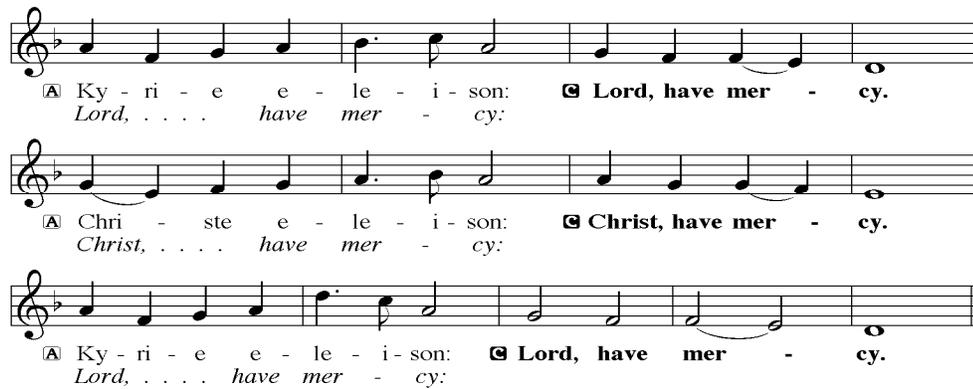
Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
Music: JUST AS I AM. Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

*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.

*KYRIE



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” ²Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” ⁵He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the LORD.” ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on

the heart.”⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.”¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.”¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

¹ The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³ You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name’s sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no
evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

THE SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸ Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

☩ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your
God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

***THE GOSPEL: John 9:1-41**

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” ³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not

see may see and those who do see may become blind.”⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?”⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

***HYMN This is a Day of New Beginnings No Reference Available**

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

Unison

1. This is a day of new be - gin - nings,
 2. For by the life and death of Je - sus,
 3. Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing,
 4. Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us

time to re - mem - ber and move on,
 God's might - y Spir - it, now as then,
 step from the past and leave be - hind
 to show and share what love can do.

time to be - lieve what love is bring - ing,
 can make for us a world of dif - ference,
 our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and griev - ing,
 This is a day of new be - gin - nings;

lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
 as faith and hope are born a - gain.
 seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
 our God is mak - ing all things new.

*Alternate text for Holy Communion

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1978; alt. 1987 (Rev. 21:5)
 MUSIC: Carlton R. Young, 1984

BEGINNINGS
 98, 98

***THE NICENE CREED**

With all people of God, we confess our faith:

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

**He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
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 or gestures.

OFFERTORY

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**

O God, maker of heaven and earth,
your steadfast love embraces all creation.
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth
and bring forth its bounty.
Through these gifts of bread and wine,
draw us into the death and life of your Son,
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

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. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. 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.

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
 In mercy for our fallen world
 you gave your only Son
 that all those who believe in him
 should not perish but have eternal life.
 We give you thanks 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,
 and gave thanks; broke it

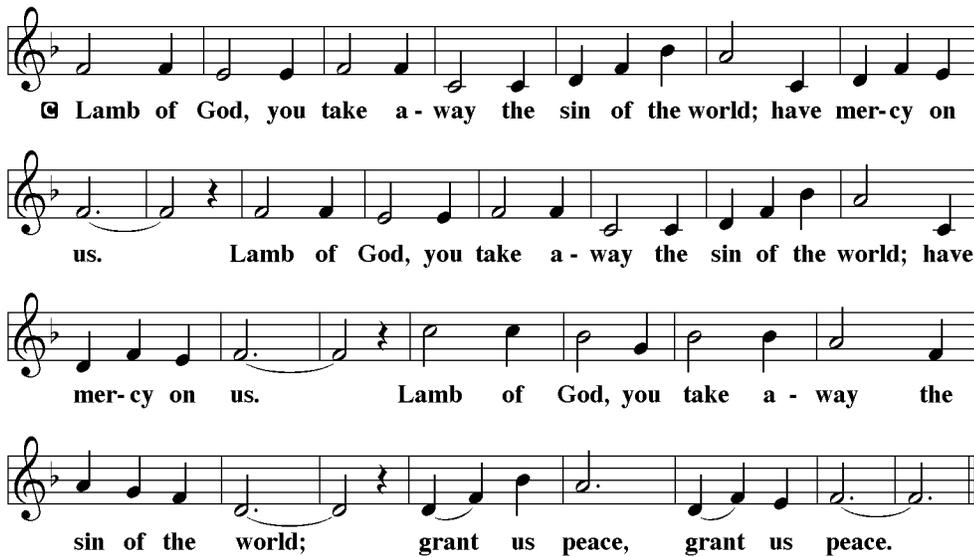
and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink
saying: This is my blood of new covenant
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do 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, grant us peace.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNE

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

Thanks be to God!

