THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 15, 2026
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701
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 One, Lutheran Book of 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 *Melody* Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP
Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

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.
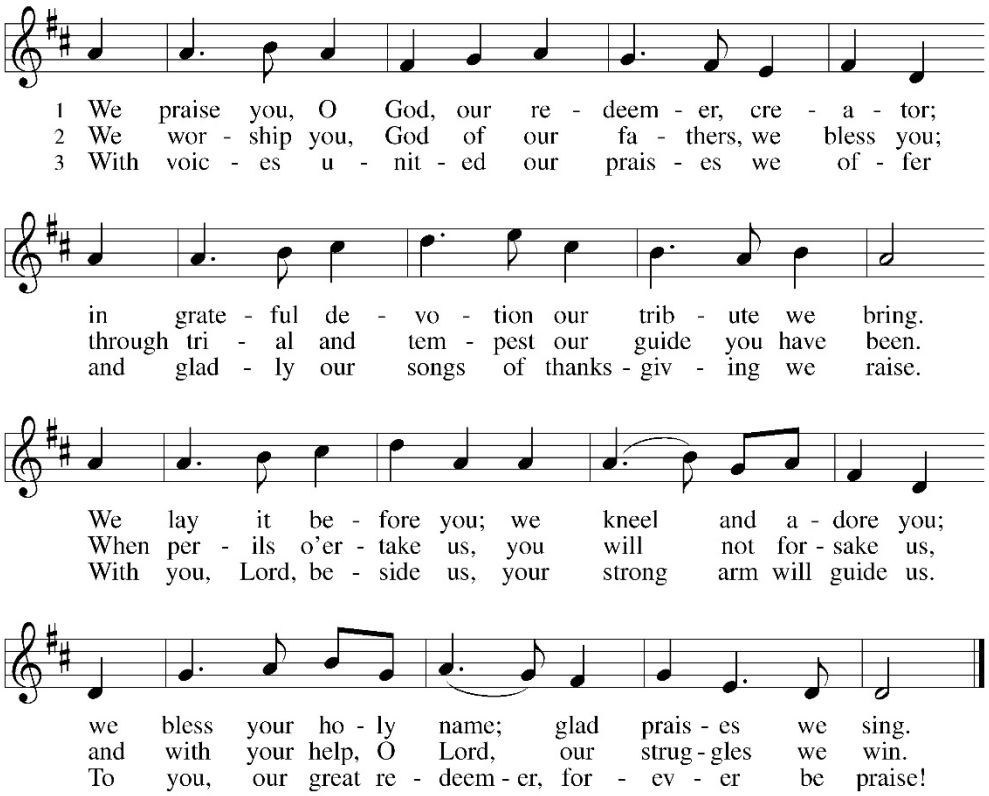
(Kneel/Stand)

