

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

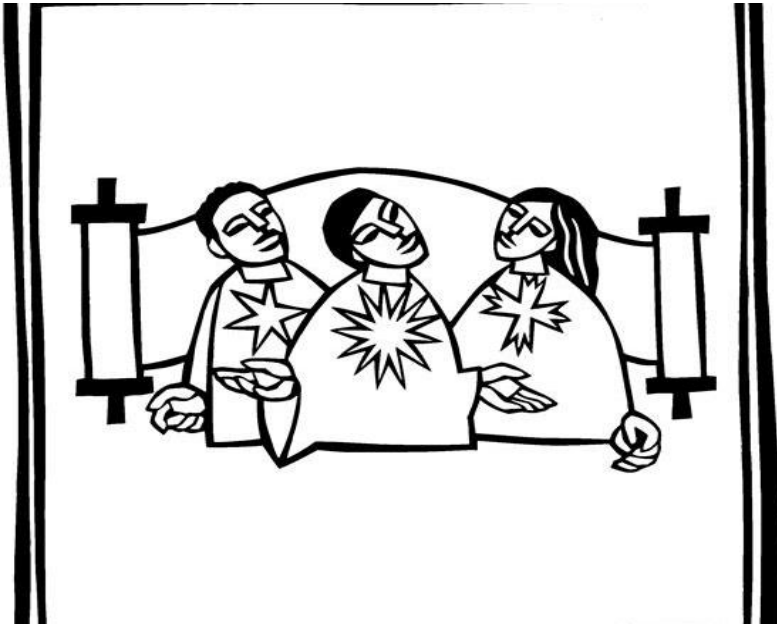
4200 Londonderry Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 652-6700

Web page: www.stmarksharrisburg.org

E-mail: stmarksharrisburg@gmail.com

MINISTERS: Every Member

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



21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 25, 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

Jesus' summary of the law in today's gospel echoes our first reading from Leviticus. We are called not only to love God with heart, soul, and mind, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves. It is out of such deep care that Paul shares the gospel with the Thessalonian community. In the confession of sins, we acknowledge that we have not loved God, neighbor, and self; yet we gather to hear the word of forgiveness and to be strengthened by word and meal to be signs of God's love and mercy in the world.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Built on a Rock*

HYMN #652 Built on a Rock
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 O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WORD

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

The Holiness Code in Leviticus urges people to be holy because God is holy. Holiness is lived out as God's people exercise justice and love in their dealings with one another. We are to love our neighbors as ourselves.

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself:

I am the LORD.

C Thanks be to God

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

READ IN UNISON

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the LORD,

and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper

It is not so with the wicked;

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,

nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Paul uses maternal imagery to depict the caring and nurturing relationship he shares with the Thessalonian Christians. When he first came to their city it was not to benefit himself but to share the gospel with them, which was his responsibility as an apostle of Christ.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the

gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

A The word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

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.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:34-46

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46

Put on the spot by the Pharisees, Jesus displays wisdom by summarizing the law of God in just two commandments and by demonstrating the Messiah must be more than the son of David

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Sit **HYMN #504 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

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

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

C 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 #779 Amazing Grace**

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 #796 How Firm a Foundation

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Operating Receipts thru September 30: \$203,065

Payments made thru September 30: \$198,525

Attendance: 10/18/2020 **54**

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

Readings for November 1, 2020:

First Reading: **Micah 3:5-12**

Psalm: **Psalm 43**

Second Reading: **1 Thessalonians 2:9-13**

Gospel: **Matthew 23:1-12**

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 - Jeanne Flickinger; Emmor Boslet

FLOWER DELIVERY - Laurie Womer

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIRECTOR - Pam Baranowski 671-4855

SEXTON - Don Young

Altar Flowers are in Loving Memory of Jim Carl, given by his wife, Stephanie Carl

The Bulletins are given in Memory of my daughter, Kaitlyn Dale Banks ' birthday by Deb Banks

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	

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 & social distancing required at all LCC events ***

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 & social distancing required at all LCC events ***

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

Wittel Farm Events

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

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