

**ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 20, 2024
HARVEST HOME
CROP WALK SUNDAY**



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Blended Worship Service

9:45 am - Sunday Church School and Children's Choir

11:00 am - Worship Service

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: 878-295-2173

Pastor's Email: revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com

Karen Fisher, Office Manager

Karen's Cell Phone: 717-580-7507

Church Office: 717-766-4482

Office Email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com

Office Hours: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM - Monday through Thursday

Denise Hirn, Director of Children's Choir

Denise's Cell Phone: 717-802-1064

Email: denisehirn@hotmail.com

Brad Hull, Director of Music

Brad's Cell Phone: 202-738-2795

Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com

www.stmarkmburg.com

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St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

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OF MECHANICSBURG
22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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GUESTS:

We would like to get to know you! Please complete a "Welcome to St. Mark Church" card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. Thank you!

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY

Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.

Philipp Nicolai, died 1608; Johann Heermann, died 1647; Paul Gerhardt, died 1676; hymnwriters

Saturday, October 26, 2024

These great hymnwriters all worked in seventeenth-century Germany in times of war and plague. Nicolai, a pastor, lost 1,300 parishioners to plague, 170 in one week. He wrote "O Morning Star, how fair and bright" and "Wake, awake, for night is flying." Heermann's hymns, including "Ah, holy Jesus," often express the emotions of faith. Gerhardt, perhaps the greatest Lutheran hymnwriter, was a pastor in Berlin.

Asterisk (*) in the margin of this bulletin indicates the congregation shall rise as able.

PRELUDE MUSIC

Concerto in A Minor

J.S. Bach/Arr. Thompson

***PSALM 100:1-2**

P Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

C **Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence for reflection and self-examination. Please kneel or be seated.

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us.**

We confess that we have honored you with our lips but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first, we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C **Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN** (Please bring items for New Hope to the altar during the singing of the hymn)

Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice - es,
 2 Oh, may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,



who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joice - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spir - it blest, who reign in high - est heav - en,



who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



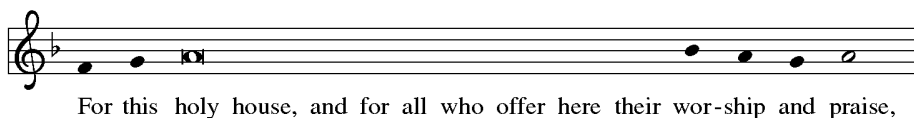
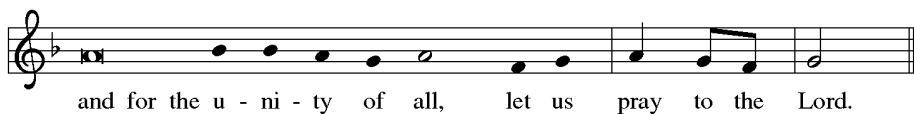
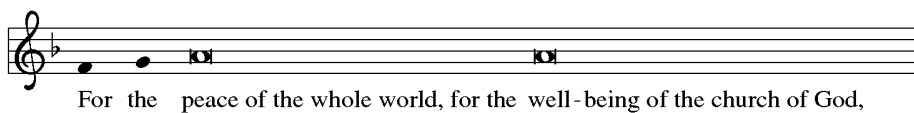
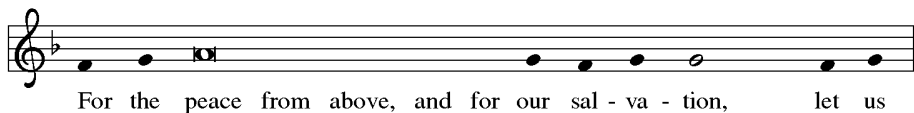
with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day,
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

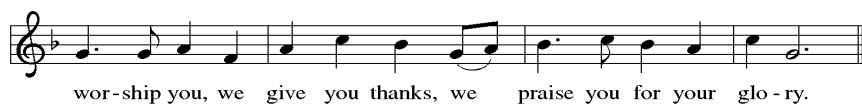
***GREETING**

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

*KYRIE



*HYMN OF PRAISE



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.

P Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM

BLESSING OF THE LECTOR

P Let us pray.

P God Almighty, we ask your blessing upon Alma as she reads to us the scriptures. May the words of her mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 53:4-12

This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called "servant songs." Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the servant's healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life and death of Christ.

R A reading from Isaiah.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.

For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked

although he had done no violence,

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,

he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;

through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,

and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,

and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;

because he poured out himself to death,

and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,

and made intercession for the transgressors.

C Thanks be to God.

Please sing the Psalm responsively. Choir the regular print; congregation the bold print



⁹Because you have made the ¹ LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your ¹ habitation,

10. there shall no evil hap- | pen to you,
neither shall any plague come | near your dwelling.

- ¹¹For he shall give his angels charge ¹ over you,
to keep you in ¹ all your ways.
- ¹²They shall bear you ¹ in their hands,
lest you dash your foot a- ¹ gainst a stone.
- ¹³You shall tread upon the li- ¹ on and the adder;
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent un- ¹ der your
feet.
- ¹⁴Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I de- ¹ liver him;
I will protect him, because he ¹ knows my name.
- ¹⁵He shall call upon me, and I will ¹ answer him;
I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring ¹ him to honor.
- ¹⁶With long life will I sat- ¹ isfy him,
and show him ¹ my salvation.

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 5:1-10

Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God's saving plan. Through his suffering and death he has become the source of eternal salvation.

R A reading from Hebrews.

¹Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins.

²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*ALLELUIA VERSE



*GOSPEL: Mark 10:35-45

On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask Jesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that he and his followers will “rule” through self-giving service.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 10th chapter

C Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”

³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

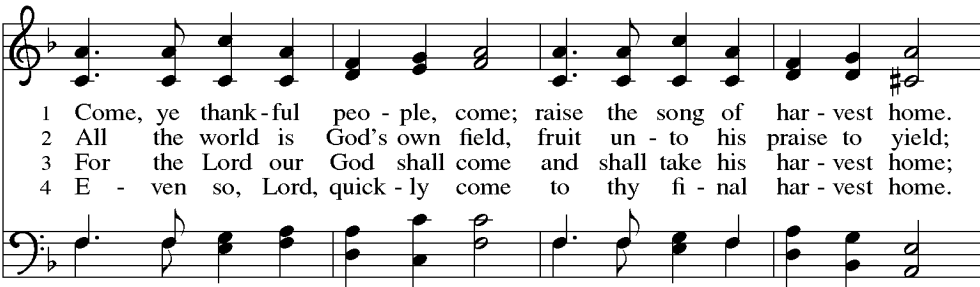
⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.
⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



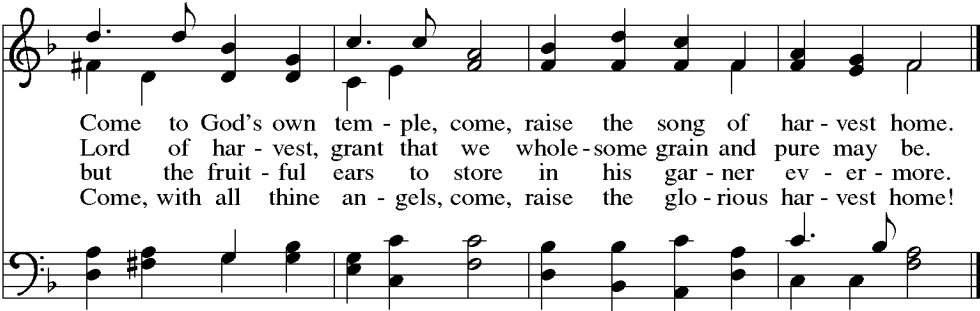
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

***NICENE CREED**

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**

A Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church,
the world, and the whole creation.

A God of grace,
C Hear our prayer.

NOTE: Please read the BOLDED FIRST NAMES ONLY out loud down each column when prompted by the Assisting Minister.

