

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



Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022

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 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 warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE—*If You But Trust in God to Guide You*

~Set. Jacob Weber

Stand Hymn #769 *If You But Trust in God to Guide You*
Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!

C Vs 1 If you but trust in God to guide you
with gentle hand through all your ways,
you'll find that God is there beside you
when crosses come, in trying days.
Trust then in God's unchanging love;
build on the rock that will not move.

Vs 2 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,
offer your service faithfully.
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,
you'll find this promise true to be.
This is our confidence indeed:
God never fails in time of need.

The Ten Commandments

(According to Luther's Small Catechism)

P God promises grace and every good thing to all those who keep God's commandments

Therefore, we are to love and trust God and gladly act according to God's commands

C You shall have no other Gods

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God

Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy

Honor your father and your mother

You shall not murder

You shall not commit adultery

You shall not steal

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor

You shall not covet your neighbor's house

You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse... or any thing that belongs to your neighbor

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P In the name of God,
who makes a way in the wilderness,
walks with us,
and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Kneel or sit as able

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy One,
we confess that we have wandered far from you:
we have not trusted your promises,
we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
Have mercy on us!
Forgive us and turn us again to you.

Teach us to follow in your ways,
assure us again of your love,
and help us to love our neighbor.
C Amen.

P Beloved in Christ,
the Word draws near to you,
and all who call out to God shall be saved.
In Jesus, God comes to you again and again
and gathers you under wings of love.
In + Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.

God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.
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 **Kyrie -**

**Have mercy on us, Lord and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from
despair.**

**Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may
begin.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving power; create in us new hearts.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY—Let us pray. . .

A Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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

First Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-9

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to God will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,

come to the waters;

and you that have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

⁶Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on
them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways

A The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks Be to God**

Psalm: Psalm 63:1-8

READ RESPONSIVELY BY WHOLE VERSE

¹O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a
dry and weary land where
there is no water.

²**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.**

³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;

my lips shall give you praise.

**⁴So will I bless you as long as I live
and lift up my hands in your name.**

⁵My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods,
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

**⁶when I remember you upon my bed,
and meditate on you in the night watches.**

⁷For you have been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

**⁸My whole being clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.**

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and

were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Stand **Jesus began to proclaim, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.**

The Holy Gospel according to St Luke the 13th Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²[Jesus] asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted

in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' 8He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. 9If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.' "

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Stand **Hymn #765** *Lord of All Hopefulness*

Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!

**C Vs 1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could
destroy:
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the
day.**

**Vs 2 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is
balm:
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the
day.**

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

P Merciful God

C Receive our prayer.

P Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

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-contact” sharing of the Peace until further notice.**

P Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Col. 3:15, 16)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

MEAL

Stand **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Extravagant God,

C you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.

Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them to the Lord

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C 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.

Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

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

for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
C Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Invitation to Communion

P Here is food and drink for the journey.
Take and be filled.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Stand **COMMUNION BLESSING**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER—Let us pray.

A Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.

Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P You are children of God,
anointed with the oil of gladness
and strengthened for the journey.

Almighty God,
motherly, majestic, and mighty,
+bless you this day and always.

C Amen.

Hymn #767 *Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me*

Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!

C Vs 1 **Lord, take my hand and lead me**
upon life's way;
direct, protect, and feed me
from day to day.
Without your grace and favor
I go astray;
so take my hand, O Savior,
and lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear;
for you, the Rock of Ages,
are always near.
Close by your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
for when your hand is guiding,
in peace I go.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

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*

~ J. Gould

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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, or if your birthday doesn't show up on the list, you can call or send your updated information to church office.

Operating Receipts thru February 28: \$39,713

Expenditures thru February 28: \$46,066

Attendance: 03/9/2022 27 Lenten Services

03/13/2022 49

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

Anita Featherman is collecting old used Wooden Sleds any condition also Women's old Ice Skates. Call her at (717)469-0840 and she will pick them up

Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary

Stewardship Snippet

March 20, 2022 (3rd Sunday in Lent, Year C)

Isaiah 55:2—Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Stewardship is about making wise choices—choices that promote health, wellbeing, and faithful living. Isaiah asks the right questions and gives good advice.