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 We Praise You, O God LBW "Green," 241**
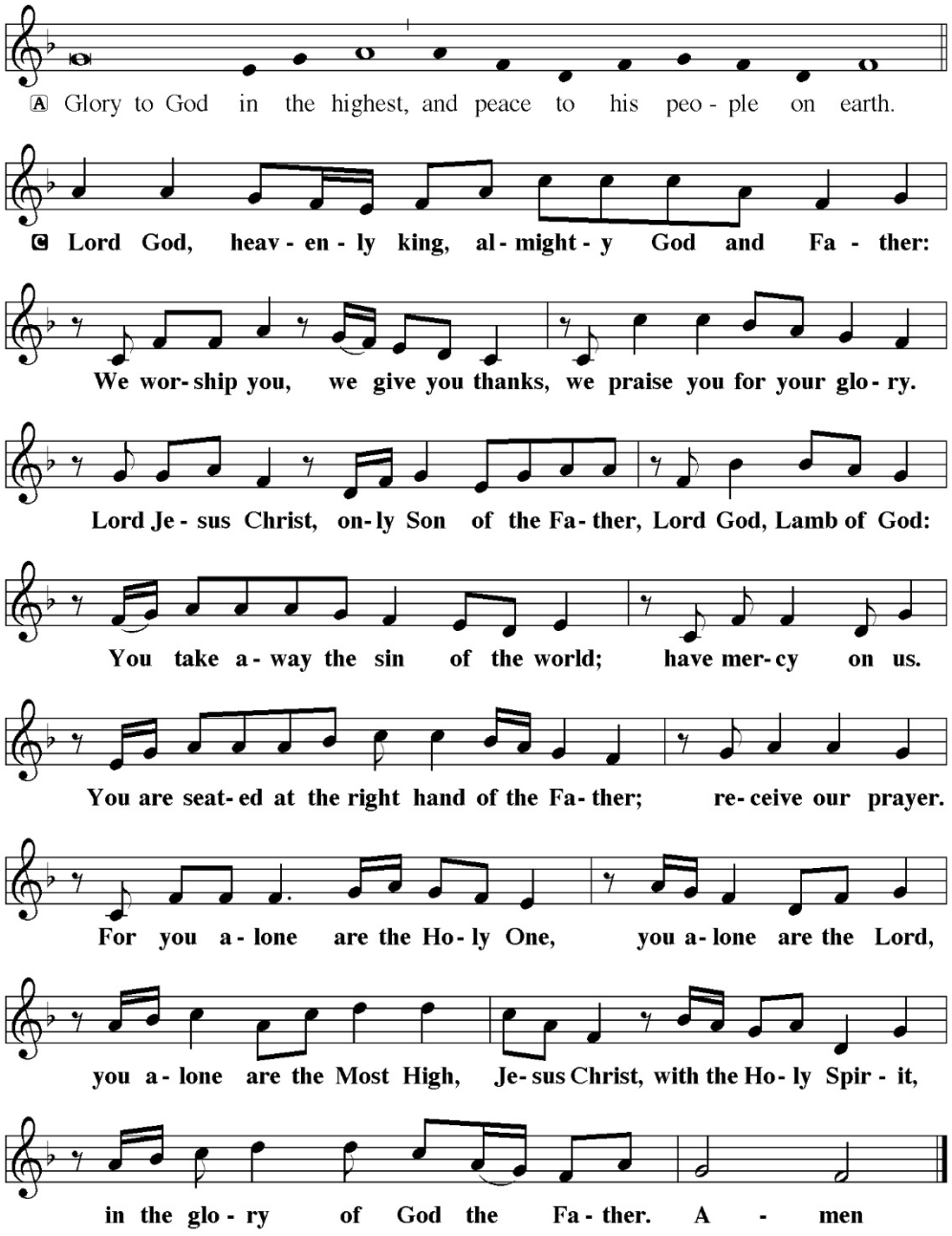


KREMSER

***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**



***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray**.**

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD,
for the day of the LORD is at hand!
The LORD has prepared a sacrifice;
he has consecrated his guests.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm."
13 Their wealth shall be plundered
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.
14 The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;
the warrior cries aloud there.
15 That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.
17 I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust
and their flesh like dung.
18 Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90:1-12
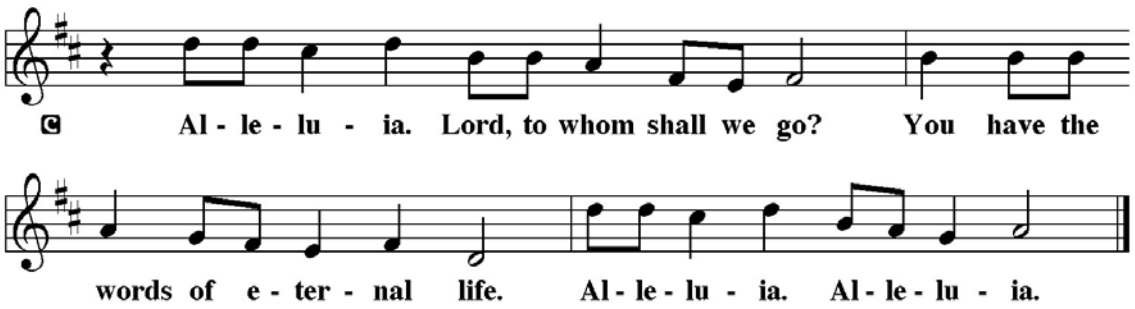
1 Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.
2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth
were born, from age to age | you are God.**
3 You turn us back to the | dust and say,
"Turn back, O child- | ren of earth."
4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;**
5 you sweep them away | like a dream,
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:
6 **in the morning it is | green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.**
7 For we are consumed | by your anger;
we are afraid because | of your wrath.
8 **Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.**

9 When you are angry, all our | days are gone;
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.
10 **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength | even eighty;**
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away
quickly and | we are gone.
11 Who regards the power | of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your | indignation?
12 **So teach us to num- | ber our days**
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.