Charlene Albert	James Dobbs	Betty Kearney	Brad Reynolds	Kathy Vogelsong
Alissa Atticks	Alice Dunbar	John Kuntz	Dolores Ruth	Cheryl Ward
Diane Atticks	Derwood Dunbar	Pearl Lehmer	Ed Ruth	Michael Ward
Jim Atticks	Karen Fisher	Bartok Lewczuk	Ez Sassaman	Kelley Weist
Eleanora Beam	Diann Foltz	Jim Loy	Edie Sheibley	Courtney Welk
Doris Berger	Ellen Freeny	Sue Loy	Dennis Sheriff	Muretta Yentzer
Jere Brandt	Shaun Griffith	Steve Macri	Brian Smee	
Bobby Breen	Rosie Guarino	Marta	Elizabeth Summers	
Campbell Family	Elam Herr	Nina McElwain	Lisa Tavernia	
Bob Campbell	Doug Hopkins	Charlotte Miller	Donald Thomas	
Virginia Campbell	Rick Hopkins	Steve Nelson	Justin Tolbert	
Bob Curl	Clairene Jones	June O'Donnell	Rita Towner	
Susan Ditmer	Family of Nancy Kapp	Mollie Randolph	Cindy Van Gorder	

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and
forever.

C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

S. Marak

THANKING SOME OF OUR YOUNG-AT-HEART MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

BLESSING OF ST. MARK KELLER STREET CROP WALKERS

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, while the Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the Treble staff.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

*THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

- P** O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.
- C** Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

C 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.

***BLESSING**

P God, all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and
give you peace.

C Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation




1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as -OUND us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

I Am Thine O Lord

F. Crosby / W. Doane



ALTAR FLOWERS

In honor of Jennifer Hopkins Snitzer on her 40th birthday. Jennifer is the daughter of Terri and Dave Hopkins.

In honor of Mark Snitzer's 44th birthday. Mark is the son-in-law of Terri and Dave Hopkins.

TODAY'S ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister:	Barb Yost
Lay Reader:	Alma Gimbel
Acolyte:	Katie Stull
Ushers:	TBA
Altar Guild:	Phyllis Mihalich, Connie Kuntz

-THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK-

Sunday, October 20

**22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HARVEST HOME
CROP WALK SUNDAY
In-Person & Zoom Worship Svc.-
Adult Sunday School
Children's SS/Choir
Worship Service
CROP Walk at Mechanicsburg
Memorial Park**

Monday, October 21

**1:45 pm Violin Lessons
6:30 pm Youth & Family Ministry
7:00 pm German Group**

Tuesday, October 22

1:00 pm Social Ministry

Wednesday, October 23

**11:00 am Bible Study
6:00 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm Adult Choir**

Thursday, October 24

6:00 pm Ladies Night Out - Pizza Grille

Friday, October 25

2:30 pm Violin Lessons

Saturday, October 26

Sunday, October 27

**8:30 am REFORMATION SUNDAY
In-Person & Zoom Worship Svc.-
Communion
9:45 am Reformation Sunday Bingo & Jeopardy
11:00 am Worship Service-Communion**

LESSONS:

**FIRST READING OCTOBER 27, 2024
Jeremiah 31:31-34**

PSALM Psalm 46

SECOND READING Romans 3:19-28

GOSPEL John 8:31-36

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

AED/CPR TRAINING

The AED/CPR Training scheduled for October 26 has been postponed.
We will advise you as soon as it is rescheduled.

ITEMS FOR NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

The Social Ministry Committee designated one Sunday per month to **bring items to the altar for New Hope Ministries during the singing of the FIRST hymn.** Listed below are the items for October, November, and December:

October 20 - Harvest Home including canned Meat and Fish.

November 3 - Thanksgiving Food Items

Turkey, Potatoes, Stuffing, Canned Yams, Canned Corn, Canned Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Gravy, Aluminum Roaster pan, Pumpkin Pie Mix, Boxed Potatoes, Canned Fruit Cocktail, Boxed Stuffing, Dry Beans, or anything you would like to give.