READING LESSONS for March 27, 2022:

First Lesson: Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm: Psalm 32

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Altar Flowers are in Honor of my daughter, Danielle Banks's birthday. Given by Deb Banks.

Altar Flowers are in Celebration of Randy Whitaker's birthday. Given by Carla Whitaker

REMINDER: 2022 Church Envelopes are in the Hall.

Check for friends or shut-ins near you if you don't mind taking them to them.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

MINISTER OF MUSIC - Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk

YOUTH/FAMILY MINISTER - Kellen Michalowski

ALTAR CARE - Sue Bennick; Marian Person/

Donna Woodrow

USHERS - Don Young, Doug Womer, Ed Shadle,

Chris Bair, Dennis Dinger, Dave Featherman

GREETERS -

COMMUNION ASST -

WORSHIP ASST -

LECTOR - Jeanne Flickinger; Emmor Boslet

FLOWER DELIVERY - Tracy Ingram

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Sandy Sherwood

NURSERY SCHL DIR. - 717-652-6700 ext 3

SEXTON - Don Young



**Like us on
Facebook**

Like us on Facebook - St. Mark's is on Facebook - Follow our page and share with your friends. It's a great way to let your friends know about all the good things happening here!

Birthdays for March

03/01 – Alyse Ulrich	03/11 – Sara Jane Defrank
03/02 – Donna Lee	03/14 – Lauren Heckert
Michael Martellaro	03/17 – Jennifer Towsen
03/03 – Fred Hoover	03/21 – June Judd
Alison Keith	Danielle Banks
Luther Lengel	03/23 – Randy Whitaker
Arlo Powell	Bonnie Morris
03/04 – Heather Lee	03/25 - Pamela Baranowski
03/05 – Renee Carpenter	03/27 – Lore-Lee Walak
03/07 – Lorie Cleaver	Aaron Lichtenwalner
Resta Deppen	03/30 – James Dullen
Doug Womer	03/30 – Robert Gill
James Walak	Mary Edna Leedy
Tammy Heim	03/31 –Tania Brown
Colin Smith	Carrie Appleby
03/08 Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk	Deborah Lee
03/10 – Hailey Himelright	

If your birthday is in March and we missed it, please let us know. We hope you have a happy birthday anyway.

SOCIAL SERVICES LENTEN PROJECT: The Social Services ministry will be collecting non-perishable food items for four families in need this Spring. We will be accepting donations from March 13 through April 10 and distributing the food the week of April 11. We are also accepting monetary donations and hams. We thank you in advance for your support. Contact: Molly Stanton if you have any questions—(717)657-7725.

Highway Clean-up

The next Highway Clean-up of Oakgrove Road is scheduled for Saturday April 9. (Meet at the entrance of Resurrection Cemetery at 9:00.) Anyone planning to help/have questions, please contact Calvin Smith (717)652-3808.)

LECTORS NEEDED!!

Interested in reading lessons any Sunday at early or late services? if so, please contact Zara Bennett at 732-5005 or zara1950@gmail.com

Fellowship is selling R&K subs and pretzel sandwiches. We are going to split the profits with the Nursery school since they are not able to conduct their fundraisers this year. Starting March 6th.

Sign-up sheets will be in the narthex or you can call the office or see Deb Banks.

Orders along with the money will be taken up until Sunday, March 27th and delivery will be Thursday, April 7th.

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ST MARK'S EV.
LUTHERAN CHURCH/FELLOWSHIP**

OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. MARK'S THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	03/20	8:15 am	Worship
		9:45 am	Sunday Church School
		11:00 am	Worship
		7:00 pm	AA
MONDAY	03/21		
TUESDAY	03/22	6:30 pm	Eve's Circle
WEDNESDAY	03/23	10:30 am	Bible Study
		12:00 pm	Lenten Service
		6:30 pm	Lenten Service
THURSDAY	03/24	10:00 am	Book Club
		1:00 pm	Craft Artisans
FRIDAY	03/25		
SATURDAY	03/26		
SUNDAY	03/27	8:15 am	Worship
		9:45 am	Sunday Church School
		11:00 am	Worship
		12:30 pm	LYF Jr
		5:00 pm	LYF Meeting
		7:00 pm	AA