

**THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 2, 2026**

*A Thanksgiving for and Celebration of Retirement  
Of*

*The Reverend Brian D. Vasey*

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

**142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701**

**[stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org)**

**Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)**

***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; *Setting Ten, Evangelical Lutheran Worship***

***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.***

**PRELUDE**    *Praise Him With Trumpets!*

Richard Blake

*Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)* Text: John L. Bell

Music: Scottish Traditional

Brandy Aguirre, vocal and violin

## **INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP**

*In today's gospel reading Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, assured that our God is ever with us for strength, direction and ministry.*

## **WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ 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.

**Amen.**

*(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.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son 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 therefore 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    All Who Hunger Gather Gladly        No Reference Available**



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.  
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

### **\*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



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## \*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

22 [At night Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.<sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across

the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup> Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup> So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup> Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup> The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 17:1-7, 15**

- <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.
- <sup>4</sup> **I 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.

**15 But at my vindication I shall | see your face;  
when I awake, I shall be satisfied, behold- | ing your likeness.**

**THE SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—<sup>2</sup> I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. <sup>4</sup> They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; <sup>5</sup> to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**\*THE GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21**

The holy gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, the 14th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When he went ashore, he saw a great

crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. <sup>15</sup> When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” <sup>17</sup> They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” <sup>18</sup> And he said, “Bring them here to me.” <sup>19</sup> Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup> And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup> And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

**\*HYMN      Here I Am, Lord**

**WOV “Blue,” 752**



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

### **\*THE APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us 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: Merciful God/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 or gestures.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**     *Jesus Loves Me*     Text: Anna B. Warner  
Music: William B. Bradbury  
Brandy & Diana Aguirre, vocals

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Loving God,  
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.  
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

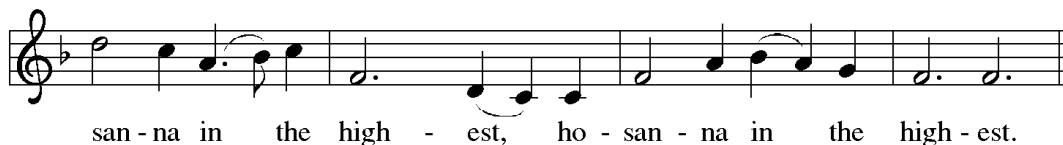
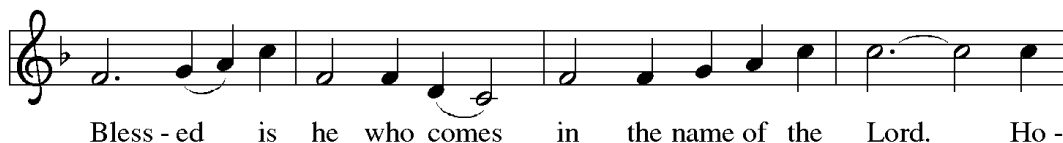
Lift up your hearts.

**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 of eternal 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."

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.

**Amen.**

### **\*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**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

### **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNE**

Heaven has come near.  
Come, share in the feast!  
**Thanks be to God!**

*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.*

## THE COMMUNION

**ANTHEMS**    *Christians, Let us Love One Another*    PICARDY, French 17<sup>th</sup> cent.

Text: Sr. Claudia Foltz & Armand Nigro

Keyboard arr. By Randall DeBruyn

Brandy Aguirre & Tim Vasey, vocals

*Eucharistic Hymn*

Sandra W. Jarrell

Joanne Vasey, organ

### **\*AFTER COMMUNION**

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

**Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER AFTER ALL HAVE COMMUNED**

Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

**Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE CONCLUSION OF A CALL

A Reading from Philippians    *Bishop Miller*

*Paul writes, to the church in Philippi:*

<sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith the faith of Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. <sup>16</sup>Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

The Address      *President Huff*

Pastor Brian Vasey, on September 15, 2019

we of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Williamsport, Pennsylvania,  
called you to be our pastor:

to proclaim God's word, to baptize and teach,

to announce God's forgiveness, and to preside at the Lord's table.