THE SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

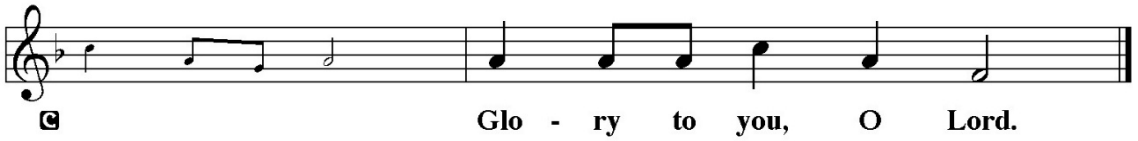
1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not
need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that
the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There
is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor
pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you,
brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a
thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of
the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us
keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who
are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober
and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of
salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation
through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are
awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and
build up each other, as indeed you are doing.
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



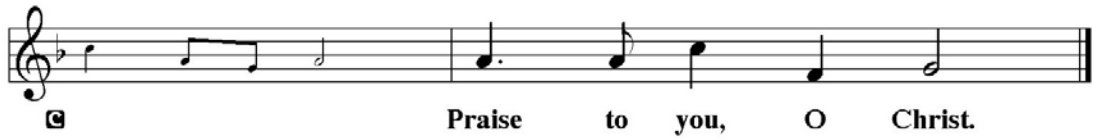
***THE GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30 (The Parable of the Talents)**

The holy gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.
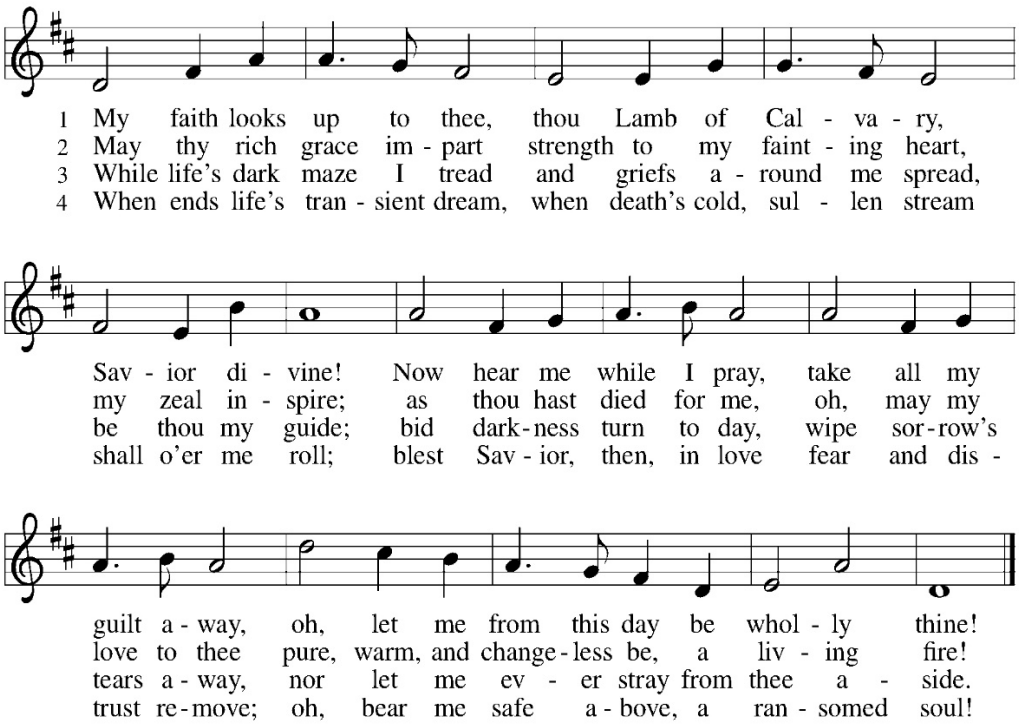


[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey,
summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five
talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he
went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and
traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who
had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the
one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.
19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with
them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing
five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I
have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in
charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with
the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two
talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well
done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I
will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'
24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying,
'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow

and gathering where you did not scatter, [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid
your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26] But his master
replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I
did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? [27] Then you ought to have
invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received
what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to
the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given,
and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what
they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the
outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "
The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN My Faith Looks Up to Thee LBW "Green," 479**



