

# St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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MINISTERS: Every Member

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



First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 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**

*On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.*

## **GATHERING**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* ~ R. Lau

**HYMN #324** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*  
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 Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through 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 9:8-17**

*Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, God destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.*

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When

the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

**Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10**

**READ IN UNISON**

**To you, O Lord,**

**I lift up my soul.**

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

**Let none who look to you be put to shame;**

**rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.**

**Show me your ways, O Lord,**

**and teach me your paths.**

**Lead me in your truth and teach me,**

**for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted  
all the day long.**

**Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,**

**for they are from everlasting.**

**Remember not the sins of my youth and my  
transgressions;**

**remember me according to your steadfast love and for the  
sake of your goodness, O Lord.**

**You are gracious and upright, O Lord;**

**therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

**You lead the lowly in justice**

**and teach the lowly your way.**

**All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22**

*As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.*

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you — not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

A The Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

Stand **Spoken**

**One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.**

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark the 1st Chapter

**C Glory to you O Lord**

## **Gospel: Mark 1:9-15**

*The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.*

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming

up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

P The Gospel of the Lord

**C Praise to you O Christ**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

Sit **HYMN #326** Bless Now, O God the Journey  
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,**

**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 this 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 #335** Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross  
**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** *Jesus, Savior Pilot Me* ~ *R. Lau*

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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 February 28, 2021:**

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

Psalms: Psalm 22:23-31

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

Altar Flowers No flowers until church opens back up.

**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](http://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.

**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.

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 - Bruce Senft

FLOWER DELIVERY -

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIR. - Pam Baranowski 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**

**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.

## 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	

## Upcoming Events



2021 Chicken & Waffles at Nawakwa - Canceled

Winter Fun Day at Kirchenwald

January 17 February 21

1-6pm Free Will Offering

Don't forget you can make a gift today to support the ministries of the Lutheran Camping Corporation.

## 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*

[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