

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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MINISTERS: Every Member

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



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 7, 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

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Carol Medley*

Coventry Carol — O Sanctissimo — O Come Little Children

HYMN *Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light*
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,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

C you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin —
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow
your outward way of love.**

We distrust those who are not like us.

**We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.**

Forgive us, gracious God,

for all we have done and left undone.

**Even before the words are on our tongues,
you know them;**

receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

P How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away

and we are claimed as God's own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven.

In the wake of God's forgiveness,

we are called to be the beloved community
living out Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

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 Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and
power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and
wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the
ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord

C Amen.

WORD

Sit **First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31**

*The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who
will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the
God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those
who are weary.*

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 147: 1-11, 20c

READ IN UNISON

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

**The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

**The Lord heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.**

**The Lord counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**

**Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.**

**The Lord lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

**Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,
who covers the heavens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass
to grow upon the mountains.**

**God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.**

**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

**but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord,
in those who await God's steadfast love. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people that I might by all means save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Stand **Spoken**

Alleluia. The servant of God took our infirmities and bore our diseases. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark the 1st Chapter
C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Sit **HYMN** *God, Whose Almighty Word*
Organ Only

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

A Hear us O God,

C Your mercy is great,

A God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace
as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of
Jesus.

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 Gracious God,
you came to us as one unknown,
bringing joy and salvation to the earth.
Nourish us at your banquet table,
that with all who welcome your birth
we may proclaim your peace,
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

P Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.
C Amen.

sit **HYMN** *This Little Light of Mine*
Organ Only

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

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 *We Three Kings*

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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.

Operating Receipts thru December 31: \$269,329

Payments made thru December 31: \$271,689

Excludes Payroll Protection Program receipts \$27,811

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

READINGS for February 14, 2021:

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm: Psalm 50:1-6

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Gospel: Mark 9:2-9

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

02/01 – Carolyn Shadle

02/03 – Jenna Spencer

02/03 – T. J. Bryan

02/04 – Karen Smith

02/08 – Zachary Dullen

02/09 – Xavier Webber

02/11 – Griffin Phelan

02/11 – Grace Phelan

02/13 – Emma Malette

02/16 – Cynthia Lang

02/16 - Kenneth Lang

02/20 – Roberta Anderson

02/22 – Logan Fleegal

02/22 – Jackson Fleegal

02/22 – Monique Brown

02/24 – Edward Shadle

02/24 – Terry Stohler

02/24 - Jenny Sustak

02/26 – Donna Woodrow

02/27 – Matthew Dudek

02/27 – Matthew Johns

02/28 – Paulette Beverly

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 - Jay Snyder

FLOWER DELIVERY -

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIRECTOR - Pam Baranowski 671-4855

SEXTON - Don Young

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.

Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary

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

Ministry sites of
The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania

COUNSELORS
Lifeguards
KITCHEN STAFF

Maintenance
Craft Staff

Why Apply?

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