OLIVET

***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: God, in your mercy/**Hear our prayer.***
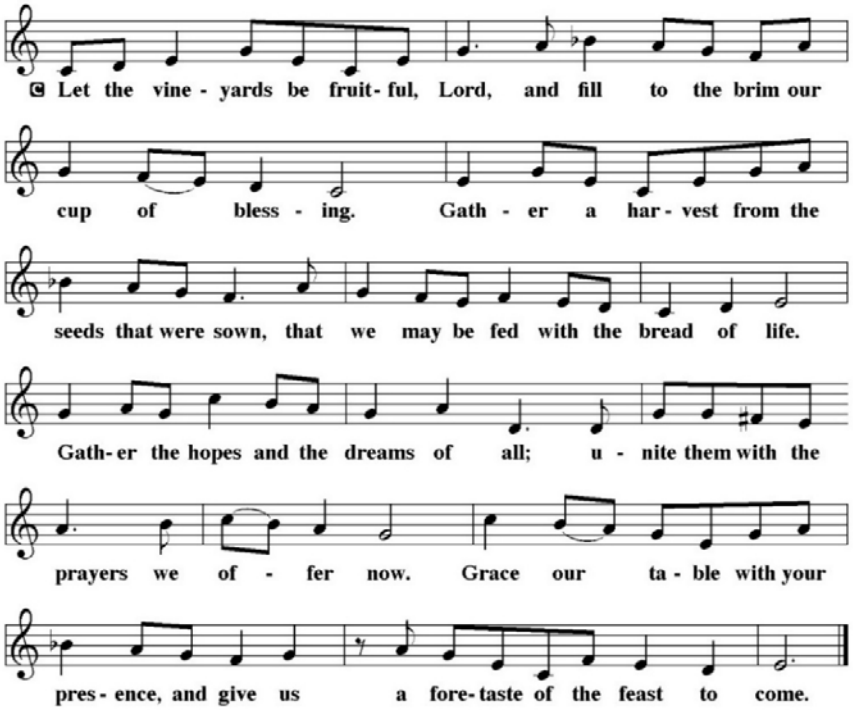
***THE PEACE**

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.

ANTHEM *Lord, to Thee My Heart is Given* J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Megan Cartwright, soprano

Lord, to thee my heart is given,
enter Thou, and dwell in me,
all my soul I lose within Thee,
though to Thee this world be small,
Thou shalt be my all in all,
more than earth and heaven to me.

