

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

4200 Londonderry Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 652-6700

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E-mail: stmarksharrisburg@gmail.com

MINISTERS: Every Member

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



Third Sunday in Lent

March 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

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *As the Deer Panteth for the Water*

~~Nystrom/Hayes

Stand **HYMN #660** *Lift High the Cross*

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.

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** -

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy**

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY—Let us pray. . .

A Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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 READING— Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

God spoke all these words:

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

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 wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

PSALM: Psalm 19

READ IN UNISON

**The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.**

**One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

**Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,**

**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message
to the ends of the world,**

where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

**It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.**

**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and
runs about to the end of it again;**

nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

**The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the
simple.**

**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to
the eyes.**

**The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and
righteous altogether.**

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,

sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

**By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is great reward.**

Who can detect one's own offenses?

Cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

SECOND READING— 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block

to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Stand We proclaim Christ crucified, the power of God and the wisdom of God

The Holy Gospel according to St John the 2nd Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: John 2:13-22

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This

temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Stand **HYMN #801** *Change My Heart*

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 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-contact” sharing of the Peace till 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 Faithful God,

**C you walk beside us in desert places,
and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven.**

**Accompany us in this meal,
that we may pass over from death to life
with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

Stand 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

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,
but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets
to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry;
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant
to preach good news to the afflicted,
to break bread with the outcast and despised,
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.
Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

P Jesus draws the whole world to himself.
Come to this meal and be fed.

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**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER—LET us pray.

A God of steadfast love,
at this table you gather your people
into one body for the sake of the world.
Send us in the power of your Spirit,
that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

Stand **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.

Stand **HYMN #793** *Be Thou My Vision*

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 *Go, my children with my Blessing*

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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 March 14, 2021:

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

Gospel: John 3:14-21

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.

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.

Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary.

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.

THE 2021 ENVELOPES WERE DELIVERED TO YOUR HOUSE, IF YOU HAVEN'T RECEIVE YOURS, PLEASE CONTACT CHURCH OFFICE – (717)652-6700

THANK YOU, TO CHRIS BAIR & FRED HOOVER FOR TAKING THEIR TIME TO DELIVER THEM.

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 | 03/23 – Randy Whitaker |
| Luther Lengel | Bonnie Morris |
| Arlo Powell | 03/25 - Pamela Baranowski |
| 03/04 - Heather Lee | 03/27 – Lore-Lee Walak |
| 03/05 – Renee Carpenter | Aaron Lichtenwalner |
| 03/07 – Lorie Cleaver | 03/30 – James Dullen |
| Resta Deppen | 03/30 – Robert Gill |
| Doug Womer | 03/31 –Tania Brown |
| James Walak | Carrie Appleby |
| Colin Smith | Deborah Lee |
| 03/08 – Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk | |
| 03/10 – Hailey Himelright | |

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 - Kevin Spencer; Dave Featherman

FLOWER DELIVERY - Sue Smithers

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIR. - Pam Baranowski

717-652-6700 ext 3

SEXTON - Don Young

Altar Flowers in loving memory of Sandy Sherwood's
parents.

Upcoming Events



[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 register.

[Summer Camp Open House](#) at Nawakwa - 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 register.

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.



Apply ONLINE AT
LutheranCamping.org/employment

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The Lutheran Camping Corporation
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