

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

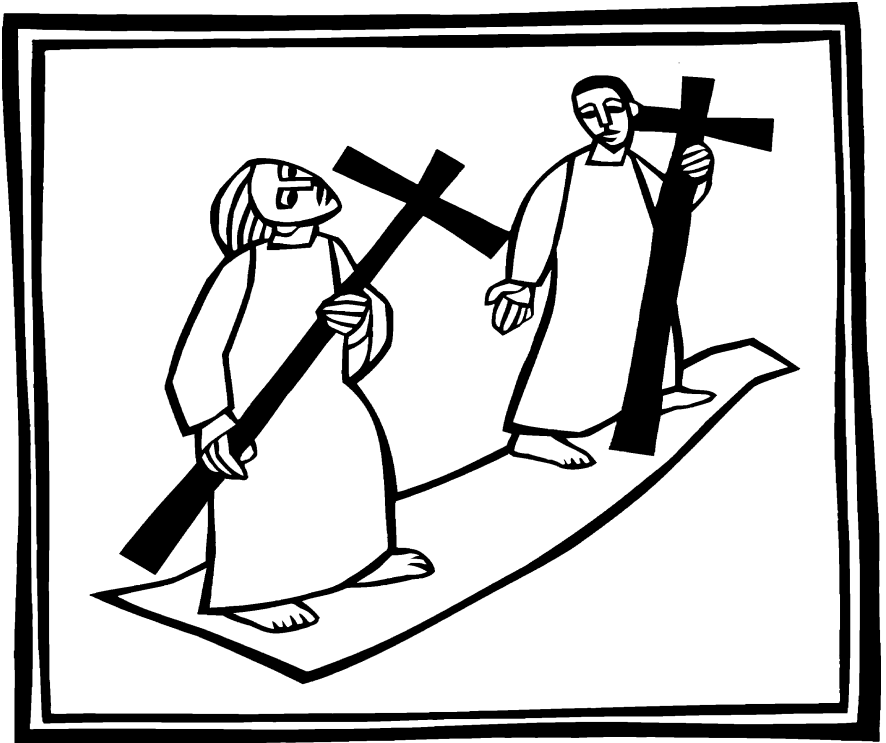
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MINISTERS: Every Member

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



Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

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

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Come To Me*

~M. Larkin

HYMN #806 *O God, My Faithful God*
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,

the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

C Amen.

P God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit
to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
C Amen.

P Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY—Let us pray. . .

A O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C Amen.

WORD

Sit First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her,

and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31

READ IN UNISON

You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the Lord, all you off-spring of Israel.

For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is

the Lord's face hidden from them;

but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.

From you comes my praise in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow before God.

For dominion belongs to the Lord,

who rules over the nations.

Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship;

all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

Their descendants shall serve the Lord,

whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.

They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our

Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Stand **Spoken**

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world is crucified to me, and I to the world.

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark the 8th Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are

ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you O Christ**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Sit **HYMN #323** *God Loved the World*

Organ Only

Stand **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 Hear us, O God

C Your mercy is great

A We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

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.

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Faithful God,

**C you walk beside us in desert places,
and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.**

**Accompany us on our Lenten Journey,
that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

P You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you + that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
C Amen.

sit **HYMN #759** *My Faith Looks up to Thee*
Organ Only

DISMISSAL

P **Go in peace. Share the good news.**
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 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

~L. Mason

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National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.
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Operating Receipts thru January 31: \$14,994

Payments made thru January 31: \$23,692

Deficit \$8,698

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

READINGS for March 7, 2021:

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm: Psalm 19

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Gospel: John 2:13-22

Altar Flowers No flowers until church opens back up.

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.

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.

Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary

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 -

LECTOR - Bill Shook

FLOWER DELIVERY -

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIR. - Pam Baranowski

717-652-6700 ext 3

SEXTON - Don Young

**THE 2021 ENVELOPES WERE DELIVERED TO
YOUR HOUSE, IF YOU HAVEN'T RECEIVE
YOURS, PLEASE CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE –
(717)652-6700**

**THANK YOU, TO CHRIS BAIR & FRED
HOOVER FOR TAKING THEIR TIME TO
DELIVER THEM.**

Birthdays for February

02/01 – Lori Ulrich	02/20 – Roberta Anderson
02/01 – Carolyn Shadle	02/22 – Logan Fleegal
02/03 – Jenna Spencer	02/22 – Jackson Fleegal
02/03 – T. J. Bryan	02/22 – Monique Brown
02/04 – Karen Smith	02/24 – Edward Shadle
02/08 – Zachary Dullen	02/24 – Terry Stohler
02/09 – Xavier Webber	02/24 - Jenny Sustak
02/11 – Griffin Phelan	02/26 – Donna Woodrow
02/11 – Grace Phelan	02/27 – Matthew Dudek
02/13 – Emma Malette	02/27 – Matthew Johns
02/16 – Cynthia Lang	02/28 – Paulette Beverly
02/16 - Kenneth Lang	

Birthdays for March (Beginning)

03/01 – Alyse Ulrich

03/02 – Donna Lee
Michael Martellaro

03/03 – Fred Hoover
Alison Keith
Luther Lengel
Arlo Powell

03/04 - Heather Lee

03/05 – Renee Carpenter

03/07 – Lorie Cleaver
Resta Deppen
Doug Womer
James Walak
Colin Smith

03/08 – Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk

Upcoming Events



Lenten Day Apart at The Wittel Farm - March 13, 2021

March 13 - Lenten Day Apart sessions will include restorative spiritual practices and restorative soil work. We will learn about the soil on the farm and how we can improve its health. We will plant seeds in our greenhouse in the afternoon. Cost is \$15. Please register.

Summer Camp Open House at Kirchenwald - March 21, 2021

You are invited to visit Kirchenwald or Nawakwa on March 21 or April 11. Take a tour of camp with members of our summer staff and see what camp is all about. As a bonus, we will give a \$10 gift certificate for the camp store to every brand new camper! Cost is free, please register.

Summer Camp Open House at Nawakwa - March 21, 2021

You are invited to visit Kirchenwald or Nawakwa on March 21 or April 11. Take a tour of camp with members of our summer staff and see what camp is all about. As a bonus, we will give a \$10 gift certificate for the camp store to every brand new camper! Cost is free, please register.

NOW HIRING SUMMER STAFF

We are hiring summer staff to help make this the best summer ever for our campers and guests. Serve others, grow in faith & community, and have a blast working at camp this summer! Learn more and apply online on the website.



Summer Camp
NOW HIRING Camp Staff

APPLY ONLINE AT
LutheranCamping.org/employment

Kirchenwald
Lebanon, PA
Zach Weiss
zweiss@lutherancamping.org
717-964-3121

Nawakwa
Arendtsville, PA
Mike Youse
myouse@lutherancamping.org
717-677-8211

COUNSELORS
LIFEGUARDS
KITCHEN STAFF

Maintenance
Craft Staff

Why Apply?

- Impact Lives
- Share Your Faith
- Meet New People
- Experience New Places
- Spend The Summer Outdoors

*Ministry sites of
The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania*

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MARGARET STOUFFER
100 MT. ALLEN DR
ROOM 3012 GREENWOOD
MECHANICSBURG PA 17055

PHONE 717-545-7477