December 1 - Christmas Food Items

Turkey or Ham, Potatoes, Stuffing, Canned Yams, Canned Corn, Canned Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Gravy, Aluminum Roaster pan, Pumpkin Pie Mix, Boxed Potatoes, Canned Fruit Cocktail, Boxed Stuffing, Dry Beans, or anything you would like to give.

LOOKING AHEAD TO ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

On **Sunday, November 3, 2024**, we will remember the Saints who have died in faith since last All Saints' Sunday (November 5, 2023). **If you have a loved one whom you would like to remember this year, please contact the church office no later than Monday, October 21.**

LADIES AND FRIENDS NIGHT OUT

The Ladies and Friends Night Out will be held on **Thursday, October 24, 6:00 pm at Pizza Grille on Old Gettysburg Rd., Camp Hill, PA.** Please RSVP to Karen via email at kfisher@stmarkmburg.com or by phone at 717-580-7507. Hoping to see all of you there.

REFORMATION SUNDAY EVENT

Join us in Fellowship Hall **during Sunday School time** on Reformation Sunday, **October 27**, for **Reformation BINGO and Jeopardy**. Everyone is invited. **Please bring a German-themed snack to share.**

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Children, ages preschool through 5th grade, and families are invited to join us for a Halloween Party on Sunday, **October 27, from 2:00 pm-3:30 pm.** We'll have games, devotions, and snacks!! Come in costume ready for some fun!



CAMPFIRE IN OUR BACK YARD

The Youth & Family Ministry Committee invites youth in 6th through 12th grades to their first campfire. The event will be held on **Friday, November 1, at 5:30 pm** in the field behind St. Mark. Hot dogs and S'mores are on the menu.

Then....

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS-NOVEMBER 1

After the youth have finished eating, family and friends are invited for an **outdoor movie starting at 7:00 pm**. Popcorn and hot chocolate will be served. Please bring chairs and blankets. Stay tuned for additional details and the name of the movie.

CONGREGATION MEETING

A congregation meeting will be held **Sunday, November 10, at 9:30 am following worship service**. The agenda will include approval of the 2025 Budget and election of council members for 2025. Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall following the meeting. Please be sure to attend.

BE A SANTA TO UNDERPRIVILEGED ADULTS—CONTRIBUTIONS AND SHOPPERS NEEDED

Over the past 11 years, we have purchased and delivered Christmas gifts to residents of the American House Apartments and Brethren House Apartments located in the Borough of Mechanicsburg. These facilities are designated for underprivileged individuals who are 62 years of age or older or individuals who are disabled. These residents are on a limited income; many with no or estranged families, and most of the residents do not own or drive a car.

As has been our tradition, we plan on providing a luncheon for the residents. We would like to continue providing Christmas to these individuals. The smiles of joy on the residents' faces when "*St. Mark Santa*" and his helpers visit and share the love of Christ is priceless.

We will be requesting "wish lists" from each of the residents. We have been blessed with a wonderful group of shoppers and a wonderful group of individuals who donated and helped with the shopping.

If you are interested in making a financial contribution to help defray the expenses, please mark it "**Social Ministry**" **no later than Sunday, November 17**. If you would like to help with the shopping, please contact Karen Fisher at 717-580-7507 or email at [**kfisher@stmarkmburg.com**](mailto:kfisher@stmarkmburg.com).

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS EXPRESS

It is hard to believe that it is the time of the year when we are starting to plan for the upcoming holiday season. **New Hope Ministries** has advised us that they will accept unwrapped gifts anytime through their deadline of December 5. **So—our Christmas Blessings Express tree will be placed at the back entrance of St. Mark toward the end of October, and we will be collecting unwrapped gifts through Sunday, December 1.** In the meantime, copies of the New Hope Ministries Wish List will be made available at entrances to the church in order that you can take advantage of early sales, online shopping, Amazon Prime Days, etc.

SAVE THE DATE—GETTING READY SUNDAY

Please mark **Sunday, December 1**, on your calendars for *Getting Ready Sunday*. All activities will be held during the Sunday School hour in Fellowship Hall. We will be making Christmas ornaments. Watch the November newsletter and bulletins for further information.

