

# 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



13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 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 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 today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.*

## **GATHERING**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**—*Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* ~ D. Busarow

**Hymn #414** *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name*  
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.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**C Amen**

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God, our provider, help us.

**C It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways of  
the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in  
you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of  
eternal life and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

P Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, + the bread of life,  
you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

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** -

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, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## WORD

*Sit* **First Lesson: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18**

*In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.*

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2a</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>“Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River

and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

A The Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

**Psalm: Psalm 34:15-22**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY WHOLE VERSE**

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous,  
and God’s ears are open to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,  
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The Lord is near to the brokenhearted  
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the troubles of the righteous,  
but the Lord delivers them from every one.

<sup>20</sup>**God will keep safe all their bones;  
not one of them shall be broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Evil will bring death to the wicked

and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**<sup>22</sup>O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants,  
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

## **Second Lesson: Ephesians 6:10-20**

*Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.*

<sup>10</sup>Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an

ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

A The Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

Stand/Spoken **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to St John the 6th Chapter

**Gospel: John 6:56-69**

*The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”*

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the

one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

Stand **Hymn #638** *Blessed Assurance*

C **Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!**  
**Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!**  
**Heir of salvation, purchase of God,**  
**born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

**This is my story, this is my song,**  
**praising my Savior, all the day long:**

**Perfect submission, all is at rest;**  
**I in my Savior am happy and blest,**  
**watching and waiting, looking above,**  
**filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**



## 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

A Lord in your mercy.

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts  
known only to you; 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 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:4-7)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

## MEAL

Stand **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A Jesus, Bread of life,

**C you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.**

**Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal.**

**Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.**

**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**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things  
for our salvation.

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

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,

his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection

and ascension, and the promise of his coming again,

we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,

not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving

and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless

us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and

wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of

Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and,

receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as

your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your

saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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 Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

Come!

## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

## **COMMUNION BLESSIN**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER—Let us pray.**

A Jesus, Bread of life,  
we have received from your table  
more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal,  
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In  
your name we pray.

**C Amen.**

**SENDING**

Stand **BLESSING**

P The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be  
upon you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**Hymn #620** *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*

**C How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
in a believer's ear!  
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,  
and drives away all fear.**

**How weak the effort of my heart,  
how cold my warmest thought;  
but when I see thee as thou art,  
I'll praise thee as I ought.**

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**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** *Day is Done*

*~ Barry Bobb*

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### **READINGS for August 29, 2021:**

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalm: Psalm 15

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Operating Receipts thru July 31: \$149,983

Expenditures thru July 31: \$167,248

Attendance: 08/15/2021 63

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

**Altar Flowers** are in Memory of my dear husband, Bill.

Given by Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk

**Please I'm looking for Lectors to read lessons for both Early and Late Services once a month. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED! If you're interested, would you contact me at zara1950@gmail.com or call 732-5005....THANK YOU!**

**THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY**

**MINISTER OF MUSIC - Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk**

**MINISTER OF CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

- Bennett Williams

**YOUTH/FAMILY MINISTER - Kellen Michalowski**

**ALTAR CARE - Laurie Womer; Sandy Dinger**

**USHERS - Don Young, Doug Womer, Ed Shadle,**

**Chris Bair, Dennis Dinger, Dave Featherman**

**GREETERS -**

**COMMUNION ASST -**

**WORSHIP ASST -**

**LECTOR - Randy Whitaker; Emmor Boslet**

**FLOWER DELIVERY - Peggy Davis**

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl**

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

**SEXTON - Don Young**

**Bible Study will be starting up in person in WELCA Room on September 15, 2021, 10:00 am, we will also continue recording on Zoom for those of you that can't join us at church.**

**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.**



call: 717-652-6700 ext. 3  
email: [stmarknurseryschool@gmail.com](mailto:stmarknurseryschool@gmail.com)

**From the Fellowship Committee:**

**As things are opening up inquires have been made to us about doing another bus trip.**

**We would love to help sponsor another bus for the Seniors and friends.**

**We are considering a trip to Sight and Sound to see Queen Esther.**

**We want to make sure we can fill a bus as much as possible to reduce the cost for everyone.**

**If are you interested in going to Sight and Sound please let me, Mary or Loraine know so we can keep a count.**

**Thanks  
Deb Banks**





Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania

## REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP!

It might just be the best week you've ever had! Don't wait, sign up today for a summer camp program at Kirchenwald or Nawakwa.

