

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

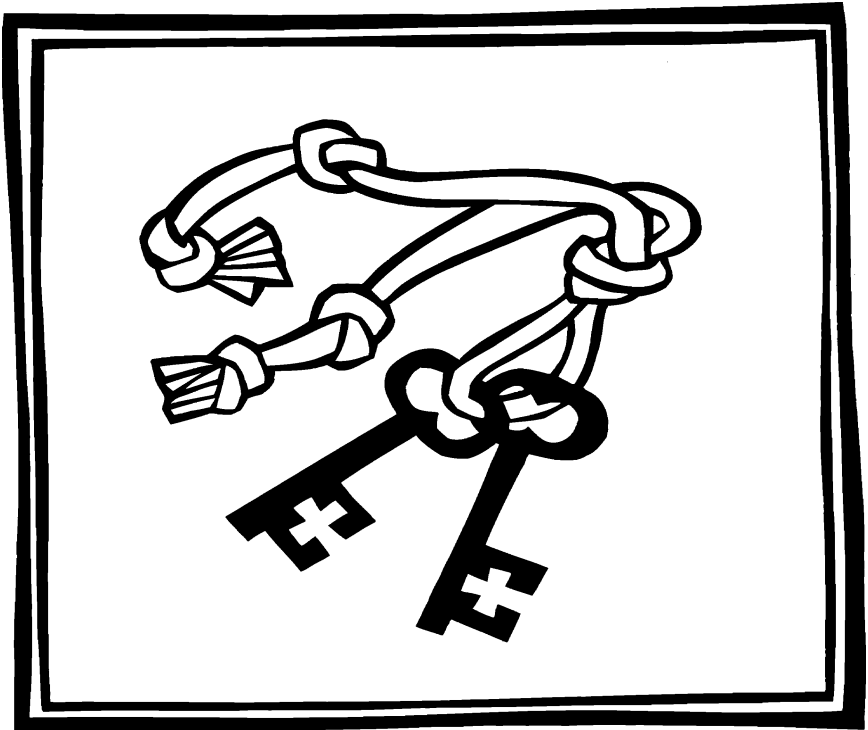
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MINISTERS: Every Member

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



12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2020

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 people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Foundation*

~Bonnie Barrett

HYMN #576 *We All Are One in Mission*
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 steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.
C Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Reconciling God,
**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.
We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.
We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.
We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.
We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.
We sin in thought, word, and deed.
By your grace, forgive us;
through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.
C Amen.**

P Beloved of God,
by the radical abundance of divine mercy
we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus,
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.
Our sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope.
For hope does not disappoint,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit.
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 O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Sit **First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6**

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

For the Lord will comfort Zion;

he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 138

READ IN UNISON

**I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.**

**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your
name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all
things.**

**When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.
All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.
The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.
Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my
enemies; your right hand shall save me.
You will make good your purpose for me;
O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not
abandon the works of your hands.**

SECOND READING — Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the

same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Stand Spoken

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.**

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The Holy Gospel according to St Matthew the 16th Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this

to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Sit **HYMN #652** *Built on a Rock*
Organ Only

Stand **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 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 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 God of goodness and growth,

C all creation is yours,

and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Water and word, wine and bread:

these are signs of your abundant grace.

**Nourish us through these gifts,
that we might proclaim your steadfast love
in our communities and in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.
C Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P The Lord be with you,
And also with you
Lift up your hearts**

**We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord
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

**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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Invitation to Communion

P Friends of Jesus.

Receive nourishment for your journey

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

Stand COMMUNION BLESSING

POST COMMUNION PRAYER—Let us pray.

A God of the welcome table,
in this meal we have feasted on your goodness
and have been united by your presence among us.
Empower us to go forth sustained by these gift so that we
may share your neighborly love

with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C Amen

Sit **HYMN #596** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*
Organ Only

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C We will. Thanks be to God.

Please Remain Seated Till Dismissed

POSTLUDE *Build Us Up, Lord* ~M. Glaeser

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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

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 - Laurie Womer; Emmor Boslet

FLOWER DELIVERY - Zara Bennett

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIRECTOR - Pam Baranowski 671-4855

SEXTON - Don Young

READINGS for August 30, 2020:

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalm: Psalm 26:1-8

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

Brock Hillside Chapel to Recognize Marianne Brock's Ministry at Nawakwa / LCC



This past April, Marianne Brock, Nawakwa's long time and beloved Camp Director/LCC Associate Executive Director, left the LCC Outdoor Ministry staff after 25 years of devoted service, for a ministry position as the Regional Gift Planner for the ELCA Foundation.

Nawakwa has a long history of honoring those whose ministry legacies have been significant to the camp - Fischer Chapel, Grove Lodge, Bishop Chapel – are examples. To honor Marianne's ministry legacy, a Hillside Chapel will be developed beyond Brenneman Lodge and named in her honor. The chapel will feature a stone fire pit and three terraced seating areas with walls made from stone harvested around the camp, set scenically among shade trees.

The chapel is being funded by donations of those who wish to honor Marianne's ministry and by a distribution from the LCC General Endowment Fund. Contributions may be made online at <https://www.lutherancamping.org/give/>

Any funds in excess of the project cost will be directed to the Campership Fund.

Altar Flowers are in Loving Memory of Joe's Heavenly Birthday on August 28th and my parents Dot & Ray Kitzmiller, my mother-in-law Clissia Mariner, and all my loved ones in heaven. The bulletins are in Loving Memory of Joe's Birthday, given by Loraine Mariner.

Operating Receipts thru May: \$118,014

Payments made thru May: \$114,336

Attendance: 08/16/2020 50

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

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.

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.

FOR VISITORS AND OTHERS not on our mailing list:

There are copies of St. Mark's Newsletter "The Parish Post" available in the narthex along with other information in the literature racks.