GIANT GIFT CARDS

If you would like to purchase Giant Gift Cards (\$25, \$50, \$100, or \$250 denominations) please give your order and money to Barb Yost. She will collect orders and money every Sunday and give you your cards the following Sunday. For every \$100 in orders, the church will receive \$5, which we will use toward repaying our Prudential account “loan” of \$8,800. If you will not be at church, you can drop off orders with Karen in the Church Office. (Orders made this way may delay the receipt of your cards.) Please let Barb know if you drop off an order (byost@verizon.net).

SAVE THE DATE - CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGALONG

Gather with family and friends for a Christmas Carol Singalong on **Sunday, December 8, at 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.**

and...

SILENT AUCTION BASKET ITEMS

Over the next month or several church committees are making themed baskets and/or obtaining items for a Silent Auction. The Silent Auction will be held on **December 8** to benefit the Organ Fund; however, you may preview a basket or item any time before December 8.

The baskets will be on display at various times and places throughout St. Mark where you will have an opportunity to look them over and read descriptions of each item. The first time you will see most of them will

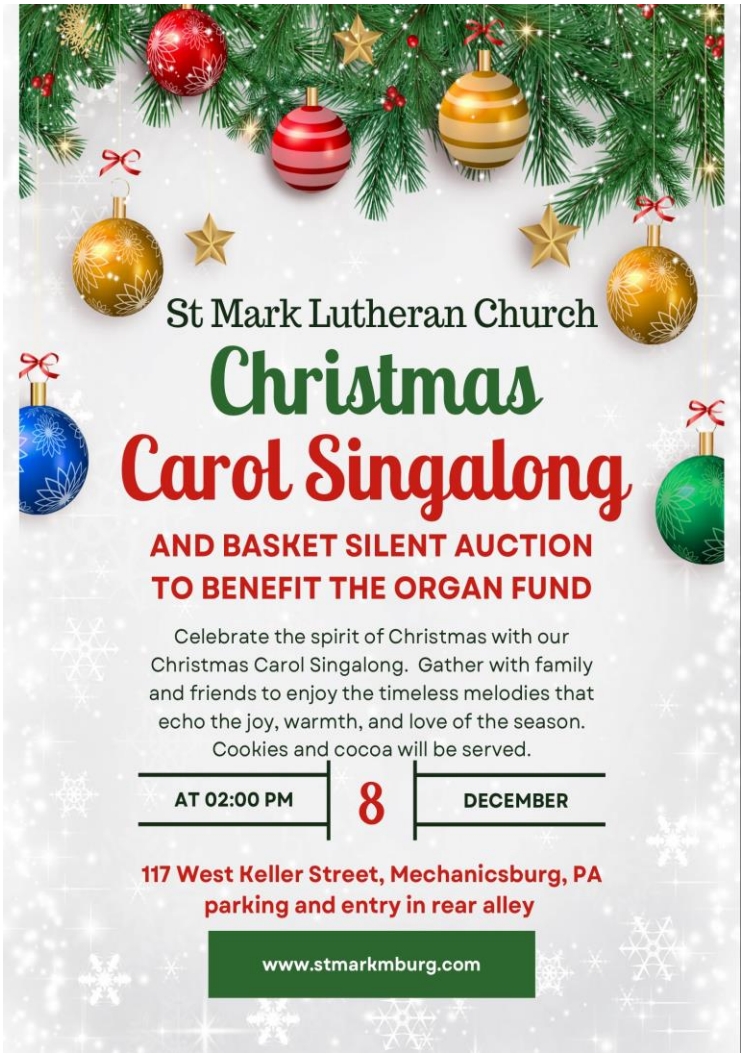
be at the Congregation meeting on November 10. All proceeds from the Silent Auction will be directed to the Organ Fund.

Refreshments will be served.

and...

MORE CHRISTMAS CAROLING

After the Silent Auction, individuals who would like to go Christmas caroling throughout downtown Mechanicsburg should accompany choir members who are attending.