With the gospel you have comforted us in times of  
sickness and trouble,

and at the death of our loved ones.

Sharing our joys and sorrows, you

have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ,  
in our service to this community,

and in God's mission to the whole world.

As you leave this community of faith,

we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.

You have served our congregation faithfully for seven years.

You are now leaving our midst to retire.

As your fellow members of this congregation

we wish to honor your ministry among us

and to bid you farewell and Godspeed in your new endeavor,

bringing closure to your ministry at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

*Pastor Vasey*

I thank you the members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church for the love, the kindness, and the support shown to me and my family during my active ministry among you.

I ask forgiveness for the ways I have sinned against you.

I am grateful for the ways my ministry has been accepted.

As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

***Congregation***

**We receive your thankfulness. We offer you our forgiveness and accept that you now leave to retire.**

**We express our gratitude for your time among us.**

**We ask forgiveness for the ways we have sinned against you.**

**Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

*Pastor Vasey*

I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and parting are pleasing to God.

*Bishop Miller*

People of God, members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, do you release Pastor Brian Vasey from service as your pastor?

***Congregation***

**We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.**

*Bishop Miller*

Do you offer encouragement for his ministry as it unfolds in retirement?

***Congregation***

**We do, with God's help.**

*Bishop Miller*

Pastor Brian Vasey, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with St. Mark's Lutheran Church?

*Pastor Vasey*

I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry together.

*Bishop Miller*

Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here?

*Pastor Vasey*

I do, with God's help.

*President Huff*

We will hold you in our prayers as you retire. We pledge our support and love to you and wish you God's blessing.

Thanksgiving and Sending     *Bishop Miller*

*The people stand*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ  
you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your  
flock.

You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace  
given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service.

We give you thanks for the ministry of Pastor Brian Vasey  
among the people of God in this place.

You watch over our going out and our coming in:  
bless this time of ending and beginning.

You surround your people in every time and place:  
keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial:

prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together;  
heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.  
Help Pastor Vasey, his family and all of us  
to live with courage and gladness in the future you give to us.  
You have given Pastor Vasey many gifts  
that he might serve your people.  
We give you thanks, O God, for opportunities to grow and learn,  
and for relationships built through years of connection.  
As Pastor Vasey now transitions to a new phase of rest and play,  
direct him in new ways of serving you and one another.  
As he has been a blessing to our Synod and this congregation  
so now send him forth to be a blessing to others;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

***Congregation***

**Amen.**

*Bishop Miller*

*To Pastor Vasey*

Your sisters and brothers in the Upper Susquehanna Synod  
and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
give thanks to God for the ministry you have shared.  
We promise you our continued support and prayer.

*To the Congregation*

Rejoicing in the blessings of God in this congregation  
and in the ministry of Pastor Brian Vasey  
with hope in God's abundant grace in years to come,  
I announce that his service as pastor in this congregation  
is now concluded.

***Congregation***

**Amen.**

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Liturgy for Departure of a Pastor from a Congregation; Southwest Minnesota  
Synod ELCA

**\*BLESSING**

The blessing of God,  
Father, †Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen**

**\*HYMN      How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord      No Reference Available**



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind  
whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

## **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Toccata in G*

Dennis Elliot

Joanne Vasey, organ

\*\*\*\*\*

## **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, Claire Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt & Leah Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Ariel, John Tartline, George Poliska, Connie Shaible, John Holohan, Loretta Hawe, Donna Baker, Ann Kuntz, Ann & Charles Kuntz, Dave Williams, Bud Doebler, Shirley Hill, Ruth Osbaugh, Pam Osbaugh, Becky Pryor, Hannah Hausmann, Ellis Reed, and Stephen Boone.

## **COMMEMORATIONS**

**Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers  
(Dominicans), died 1221**

*Saturday, August 8, 2026*

Dominic was a Spanish pastor who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.