All are welcome at our Lord's Table. Ushers will guide you to come to the chancel rail by tables. Kneel/stand according to your preference. Receive the bread followed by the wine from a pouring chalice. After you commune, please return to your pews by the side aisles. Those not communing may come forward for a blessing. Know that the crucified and risen Christ gives himself to you in his holy supper. If you cannot eat bread, drink only wine. If you cannot drink wine, eat only bread.

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 our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon with favor †
and give you peace.
Amen.

***HYMN**

Awake, O Sleeper

WOV, "Blue," 745

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
4 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.

so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the Good News!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

OUR PRAYER LIST

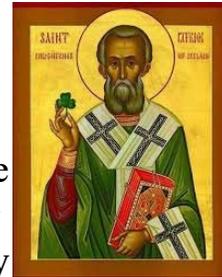
Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, Gary Cable, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Ariel, John Tartline, George Poliska, Connie Shaible, John and Terry Holohan, Loretta Hawe, Donna Baker, Ann Kuntz, Ann & Charles Kuntz, Charles (Skip) & Gloria Greevy, and Dave Williams.

COMMEMORATIONS

Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

A native of Britain, Patrick was kidnapped by pirates at age sixteen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After a few years, he escaped, returned home, and entered the ministry. Returning to Ireland, he successfully served as a bishop and missionary there.



Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

Thursday, March 19, 2026

Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.



Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556

Saturday, March 21, 2026

Cranmer's lasting achievement is contributing to and overseeing the creation of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains (in revised form) the worship book of the Anglican Communion. He was burned at the stake under Queen Mary for his support of reformers Luther, Calvin and Zwingli.



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today, March 15

**The Fourth Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30
Sunday School, 9:15 am
Worship/Music Committee
following 10:30 worship**

Monday, March 16

**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm
Council, 6 pm**

Tuesday, March 17

Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm

Wednesday, March 18

**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm
Lenten Bible Study, 12:10 pm
Holy Communion, Williamsport
Home, 2 pm**

Thursday, March 19

Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm

Friday, March 20

Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm

Saturday, March 21

Church Office Closed

Sunday, March 22

**Fifth Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am
Sunday School, 9:15 am**

OUR STEWARDSHIP for March 8, 2026

Regular Offering	\$2,654.00
Plate Offerings	2.00
Lent	120.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
Miscellaneous	65.00
Food Pantry	31.50
Capital Fund	10.00
Easter Flowers	32.00
Grand Total	\$2,924.50

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God; and
In loving memory of my parents, Allen & Josephine Malick, by Cheryl Williams;
and
In honor of our Family and to the Glory of God, by Karen & Steve Mariano.

WORSHIP LEADERS for March 15, 2026

Lector	8:00 am	Nikki Jackson
	10:30 am	Shelby Weber
Communion Assistants	8:00 am	Nikki Jackson
	10:30 am	Shelby & Gary Weber
Ushers	8:00 am	Miller/Poff
	10:30 am	Matt/Glenn/Mel
Hospitality	8:00 am	Herb Poff
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild (MARCH)		Wanda Fortin, Ruth Ann Bigelow

BIRTHDAYS

Dinah Labenberg	3/16
Diane Bardsley	3/18

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 it may be included in the weekly bulletin and/or the "Lion."



Winter is just about over and the stores will be putting the winter clothing on sale. This is a good time to look for those 0-24 month sweaters/coats/sweatshirts. Also winter pajamas (remember, no feet) - 2 piece pajamas are OK. Some stores are still having "white sales" where you can get bath towels and hand towels cheap - remember, no bath blankets (too big). Have fun shopping. Deb Buckman



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.



Still Needed At.....

Our congregation has been generous in their donations of food and hygiene items. But the need for these items continues. As you are able, please consider donating to these programs of the United Churches.

Shepherd of the Streets: Bars of Soap, Deodorant, Razors, Tissues, Baby Oil, Powder, Body Wash Baby Wipes, Laundry Pods and anything else you find on sale that keeps a person clean.

Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM): Needed are brown, large-size lunch bags, ice tea mix and napkins.

United Churches Food Pantry: Most needed are boxes of Scalloped Potatoes, Canned Beets and Potatoes, Sugar, Crackers (Ritz type and Saltines,) Mayo, Ketchup, BBQ Sauce, Mustard and Honey.

