

# St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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MINISTERS: Every Member

PASTOR: The Rev. James E. Person, 717-712-8191



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

P This is the day the Lord has made.

C Let us rejoice & be glad in it.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Nourished by Word and Sacrament, the mission of the members of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to spread God's Word in Jesus Christ through our thoughts, words, and actions, proclaiming God's good news for all to hear and live.

**Please silence all electronic devices.**

**WELCOME!** Please observe Silent Meditation during the Prelude.

**Ver ujier para boletín en español**

**Voir l'huissier pour le bulletin français**

**PERSONAL HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE.** Please see an usher if you have trouble hearing the service.

### CONSIDER THIS

*In today's gospel, the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter, the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.*

### GATHERING

#### Announcements

**PRELUDE—** *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* Purcell (Arr.Kohrs)

Stand **Gospel Acclamation**



**8:15 Sermon Lesson—Gospel: John 14:1-14**

## **Gospel: John 14:1-14**

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th Chapter

**C Glory to you O Lord**

[Jesus said to the disciples:]<sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.<sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?<sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.<sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.”<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”<sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.<sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.”<sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?<sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.<sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.<sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father.<sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.<sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

P The Gospel of the Lord

**C Praise to You, O Christ**

# SERMON



Stand **ACS Hymn #979** *Making Their Way*



1 Mak-ing their way down through the a-ges, sin-ners and saints have  
2 Mak-ing their way all the world o-ver, Chris-tians as-sem-ble  
3 Mak-ing our way sea-son by sea-son, pil-grims, we jour-ney



heard God's call: wealth-y and poor, pow-er-ful, low-ly,  
on this day, hear-ing the Word, shar-ing the Ban-quet,  
till life's end, trav-el-ing light, shar-ing the rich-es,



Je-sus' dis-ci-ples, one and all. Gath-ered for wor-ship, of-fer-ing thanks,  
learn-ing to walk in Je-sus' way. Mem-bers of Christ, u-nit-ed in love,  
car-ing for strang-er as for friend, till in the joy of long-ing ful-filled,



the great-est with the least have come to share this feast.  
they seek our God to know, and so to-gether grow.  
to-gether we will come to our e-ter-nal home.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: KOMT NU MET ZANG, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626

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## **The Ten Commandments**

(According to Luther's Small Catechism)

P God promises grace and every good thing to all those who keep God's commandments.

Therefore, we are to love and trust God and gladly act according to God's commands.

**C You shall have no other Gods**

**You shall not make wrongful use of the name of  
the Lord your God**

**Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy**

**Honor your father and your mother**

**You shall not murder**

**You shall not commit adultery**

**You shall not steal**

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor**

**You shall not covet your neighbor's house**

**You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse... or anything that belongs to your  
neighbor**

P Having been reminded of God's perfect law, we give thanks for new life through the waters of baptism.

Stand **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Merciful God, you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us  
beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us (*local waters may be named*).

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.

We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.

We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

Stand **GREETING**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE Page 140 Front of Hymnal**

**First Lesson: Acts 7:55-60**

*Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.*

A reading from Acts

<sup>55</sup> Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" <sup>57</sup> But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup> Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

A The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY WHOLE VERSE**

<sup>1</sup> In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.

<sup>2</sup> **Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me.**

<sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my  
crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead  
me and guide me.

<sup>4</sup> **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.**

<sup>5</sup> Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

<sup>15</sup> **My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those  
who persecute me.**

<sup>16</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your steadfast love."

**Second Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10**

*Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.*

A reading from 1 Peter

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and

precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>7</sup>This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the very head of the corner,"

<sup>8</sup>and

"A stone that makes them stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

<sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people,  
but now you are God's people;  
once you had not received mercy,  
but now you have received mercy.

A The Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

## 11:00—Stand Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## 11:00 Sermon Lesson Gospel: John 14:1-14

### Gospel: John 14:1-14

*On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th Chapter

### C Glory to you O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going.” <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

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said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup> Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. <sup>12</sup> Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

P The Gospel of the Lord

**C Praise to You O Christ**

Sit **Children's Sermon/Youth Message**

**11:00 SERMON**

**Hymn #810** *Jesus, I Have Promised*

**Nicene Creed**

**C** 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.

## THE PRAYERS

P Merciful God,

**C Receive our prayer**

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. .

**C Amen**

## MEAL

### PEACE

*The Peace is the link between the proclamation of the Word and the sharing of the Eucharistic meal. Our unity and mutual forgiveness come from Christ whose Word has just been proclaimed and whose meal we now prepare to share.*

*We pray for the peace of the Lord for each other.*

P May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you**

Sit **OFFERTORY** *Word of God Speak Millard, Kipley*

Stand OFFERTORY HYMN #367 *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds vs 4*



1 Now all the vault of heav'n re - sounds  
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,  
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;  
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring



in praise of love that still a - bounds: "Christ has  
 there - fore our heart with rap - ture sings: "Christ has  
 set heart and will on things a - bove that we  
 and with the heav'n-ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has



tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of  
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he  
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -  
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the



an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry  
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all  
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly  
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly



here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"  
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**OFFERTORY PRAYER—** Let us Pray

A Merciful God,  
accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that  
great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus,  
**C 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.**

**PREFACE**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.....we praise your name and join their  
unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### LORD'S PRAYER

#### Invitation to Communion

P Come to the table of new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

## 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.

### ***Communion Distribution***

*We invite all Christians who believe that Jesus gives his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins to receive the sacrament with us, the communion assistant will distribute the wine from a pouring chalice into a cup you may pick up at the front of the aisle. If you are unable to take either the bread or wine, be assured that the sacrament is complete. Those not receiving communion are invited to come to the rail to receive a blessing. Parents of young children; please direct the pastor as to whether your child usually receives communion or not.*

### **Communion Hymns**

**Hymn #477** *I Received the Living God*

**Hymn #758** *You Are the Way*

## Stand **COMMUNION BLESSING**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**— Let us pray.

A Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

**C Amen**

## **Blessing**

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
+ bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**Hymn #389** *Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing*

## **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**C We will. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE** ~ *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* Herbert (arr Larkin)

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**Altar Flowers** are in Honor of Zachary April 27<sup>th</sup> and Jackson Lee's April 29<sup>th</sup> birthday. Given by Grandma and Grandpa.