## **THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S**

**Today, August 2**

**Tenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Holy Communion, 9:30 am**

**Retirement Luncheon**

**Monday, August 3**      **Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**  
**Tuesday, August 4**      **Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**  
**Wednesday, August 5** **Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**  
                                  **Men's Fellowship, 6 pm**  
**Thursday, August 6**      **Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**  
**Friday, August 7**        **Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**  
**Saturday, August 8**      **Office Closed**  
**Sunday, August 9**        **Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**  
                                  **Holy Communion, 9:30 am**  
                                  **Pastor Ron Montgomery preaching and presiding**

**OUR STEWARDSHIP for July 26, 2026**

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Regular Offering          | \$3,640.00        |
| Plate Offerings           | 140.00            |
| World Hunger              | 50.00             |
| Food Pantry               | 100.00            |
| Global Mission            | 50.00             |
| Operation Christmas Child | 200.00            |
| Family Promise Hosting    | 80.00             |
| Roof Replacement Fund     | 200.00            |
| Organ Fund                | 200.00            |
| Flower Memorials/Tributes | 140.00            |
| Synod Benevolence         | 15.00             |
| <b>Grand Total</b>        | <b>\$4,815.00</b> |

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God; and  
 In honor of our children, by the Wentzels; and  
 In honor of our grandchildren and our great grandchildren, by Tom & Becky Pryor.

**WORSHIP LEADERS for August 2, 2026**

|                      |         |                           |
|----------------------|---------|---------------------------|
| Lector               | 9:30 am | Ralph Zeigler             |
| Communion Assistants | 9:30 am | Ralph & Lou Ann Zeigler   |
| Ushers               | 9:30 am | Mel Wentzel & Glenn Yaple |
| Hospitality          | 9:30 am | Retirement Luncheon       |

Organist  
Altar Guild

Joanne D. Vasey  
Lou Ann Zeigler, Theresa Furman and  
Cindy Todd

### **WORSHIP LEADERS for August 9, 2026**

|                      |         |                                                    |
|----------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Preacher/Celebrant   | 9:30 am | Pastor Ron Montgomery                              |
| Lector               | 9:30 am | Candy Dewar                                        |
| Communion Assistants | 9:30 am | Becky Pryor & Devin Owen                           |
| Ushers               | 9:30 am | Ed, Brenda & Levi Gair, and<br>Elizabeth Haussmann |
| Hospitality          |         | Gary & Shelby Weber                                |
| Organist             |         | Megan Cartwright                                   |
| Altar Guild          |         | Lou Ann Ziegler, Theresa Furman, and<br>Cindy Todd |

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Ron & Donna Baker     | 8/2 |
| Walt & Leah Haussmann | 8/3 |

### **BIRTHDAYS**

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| Donna Clark    | 8/7 |
| Charlie Fortin | 8/8 |

### **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 the church office telephone (570-323-4619) or email: [stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org).

~ When you or a loved one has a change of address, email, or telephone number, please contact the church office at [stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto: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."



Believe it or not, practically a full year has passed since we collected kits for Lutheran World Relief. School items will go on sale this month so you can start snapping them up - remember, 70-80 sheet notebook (no composition books),

pencils, blue/black pens, pencil sharpeners, erasers and a ruler with English and metric units. There is a poster in the parish hall way that shows where some items went. Directions and bags will be available the first week of August or go to [lwr.org](http://lwr.org) and click on “get involved”. Thanks and God bless – Deb



### Most Needed At.....

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee thanks you for any assistance you can give.

**Shepherd of the Streets:** Needed are Laundry Pods, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Tissues, Band Aids, Women’s Deodorant, Q-tips, Combs, Sunscreen, Children’s Toothbrushes and Toothpaste and Adult Toothpaste. **Of urgent need are Q-tips and Band Aids.**

**Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM):** Needed are Individual Snacks/Breakfast Bars, Large, Brown Lunch Bags Napkins, Mayonnaise, Sugar, Snack-Size Ziplock Bags and Pine Sol or Lysol Cleaner.

