

# St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

4200 Londonderry Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 652-6700

Web page: [www.stmarksharrisburg.org](http://www.stmarksharrisburg.org)

E-mail: [stmarksharrisburg@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksharrisburg@gmail.com)

MINISTERS: Every Member

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



Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 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 psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!*

## **GATHERING**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**—*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* ~M. L. Thompson  
*Played by Mission Bells*

Stand **Hymn #733** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  
*Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!*

**C Vs 1** Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

### **Refrain**

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

**Vs 2    Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
          thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
          strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
          blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Refrain**

## **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.**

Stand **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 God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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 Lesson: Joshua 5:9-12**

*By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.*

<sup>9</sup>The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened

cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks Be to God

**Psalm: Psalm 32**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY WHOLE VERSE**

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in  
time of trouble;**

**when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach  
them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you  
should go;**

**I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have  
no understanding;

who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they  
will not stay near you."

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

## **Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

*One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.*

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

A The Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

Stand **I will arise and go to my father and say, I have sinned against heaven and before you.**

## The Holy Gospel according to St Luke the 15th Chapter C Glory to you O Lord

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

*Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.*

<sup>1</sup>Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ' <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said



to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

P The Gospel of the Lord

**C Praise to you O Christ**

Sit **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

Stand **Hymn #759 My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!

**C Vs 1** My faith looks up to thee,  
thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine!  
Now hear me while I pray,  
take all my guilt away,  
oh, let me from this day  
be wholly thine!

**Vs 2** May thy rich grace impart  
strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire;  
as thou hast died for me,  
oh, may my love to thee  
pure, warm, and changeless be,  
a living fire!

**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 **Hymn#186**—*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

*Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit**

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**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

*Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!*

**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 #551** *The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve*  
*Sung by Congregation with Mask Optional!*

**Vs 1**      **The Spirit sends us forth to serve;  
we go in Jesus' name  
to bring glad tidings to the poor,  
God's favor to proclaim.**

**Vs 2**      **We go to be the hands of Christ,  
to scatter joy like seed  
and, all our days, to cherish life,  
to do the loving deed.**

### **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**    *On What Has Now Been Sown*                      ~ J. Darwall

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## **READING LESSONS for April 3, 2022:**

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm: Psalm 126

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: John 12:1-8

**Altar Flowers** are in given memory of my sister, Irene Wagner. Given by Shirley Johns.

## **Stewardship Snippet**

**March 27, 2022 (4th Sunday in Lent, Year C)**

**2 Corinthians 5:17** –So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The way a bubbling spring renews and refreshes a streambed, so the Holy Spirit continually renews our souls. Relax and be continually renewed in Christ.

Operating Receipts thru February 28: \$39,713

Expenditures thru February 28: \$46,066

Attendance: 03/16/2022 29 Lenten Services  
03/20/2022 75

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**

**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.

**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** - Laurie Womer; Barb Dudek

**USHERS** - Don Young, Doug Womer, Ed Shadle,  
Chris Bair, Dennis Dinger, Dave Featherman

**GREETERS** -

**COMMUNION ASST** -

**WORSHIP ASST** -

**LECTOR** - Laurie Womer; Linda Walker

**FLOWER DELIVERY** - Marian Person

**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!

## OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. MARK'S THIS WEEK

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
MONDAY	03/28	6:30 pm	Altar Guild
TUESDAY	03/29		
WEDNESDAY	03/30	10:30 am	Bible Study
		12:00 pm	Lenten Service
		6:30 pm	Lenten Service
THURSDAY	03/31	1:00 pm	Craft Artisans
FRIDAY	04/01		
SATURDAY	04/02	8:00 am	Cleaning Church
SUNDAY	04/03	8:15 am	Worship
		9:45 am	Sunday Church School
		11:00 am	Worship
		7:00 pm	AA

## **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.

## **Birthdays beginning of April**

04/01 – Stella Baker
04/02 – Fred Shultz
Owen Smith
Madeline Varga
04/03 Jane Shetrone
Charles Walak
04/04 – Caden Bryan
Casianne Frey
Valerie Martellaro
04/05 - Michelle Haynos
04/06 – Dave Ringley

**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](mailto: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**

**LAST DAY TO ORDER!!**