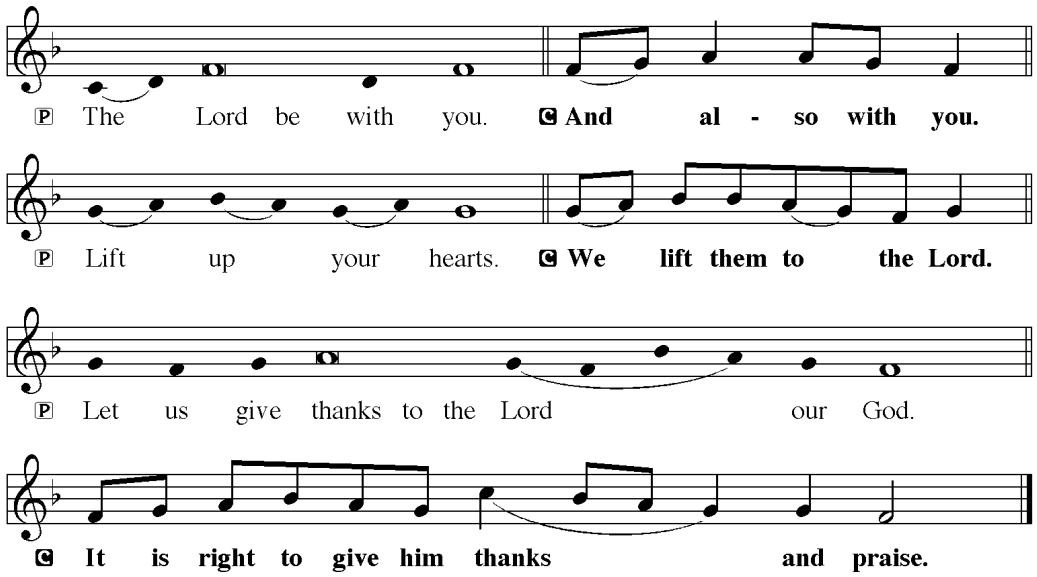
***OFFERING**



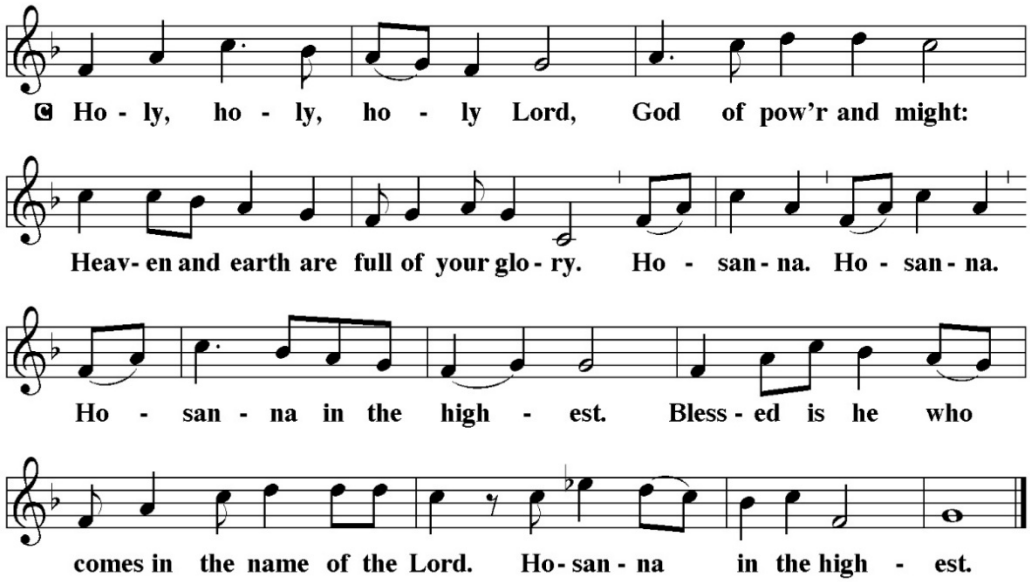
***OFFERING PRAYER**

Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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 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.

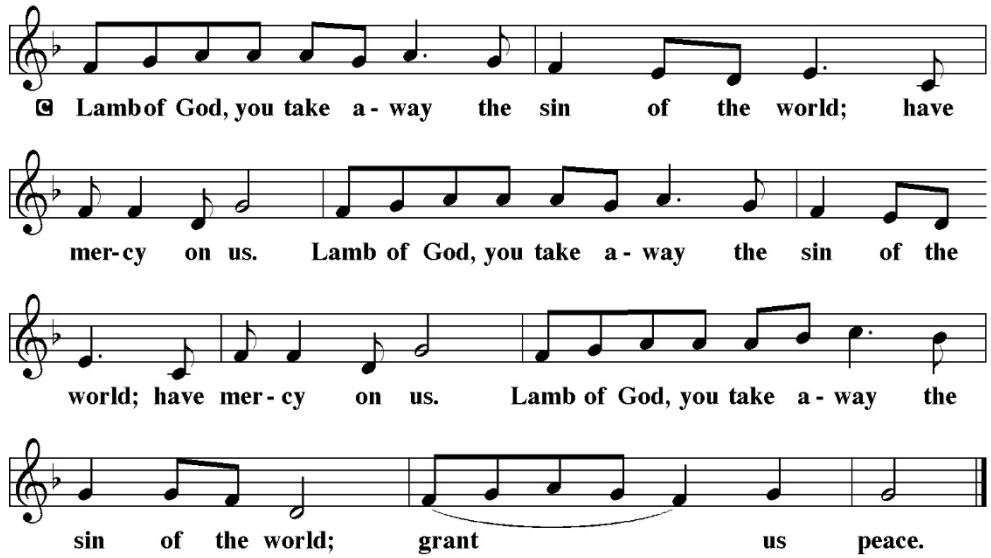
Pour out upon us
the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
unite the wills of all who share this
heavenly food, the body and blood of
Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with whom and in whom, with you and the Holy
Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