Once again, we thank you for your generous response to our community outreach. The first delivery of your donated supplies was very much appreciated by the staff at the Child Advocacy Center.

The CAC is a multidisciplinary team that responds to and provides services for children and families impacted by child abuse. As such, they are in need of yearlong support so our collection of needed items will be ongoing. The collection box will remain in the narthex for you to donate as you wish.

Thank you for all you do to help others. Here are the most needed items:

Deodorant for men and women

Shampoo/conditioner for African American families (Pantene Classic Clean 2 in 1 is a good example)

Adult toothpaste

Child toothpaste

Alcohol free mouthwash

\*Newly added: NEW "stuffies" (such as Squishmallows or stuffed plush)

## **THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

**CO-MINISTERS OF MUSIC** - Jenny Sustak & Faith Smeck

**YOUTH/FAMILY MINISTER** - Kellen Michalowski

**ALTAR CARE** - Laurie Womer; Marian Person

**USHERS** - Doug Womer, Ed Shadle, Rick Frazier,

Chris Bair, Joe Boslet, Dave Featherman

**COMMUNION ASST** - Laurie Womer; Zara Bennett

**WORSHIP ASSISTANT**— 8:15—Laurie Womer

**LECTOR** - Laurie Womer; Dave Featherman

**FLOWER DELIVERY** - Barb Heym

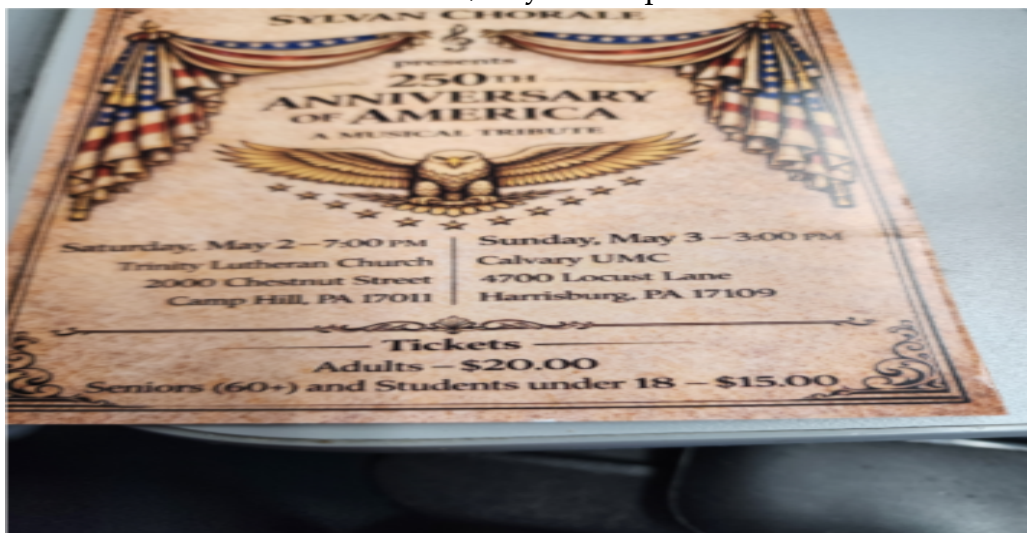
**COUNCIL PRESIDENT** - Dave Stanton

**NURSERY SCHL DIR.** - Jessica Broome 717-827-8104

**SEXTON** - Don Young

**LIONS CLUB IS NO LONGER COLLECTING PLASTIC BAGS AND PLASTIC. PLEASE TAKE THEM TO YOUR GROCERY STORE PLEASE DON'T LEAVE THEM ON THE BENCH OUTSIDE HANDICAP DOOR.**

Susan Shultz is part of Sylvan Chorale, let's show our support and attend one of the shows. See Susan for tickets, or you can purchase at the concert..



**Never miss a Worship Service or Bible Study.**

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**Don't forget to share this information with your family, friends and neighbors.**

RIB AND CHICKEN BBQ, Saturday, May 16, 2026

10 am until Sold out Call the office (717)652-6700 to reserve your dinner.

Chicken Dinner is \$10.00 and Rib Dinner is \$15.00.

**it's BBQ Time!**



## OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. MARK'S THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	05/03	<b>8:15 am Worship</b> 9:45 am St Mark's Minis Sunday School 9:45 am Intergenerational Sunday School Romania WELCA Room <b>11:00 am Worship</b> 7:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Gambler's Anonymous
MONDAY	05/04	
TUESDAY	05/05	8:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:00 am Projects Day 6:00 pm Worship, Music & Arts Ministry
WEDNESDAY	05/06	10:00 am Bible Study
THURSDAY	05/07	1:00 pm Craft Artisans
FRIDAY	05/08	
SATURDAY	05/09	
SUNDAY	05/10	<b>8:15 am Worship</b> 9:45 am St Mark's Minis Sunday School 9:45 am Intergenerational Sunday School <b>11:00 am Worship</b> 7:00 pm AA 7:00 pm Gambler's Anonymous



**Like us on  
Facebook**

**Like us on Facebook** - St. Mark's is on Facebook - Follow our page and share with your friends. It's a great way to let your friends know about all the good things happening here!