

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

4200 Londonderry Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 652-6700

Web page: www.stmarksharrisburg.org

E-mail: stmarksharrisburg@gmail.com

MINISTERS: Every Member

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



20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 18, 2020

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 sign the Friendship Register (Red Folder) located in the hymnal rack and pass it on to your neighbors. Please observe Silent Meditation during the Prelude.

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

INTRODUCTION

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Variations on Praise and Thanksgiving*

~Gaelic folk melody; set. by L. Trapp

HYMN #731 Earth and All Stars

Organ Only — No Singing

Stand **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful God, have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

C Amen.

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,

Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

C Amen.

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

Spoken **Hymn of Praise**

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we
raise.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY—Let us pray. . .

A Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WORD

Sit **First Reading:** **Isaiah 45:1-7**

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
I will give you the treasures of darkness

and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.
I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the Lord do all these things.
A The Word of the Lord
C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

**C Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

**Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

**Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.**

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

L As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.
Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

**C Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot
be moved will judge the peoples
with equity."**

**Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be
joyful and all that is therein.**

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at
your coming, O Lord,
for you come to judge the earth.**

**You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew the 22nd Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Sit **HYMN #679** *For the Fruit of all creation, Thanks Be to God.*

Congregation: Create your own hymn line, ending with "thanks be to God." Three lines in each verse.

Organ Only

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

The Prayers

A Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer,
A Jesus Christ our Lord
C Amen

Stand Spoken

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are
stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

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. **“Due to the heightened risk of flu or other illness, please practice a “non-contract” sharing of the Peace until further notice.**

P Each one of you is part of the body of Christ, and you were chosen to live together in peace. So let the peace that comes from Christ control your thoughts. And be grateful. (Colossians 3:15)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

C You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you,

C 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. . .

Spoken **HOLY HOLY HOLY**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven
and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna
in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

P Come to the banquet table
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

Spoken Lamb Of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit **Communion Distribution**

Stand **COMMUNION BLESSING**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER—Let us pray.

A We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who
hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus
Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P Mothering God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C Amen.

Sit **HYMN #689** *Praise and Thanksgiving*
Organ Only

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

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

Please Remain Seated Till Dismissed

Please do not leave your bulletin in the pews, dispose of them in the Narthex in recycling can.

POSTLUDE #840 *Now Thank We All Our God*

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #23172. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Operating Receipts thru September 30: \$203,065

Payments made thru September 30: \$198,525

Attendance: 10/11/2020 69 (3 services)

We look forward to continued support of our mission through your generous response to God's gifts given to us.

READINGS for October 25, 2020:

First Reading: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalm: Psalm 1

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46

SIMPLY GIVING – A Simple Choice: A Generous Response & Save Paper. Simply Giving is the program St. Mark's uses to enable electronic transfer for church donations. Most people use similar methods to make recurring payments for utilities, mortgages, etc. Why not save paper and make it easier for yourself, and the Counters here at St Mark's. Sign up and support our programs with regular donations that are safe, reliable, and conserve paper resources.

If you are already enrolled consider increasing the amount at this time. Forms are available in the narthex and on bulletin boards, or ask at the office.

ONLINE GIVING - is also available on our website, stmarksharrisburg.org. Click the GIVE tab and follow the instructions. **ON LINE GIVING IS SEPARATE FROM SIMPLY GIVING.** If you use both you will be giving twice. Changes to **SIMPLY GIVING** must, for the time being, be made by paper form only. Thanks for your generous stewardship.

ATTENTION: So we can keep our Data Base up-to-date, if you have changes to your name, address phone number and your email address changed, you can call or send your updated information to church office.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

MINISTER OF MUSIC - Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk

MINISTER OF CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

- Bennett Williams

YOUTH/FAMILY MINISTER - Kellen Michalowski

ALTAR CARE - ;

USHERS - Don Young, Doug Womer, Ed Shadle,

Chris Bair, Dennis Dinger, Dave Featherman

GREETERS -

COMMUNION ASST -

WORSHIP ASST -

LECTORS - Kevin Spencer; Zara Bennett

FLOWER DELIVERY - Zara Bennett

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIRECTOR - Pam Baranowski 671-4855

SEXTON - Don Young

Altar Flowers are in Memory of Russell Johns by Shirley, Luann and Matthew Johns.

The Bulletins are in Honor of our granddaughter, Amelia on her "6th" birthday, given by Pappy & Gramma Heym.

ST. MARK'S MEDITATION GARDEN BRICKS - Cost \$35.00 per brick (no limit). Order forms are available at both entrances to the sanctuary. Bricks can be purchased anytime throughout the year.

Birthdays for October

10/03 – Terry Fleegal	10/16 – Nathan Cleaver
10/03 – Margie Stouffer	10/16 – Bennett Fleegal
10/04 – Hannah Leigh DeFrank	10/17 – Amelia Heym
10/04 – Melissa Dinger	10/17 – Brooke DiSerio
10/04 – Holly Evans	10/21 – Richard Deppen
10/04 – Leo Brown	10/21 – Wayne Smithers
10/05 – Emma Mink	10/21 – David Kolter
10/06 – Dorothy Sutch	10/22 – Lennox Powell
10/07 – Marsha Nicodemus	10/24 – Kristian Beverly
10/08 – Jackson Klick	10/24 – Alexis Neidig
10/08 – Kathryn McClain	10/26 – Jared Fleegal
10/09 – Dameion Frey	10/28 – Laura Young
10/10 – Kendall Beverly	10/28 – John Herigan, Jr
10/10 – Wayne Metz	10/29 – Larry Watkins
10/11 – Zara Bennett	10/30 – Thomas Tommy
10/11 – Reuel Deppen	10/30 – Brian Dinger
10/11 – Sara Lawrence	10/30 – Nolan Dulovich
10/13 – Mason Brown	10/30 – Paul Whipple
10/14 – Susan Bennick	10/31 – David Featherman
10/15 – Tina Smith	

Highway Clean-Up

Saturday, October 31, 2020

9:00 AM. Contact Calvin Smith

717-652-3808

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS



2020 Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa - Cancelled

[Register Now!](#)

Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald - [Register Now!](#)

Fall Foliage Day at Nawakwa - [Register Now!](#)

*** Masks and social distancing required at all LCC events ***

October 18 1-6pm | \$10 per person (5 & up)

Annual Quilt Auction

Join us from November 1-8 **online** for this virtual event!

Follow along at the [Quilt Auction Website](#)

Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa

November 6-8 | \$155

*** Masks and social distancing required at all LCC events ***

Registration is limited to 20 participants - [Register Now!](#)

Wittel Farm Events

*** Masks and social distancing required at all LCC events*

10/18/2020 - Dinner and Campfire Worship night.

6:00 to 8:30 pm.

11/8/2020 -Dinner and Campfire worship night. 6:00

to 8:30 pm

Here is the link to register for the dinners:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0949A9A72EA7FB6-dinner>

12/20/2020 - Advent/Christmas in the Barn. 7:00 to

8:30 pm.

SUPPORT THE CAMPS

Make a gift today to support the ministries of the Lutheran Camping Corporation.

Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird

Sanctuary

it's **BBQ** Time!



Saturday, October 24, 2020
10:30 am—until Sold Out

\$9.00 per Chicken Dinner

\$12.00 per Ribs Dinner

**All dinners include: Baked potato, Apple
sauce, Roll & Water**

Baked goods are gladly accepted.

DINNERS CAN BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE

**from any member of Fellowship Ministry or call
Church Office, 717-652-6700**