***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**



***INVITATION TO COMMUNE**

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

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

***AFTER COMMUNION**

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

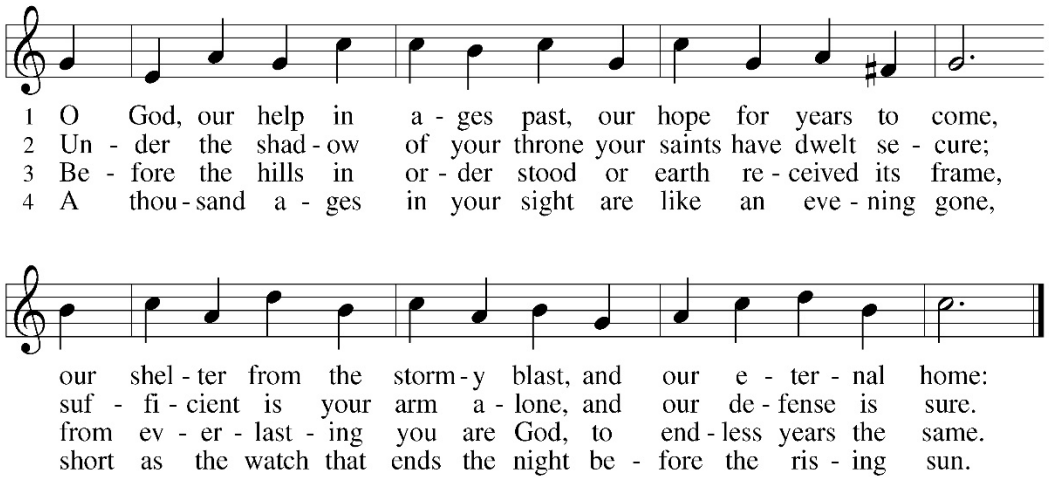
***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy God,
we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal.
You continuously seek the lost,
bind the injured,
and feed your people abundantly.
Now send us out,
awake to your presence,
now and forever.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

The holy Trinity,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen.

***HYMN O God, Our Help in Ages Past LBW "Green," 320**



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

ST. ANNE

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Impromptu No. 1 in F major* Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Summary: Jesus tells of servants entrusted with different amounts who are judged by how faithfully they use what they have been given.
Theme: Faithful stewardship; responsibility; using God's gifts faithfully.

Music notes:
Today's Gospel (Matthew 25:14-30) is the Parable of the Talents, in which a master entrusts his servants with different amounts and judges them by how faithfully they use what they have been given. Our hymns reflect on gifts received, faith, and the steadfast God who holds our days. We begin with "We praise you, O God" (KREMSER), a hymn of thanksgiving to the Creator and Redeemer, sung to a Dutch folk tune that was first published in 1626. It sets the parable's question in its proper light, since everything we are asked to use faithfully is a gift from God. "My faith looks up to thee" (OLIVET) is a prayer of trust, written by Ray Palmer in 1830, and it speaks to the servant who risks

acting rather than hiding in fear, because he trusts the one who has entrusted him. We close with "O God, our help in ages past" (ST. ANNE), Isaac Watts's paraphrase of Psalm 90, which reminds us that our lives and gifts are short but that God is our shelter through every age, the sure foundation for a faithful life.

Today's voluntaries are two pieces by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Melody and Impromptu No. 1 in F major. Coleridge-Taylor was born in London in 1875 to an English mother and a father from Sierra Leone, and he became one of the most celebrated composers of his day. His cantata *Hiawatha's Wedding Feast* made him famous in his early twenties. He studied with Charles Villiers Stanford at the Royal College of Music and was championed by Edward Elgar, whose music we heard last week. He died in 1912 at only 37, and his short life and great gifts make him a fitting figure for a Sunday about using what we have been given.

For the offertory, we hear the soprano aria "Ich will dir mein Herze schenken" ("I will give you my heart") from J.S. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, with text by Bach's collaborator Picander. In the Passion, the aria comes right after the account of the Last Supper, as the believer's response to Christ's gift of himself. The singer offers her whole heart to Jesus, asks him to come in and dwell there, and says that Christ will be everything to her, greater than the whole world and heaven itself. After a parable about what we do with the gifts entrusted to us, it is a fitting offertory, because the greatest gift we can return to God is our own heart given freely, and not hidden away.

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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, Hannah Hausmann, Stephen Boone, Joshua Garverick, David Martinez, Brian & Nikki Jackson, and the family of Jane Kline.