Sandwich Crews at St. Mark's: We provide sandwiches weekly to New Covenant's Blessing Boxes. Monetary donations to offset the cost of rolls, meat and cheese are always appreciated. Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating Parish Life.

Easter Cheer

We, the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee, need the congregation's help in sending Easter Cheer to our Special Concern Folks. Cards will be available next Sunday in the Narthex after both services. Please consider taking a card or two, write a cheery greeting, affix a stamp and mail in time for Easter. Thank you in advance for any help you can give.

Community Easter Egg Hunt Is Happening On.....

Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. at Lycoming College

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee thanks the congregation for their Easter Egg Hunt donations. These eggs and wrapped treats will help the more than 800 anticipated children and their parents have a fun, spring activity. Hopefully the weather will be cooperative.

March Desserts for Redeemer's Community Dinner

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee thanks the congregation for their continued support of desserts for Redeemer's Community dinner. This month you donated 20 boxes of TastyKakes (120 servings) to be used March 12. This outreach could not continue without the continued support of our church family.

Update: John Tartline

John is the grandson of Phil and Barb Thomas. He continues to be deployed in Iraq. We have been remembering him each week in prayer. During these difficult times, the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee are asking that those who wish, send John greetings from St. Mark's. His address is

John Tartline

Task Force Defender

D BTRY, 2-55 ADAR

APO, AE 09316

Please write his address exactly as printed. One regular US postage stamp will get mail to him.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays in Lent, beginning February 25 and concluding March 25, we will gather in Fellowship Hall from 12:10 – 12:50 pm, to study how the themes associated with Isaiah echo the mission and ministry of Jesus. Our schedule appears below:

March 18: What might God's Reign look like?

March 25: The Suffering Servant; a model for discipleship

All are welcome! Bring a friend; bring a bag lunch to munch; bring yourself!

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

Chrism Mass (Renewal of Vows for Clergy and Church Members), March 31, 10:30 am, Milton Lutheran Church.

Maundy Thursday, April 2:

12:10 pm, Holy Communion (chapel)

7:30 pm, Holy Communion and Foot Washing (nave)

Good Friday, April 3:

Noon, Ecumenical Worship, Trinity Episcopal Church, Williamsport

7:30 pm, Tenebrae, *Service of the Shadows*, St. Mark's Nave

EASTER SERVICES

Saturday, April 4, The Eve of Resurrection

8 pm, “The Great Vigil of Easter”, beginning in the chapel

Sunday, April 5, The Resurrection of Our Lord

8 am, Holy Communion

9:15 am, Extended Hospitality in Fellowship Hall

10:30 am, “Festival Eucharist”



A bus trip to see “**JOSHUA**”* at Sight & Sound is scheduled for Wednesday, 9-23-2026. Meet at the west end of Beiter’s parking lot at 6am. The price for the trip is \$178.00 per adult and \$109.08 for children 12 and under, which includes the ticket to the show, the bus, and a meal at Hershey Farm Inn. To purchase tickets or with any questions please contact Cheryl Williams at (570) 327-1627.

***BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS**

From the banks of the Jordan River to the towering walls of Jericho, JOSHUA is a miraculous adventure for the whole family. Journey alongside the people of Israel as they navigate their new-found freedom in an unforgiving wilderness. When Joshua is called to replace Moses as their faithful leader, tensions mount in the midst of dwindling supplies and approaching armies. With one last fortified city standing between the Israelites and the Promised Land, unexpected hell emerges from behind enemy lines and Joshua’s trust in God’s plan is put to the ultimate test.



St. Mark's Easter Lily Order Form 2026

Name _____

Envelope # _____ Phone _____

I am orderin :

____ 6" Asiatic Lilies (assorted) @\$8.50 = \$ _____

____ 6" Easter Lilies (1 bulb) @\$8.50 = \$ _____

____ 10" Easter Lilies (2 bulb) @ 17.00= \$ _____

____ 6.5" Tulips (6 bulbs) @\$7.50 = \$ _____

____ Pink or ____ Purple

And/or a gift for other decorations = \$ _____

And/or a donation to local hunger = \$ _____

These are given:

In honor of (living person[s])

In memory of (deceased)

All flower orders must be in by March 22, 2026.

*Flowers will be available for you to take home following
Easter service.*

Return order slips to A — Collection plate

B — Office





A big thank you to those of you who took the time to send Jane Kline a birthday card. She was surprised and thrilled to hear from each one of you. Remembering her made her 90th (or 22 ½ in Leap years) birthday extra special. Thanks again!

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