St Mark Lutheran Church

Christmas Carol Singalong

**AND BASKET SILENT AUCTION
TO BENEFIT THE ORGAN FUND**

Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with our Christmas Carol Singalong. Gather with family and friends to enjoy the timeless melodies that echo the joy, warmth, and love of the season.
Cookies and cocoa will be served.

AT 02:00 PM	8	DECEMBER
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117 West Keller Street, Mechanicsburg, PA
parking and entry in rear alley

www.stmarkmburg.com



YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS A THING

October 20	Harvest Home
October 20	CROP Walk-Memorial Park, Mechanicsburg
October 24	Ladies & Friends Night Out - Pizza Grille
October 27	Halloween Party (Preschool-5th Grade)
November 1	Campfire - Grades 6-12
November 1	Movie Under the Stars
November 3	Silent Auction and Quilt Auction at Camp Nawakwa
November 10	Congregation Meeting
November 28	Thanksgiving Dinner
December 1	Getting Ready Sunday & Cookie Baking
December 8	Christmas Carol Singalong
December 8	Silent Auction of Gift Baskets & Items
December 24	Christmas Eve Luminaries Christmas Eve Services

OCTOBER IS-----

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

✠ *OUR PASTOR* ✠

You lead our congregation by
opening *God's Word*, and then
you live your life reflecting all
we've heard. ✠ *You care* for others
deeply and lift them up in prayer,
and when we face misfortune,
we know that you'll be there.

✠ *We really love you*, Pastor,
for everything you do. ✠

And we thank God for
giving us a Pastor just
like *You*.

Anne Peterson



Flower Sponsorship Form

Please check the one that applies to your sponsorship and complete the following statements:

- ☐ In memory of _____
- ☐ In honor of _____
- ☐ To the Glory of God

Sponsor Name: _____

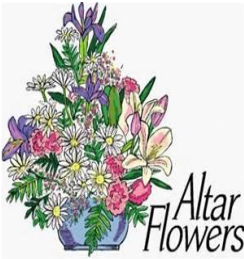
Sponsor Phone #: _____

Sponsor Email: _____

Date Requested: _____

- ☐ Willing to Share

Circle Payment Enclosed:



\$25.00 One Vase of Flowers

\$50.00 Both Vases of Flowers

Checks should be made payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church and note "Altar Guild" in the memo line. Place in the offering plate or mail directly to the church office.

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Please check any that apply!

- ☐ Flowers will be picked up by sponsor.
- ☐ Deliver one vase of flowers to shut-in or hospital
- ☐ Deliver both vases of flowers to shut-in or hospital

Please contact Connie Kuntz at 717-697-0436 with any questions.

THANK YOU!

## LECTIONARY 29

### SAVIOR FROM SCRATCH

Have you ever made something from scratch—a cake, a meal, a table? There is something special about the words “I baked this cake from scratch” or “It’s a family recipe” or “This is a hand-crafted solid-oak table.” You could have bought the cake from the store, ordered the same meal for delivery, or bought a table from a manufacturer, but you chose to give of your time and effort to make it yourself.

God made a savior from scratch. God could have popped into Jerusalem and declared, “Everyone is saved!” Or even had a full-grown man formed out of the dust ride into Jerusalem and get crucified. The gospels would be a lot shorter if this were how God worked. All those chapters and details about God’s Son that come before the Holy Week accounts are there to tell us something important about God and what God wants us to learn from Jesus: relationships.

In today’s gospel reading, you can almost see Jesus rolling his eyes over the disciples’ lack of understanding. James and John are acting like teenagers in a school cafeteria, trying to reserve themselves the best seats next to the coolest kid.

But Jesus says to them, “You do not know what you are asking.” Jesus shares with them the key to being his followers: it’s not about being first, coolest, or at the top of the hierarchy; it’s about serving. Once again, Jesus points us to relationships.

The cake is special because it was crafted carefully with love for someone special. The meal is so delicious because it was cooked with a family recipe passed down from generation to generation through relationships. Jesus is who he is because he built relationships with the disciples and those he met along the way. He sat with the woman at the well, held little children, and went fishing with his friends. Loving relationships that led him to the cross to make salvation from scratch.

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