COMMEMORATIONS

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231

Tuesday, November 17, 2026



Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today, November 15	**Pastor Montgomery preaching and presiding** **Holy Communion, 9:30 am** **OCC Packing Event & Hospitality**
Monday, November 16	**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm** **Council, 6 pm**
Tuesday, November 17	**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm** **Little Lambs Book Fair, 9 am**
Wednesday, November 18	**Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm** **Little Lambs Book Fair, 9 am** **Stone Gables Bus Trip**
Thursday, November 19	**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm** **Daniel's Closet Drop-off, 4-6 pm**
Friday, November 20	**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**
Saturday, November 21	**Office Closed** **Billtown Brass Concert** **Daniel's Closet, 8:30-11 am**
Sunday, November 22	**Christ the King** **Vicki Haussmann/Phil Thomas preaching and presiding** **No Communion**

OUR STEWARDSHIP for November 8, 2026

Regular Offering	$3,609.00
Thanksgiving	10.00
Heating Envelope Fund	50.00
Parish Life	20.00
Operation Christmas Child	100.00
Roof Replacement Fund	10.00
Flower Memorials/Tributes	70.00
Synod Benevolence	10.00
Grand Total	**$3,879.00**

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God; and
In loving memory of Jane Kline, by Michele, Devin and Dawson Owen; and
In Celebration of our St. Mark's Family, by the Memorial Fund.

WORSHIP LEADERS for November 15, 2026

Preacher/Celebrant	9:30 am	Pastor Ron Montgomery
Lector	9:30 am	Deb Buckman
Communion Assistants	9:30 am	Phil Thomas & Dan Zeigler
Ushers	9:30 am	Gary & Shelby Weber
Hospitality	9:30 am	OCC Packing Event/Fellowship Hall
Offering Collection	9:30 am	Richard Reitz
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild		Wanda Fortin & Ruth Ann Bigelow

WORSHIP LEADERS for November 22, 2026

Preacher/Celebrant	9:30 am	Vicki Haussmann/Phil Thomas
Lector	9:30 am	Theresa Furman
Communion Assistants	9:30 am	No communion
Ushers	9:30 am	Matt F./Glenn Y./Mel W.
Hospitality	9:30 am	Wanda Fortin & Ruth Ann Bigelow
Offering Collection	9:30 am	Richard Reitz
Organist		Carol Waltz
Altar Guild		Wanda Fortin & Ruth Ann Bigelow

ANNIVERSARIES

Stephen & Candy Dewar	11/15
Cheryl & Dave Williams	11/19

Ralph & Lou Ann Zeigler 11/19

BIRTHDAYS
Donna Baker 11/18
Ronald Baker 11/18

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 the church office telephone (570-323-4619) or email: 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 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."



Help Needed

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee needs your help in sending Thanksgiving Day cards to our Special Concern Folks. The envelopes are addressed and in the Narthex. All that is needed is a cheery message and a stamp. So, our Special Concern Folks can each receive two cards, we will have any cards remaining today, available next Sunday, November 22. Thank you in advance for any help you can give.

Most Needed At……

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

Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM): It is time to talk turkey. As STM begins preparations for their Thanksgiving Day meal they are in need of Napkins,

Drink Mix, Coffee, 8 oz. Styrofoam Cups, 8 oz. Paper Cups and Steel Scrubbies.

United Churches Food Pantry: It is also time to talk turkey at the Pantry. This month they are requesting items that are typically in need for that Thanksgiving Day meal. Requested donations are canned Cranberry Sauce, Cans of Pumpkin, Pie Filling, Sweet Potatoes, Corn, Green Beans, Boxed Stuffing, Sugar, Flour, Salt and Pepper Sets and Coffee, Tea and Hot Cocoa. The Pantry continues to accept plastic grocery bags and 12 count egg cartons.

Shepherd of the Streets: Needed are Laundry Pods, Tissues, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Band Aids, Women's Deodorant, Q-tips, Shampoo, Children's Toothpaste and Body Wash.

Blessing Boxes at New Covenant UCC: Snack items, microwave, single serve food and travel size hygiene items.

Sandwich Needs: We continue to accept monetary donations. These donations assist with bread, rolls, meat, cheese, individual condiment packages and sandwich bags. Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line stating Parish Life. Thank you for the many donations we have already received.

Turkeys and Hams: If your grocery shopping has you receiving a free turkey or ham you cannot use for Thanksgiving Day or Christmas, please consider donating it to Sojourner Truth Ministries. Speak to Becky Pryor for more information.