You can find additional forms with your confirmation packet or online

at <https://www.lutherancamping.org/downloadable-forms/>

→ [More Information -](#)

<https://www.lutherancamping.org/summer-camp/>

**For 2021, registration will close two weeks before the program starts.**

Don't wait until it's too late! Register today!!

Find information about [COVID-19 precautions](#) we are taking this summer.

### **For those already registered:**

As of our last [COVID-19 update](#) (May 7), some forms did change. You can always find the latest forms on our [website](#), and we have provided the latest links below. If you are unable to print these forms, please contact the [Camping Office](#)

*Reminder: All pre-camp health screening paperwork must be completed & come with the camper at registration in order to be admitted into camp.*

### **Additional COVID-19 Related Forms (2021)**

[Summer Camp COVID FAQ](#) (Updated May 5)

Summer Camp Pre Camp Health Screening Form (Updated May 5)

Now includes a 14 day temperature check

COVID-19 LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY  
AGREEMENT (*Updated March 3*)

Birthdays for August

08/01 – Dale Smeck	08/18 – Donald Young
08/02 - Landen Heim	John Howell
Andrew Mitchell	08/20 - Kendall Brown
08/03 - Emily Walak	Terry Woodrow
Sandy Sherwood	Joshua Varga
08/05 - Nicolas Sultzaberger	08/21 – Roy Leister
08/06 – Holly Geizzi	Stacy Morris
08/07 – Kimberly Stanton	08/22 – Margaret Herigan
08/08 - Eugene Nicodemus	Fred Mast
08/09 - Hunter Banks	Delany McLaughlin
08/10 - Christopher Sultzaberger	Jennifer Bargmann
08/12 – Ethel Oswald	08/23 - Lisa Evans
08/13 – Dorothy Webber	Charlotte Flook
08/14 – Donald Flickinger	Ruth Herbster
Anita Featherman	08/27 - William Woodworth
08/15 – Jennifer Phelan	08/28 - Barbara Mosel
Faith Smeck	Gavin Bryan
David Stanton	08/29 – Joanna Banic
Marianne Shuey	08/30 – Henry Lahr
Sandy Sheaffer	Jerry Lang
08/16 - Barb Dudek	

**Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary**

**Don Young's son, Doug is collecting closed egg cartons, you can drop them off at the church office.**

# **Outdoor Worship & Picnic**

**Sunday, September 12, 2021**

**Service at 10:30 a.m.**

Fellowship Committee will provide meat & drinks

Bring a covered dish to share

Bringing the whole congregation together for  
Worship, Fellowship & Good Food

## **Rally Day**

**Sunday, September 19, 2021**

**Help Us Kick Off A New  
Sunday School Year!!!**

The **Eve Circle** will resume their studies of the Bible on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 beginning at 6:30 pm in person in the church.

We will begin studying I John again verse by verse continuing through II and III John. Bring your Bible, notebook and pen.

We will continue to meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, September through May.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!**

If you have any questions, please call Jeanne Flickinger at (717)545-6161

The Seekers Adult Sunday School Class will begin meeting on September 19 at 9:45 in the parlor. We will be using a study on Martin Luther called "Luther: Gospel, Law, and Reformation" by Professor Phillip Cary

He was only one man—a humble monk and Bible professor—yet he sparked a religious rebellion that changed the course of history. Who was Martin Luther? What made his theology so explosive in 16th-century Europe? Was it really his intention to start Protestantism, and with it a new church?

Luther: Gospel, Law, and Reformation will help you reach your own conclusions. This course explores Luther's theology, the circumstances surrounding his conclusion that the papacy was "antichrist," and major issues and events in the Reformation as it unfolded in Luther's life after he posted his famous 95 Theses on the door of the church of Wittenberg, Germany, in 1517.

Professor Cary presents Luther as a multifaceted human being, a man with extraordinary virtues and profound flaws. You will meet an inspiring religious thinker who presented the Christian Gospel as a message of comfort, joy, and freedom; as great good news for sinners and God's loving promise of salvation. And you will encounter a leader whose unswerving certainty about his doctrines led him to launch vicious attacks against those with whom he disagreed most infamously and malevolently—the Jews.

# **it's BBQ Time!**



**Saturday, September 25, 2021 10:30 am  
- until SOLD OUT**

**St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran  
Church 4200 Londonderry Road,  
Harrisburg**

**\$10.00 per Chicken Dinner**

**\$14.00 per Ribs Dinner All dinners  
include:**

**Baked potato, Apple sauce, Roll &  
Water. You can order in advance by  
calling the church office (717) 652-6700**

Ethel Oswald would like to thank everyone for their cards and phone calls for her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday, also thank you to, Pastor Jim for his phone call.