**United Churches Food Pantry:** Mid-Month Food Pantry Needs are Canned Mandarin Oranges, Pineapple, White Potatoes and Pork & Beans, Wide Egg Noodles, Ramen Noodles, and Condiments (Ketchup, Mustard, BBQ Sauce, Mayonnaise and Relish.) The Pantry still needs plastic grocery bags and 12-count egg cartons.

**Sandwich Needs:** The Parish Life Committee is filled with gratitude for the dozens of tuna salad and chicken salad packets donated so far this summer. They will definitely stretch our sandwich budget and add to the variety of sandwiches we can offer the folks who visit the Blessing Boxes. Thank you to all who contributed to this outreach.

During times of extreme summer heat, we are relying on these shelf stable donations, along with Peanut Butter and Jelly to keep the Blessing Boxes full with safe sandwiches.

**Cereal Sunday : We Are on A Roll!**  
**96 Boxes of Cereal and Counting!**

Our next Cereal Sunday is August 9, 2026. Can we beat July's donations of 56 boxes of cereal?

P.S. Cereal can be dropped off anytime between now and August 9.

**August Desserts for Redeemer's Community Dinner**

This month the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee needs the congregation's help in providing boxes of TastyKake Cupcakes in any flavor. Donations may be placed on the table in the Narthex. All donations are due by August 9, 2026. Thank you for any help you can give.

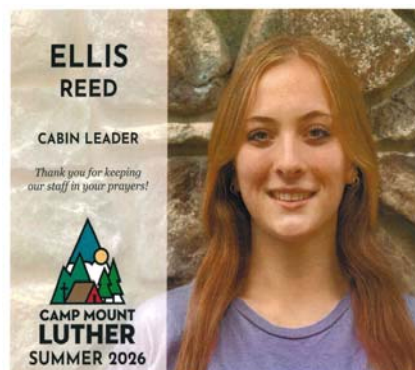
FYI: TastyKakes are on sale at Weis Markets until August 5, 2026 for \$2.88 per box.

**Synod Trip to Germany**

A trip to Germany is being planned by our Synod 10/10-10/18 (with an option to stay through 10/21), 2026. There is a flyer with more details available, if you are interested please see the church office. Those wishing to go should keep these dates open.



**Camp Mount Luther** has requested that each congregation in our Synod pray for a member of the Summer Camp Staff. Our Staff Member is Cabin Leader Ellis Reed. Please pray for Ellis and the campers assigned to her.



### **Young Adults in Global Mission**

Hannah Haussmann has felt called to join Young Adults in Global Mission, an ELCA ministry that invites young adults ages 21-35 into a year of international service. Hannah will "walk" alongside global companions in ministries of justice, education, health and community development. Rooted in the Lutheran value of accompaniment, YAGM emphasizes mutuality, listening and transformation through relationships and countering the harms of colonial Christianity. Volunteers are shaped by the witness of their neighbors and return with a deeper understanding of God's work in the world and their own faith.

Hannah has been assigned to Cambodia. Part of her work will be the teaching of English to people of the local community.

For information on how to donate to Hannah's mission trip, please contact the church office.

### **A WORD OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION**

**Dear Church Family,**

**Thank you so very much for the privilege and pleasure of serving as your pastor for the past seven years. You have made my presence among you truly a blessing. As I have shared on many occasions when calling me as your pastor, you have made a dream come true. I was first made aware of your presence by way of your majestic window of Christ Triumphant. On many family vacations when our family would head south from Western New York, your window touched our lives and reminded us of Christ's blessing. When I attended Lycoming College, I worshipped with you here at St. Mark's. When Joanne attended Lycoming, she sang in St. Mark's as part of the Lycoming College Choir. Dick Lakey, long time church organist, played for our wedding. Mr. Lakey also served as my wife's organ teacher for two years in college, and four years following college. When our son Tim began his college choir experience, Dick was the accompanist. These experiences have made St. Mark's very special in our lives, and calling me as pastor only made this place more so. Thank you, for the way you have ministered both to me and family.**

**+ Peace.**

***Pastor Brian, Joanne, Brandy, Steve, Tim, Mabelle, Diana and Robin***

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