Evangelism and Fellowship Committee: Upcoming Events

- **Christmas Gifts:** Again, this year we will be collecting items for the residents/consumers of Danville State Hospital. During all of November, we will be accepting new items for these folks. A sample of needs are new socks and underwear, sweatshirts and sweatpants, hygiene items, slippers, pj's, inexpensive watches and wallets/change purses, coloring and activity books for both men and women. Clothing sizes for both men and women are large and extra-large. Donations are due no later than November 29 and can be placed in the tub in the Narthex.
- **Ladies of CM-6/Selinsgrove Center:** Later this month, we will start collecting our usual gifts of pudding cups and body wash for the ladies. Look for a more complete announcement toward the end of November.

P.S. We hope to visit the ladies on Thursday, December 17, 2026 in the afternoon. Please consider joining us.

- **Advent Wreath Making:** Join us Sunday, November 29 in Fellowship Hall after the Sunday Service. There will be hospitality in Fellowship Hall for everyone. All supplies will be provided. Please join us even if you do not wish to make an advent wreath.

Did You Know?

- **Daniel's Closet:** Due to the Thanksgiving Day holiday and weekend being on the usual Daniel's Closet drop off and distribution days, events have been moved up one week. Drop off is Thursday, November 19 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM. Distribution is Saturday, November 21 from 8:30 – 11:00 AM.
- If you provide altar flowers, you may take them home to enjoy after the Sunday service. Mache flower bowls are available in the Pastor's sacristy for your convenience.
- If you are experiencing a health event and need medical equipment, St. Mark's has a supply of walkers, canes, port-a-potties, shower chairs, crutches and a medical bed. Call the church office for additional information.

Little Lambs Fundraisers

- Christmas wreaths or Christmas centerpieces from Cindy B Florals are available to purchase. See the order form in the Narthex. Orders with payment are due by November 25.
- A Book Fair will be held in Fellowship Hall this Tuesday, November 17 and Wednesday, November 18 during school hours. Come check it out.



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

St. Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting and Brunch are scheduled for **Sunday, December 6, 2026 immediately following the 9:30 a.m. service of worship**.

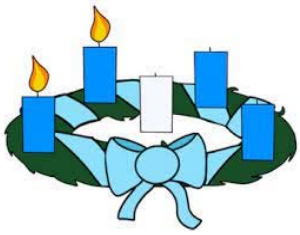
Among the items to be presented, discussed, and/or voted upon are:
* Annual Report of Committees to the Congregation
* Election of new Council members
* Adoption of the 2027 budget to support the ministry of St. Mark's Lutheran Church
* Any other business that needs to be addressed

Please mark your calendar and plan to participate in this Annual Congregational Meeting. If you need additional information or have items that you would like to discuss, please contact one of the Council officers: Ray Huff, president; Dick Reitz, vice-president; Cindy Todd, secretary; or Debra Buckman, treasurer. We are looking forward to not only seeing you on December 6th, but are excited to see how our congregation will continue to "Make Christ Known" in 2027! Thank you for your participation in this important church event.



Operation Christmas Child

Please come join us directly after our church service TODAY for a light lunch, a quick presentation on OCC, and the packing of our shoeboxes!



Please join us on Sunday, November 29 for our annual Advent Wreath-making event. We will gather in Fellowship Hall after our 9:30 church service to create an Advent Wreath for your family to use at home during the Advent season. We will be making our wreaths in a variety of vessels and containers, using wet floral foam to keep the greens fresh throughout the Advent season. All materials will be provided! Please sign up in the Narthex or RSVP by contacting Vicki Haussmann at (570) 447-3263. We look forward to seeing you there!
* We will be serving hospitality in Fellowship Hall following the church service on November 29th so please feel free to wander over, eat, drink and be "wreathy".



Advent begins on November 29th this year. In order to prepare our hearts and minds for the upcoming celebration of Christmas, we encourage you to please take both an Advent devotional booklet and Advent calendar to use at home for daily study. These items will be in the Narthex beginning on Sunday the 29th. We pray these devotions may guide your heart and quiet your soul throughout this holy season.

All members of the congregation are invited to our first meeting on Saturday morning, November 21, at 9:30. Bishop Craig Miller will work with us in taking the first steps in the process.

The first MSP meeting will have us work in groups to discuss what we have to offer to a prospective pastor (music, cohesiveness, willingness to change, budget…) so that he or she may get a snapshot of St. Mark's.
We will also work to find a commonality of what we are looking for in the new pastor. Basically, pastors will be doing the same thing; they will look at us as we are looking at them!

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