

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



14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 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

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE—*Come Thou Almighty King ~ set. Paul Taylor*

Hymn #408 *Come Thou Almighty King*
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 O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WORD

Sit **First Lesson: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your

ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 15

READ RESPONSIVELY BY WHOLE VERSE

¹Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;

they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord.**

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they

take bribes against the
innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown

Second Lesson: James 1:17-27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their

distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Stand/Spoken **Alleluia. God gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would become a kind of first fruits of creation. Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark the 7th Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

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

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,

teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you O Christ

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Stand **Hymn #512** *Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil*

C Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

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 BLESSING

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 #824 *This is My Father's World*

**C This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.**

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 *On our Way Rejoicing* ~ F. Havergal

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READINGS for September 5, 2021:

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalms: Psalm 146

Second Lesson: James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

Operating Receipts thru July 31: \$149,983

Expenditures thru July 31: \$167,248

Attendance: 08/22/2021 57

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 our grandmother. Given by Luann, Matthew and Shelley Johns.

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 - Barb Heym; Sandy Dinger

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

GREETERS -

COMMUNION ASST -

WORSHIP ASST -

LECTOR - Jay Snyder; Sandy Sherwood

FLOWER DELIVERY - Donna Lee

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

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 Lorraine 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 car-
tons, you can drop them off at the church office.**

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**

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 4th Tuesday of every month, September through May.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!

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

Address Correction:

Donna Gutshall

Bethany Village

5225 Wilson Lane

Maplewood 313

Mechanicsburg, PA 17055