

# St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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MINISTERS: Every Member

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



18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 26, 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**

*Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.*

## **GATHERING**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**—*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* ~Sung by St. Olaf  
Choir of MN.

### **11:00 SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

Natalie Ann Lang  
Born: May 15, 2021

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,  
whose teaching is life,  
whose presence is sure,

and whose love is endless.

**C Amen**

P Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God our comforter:

**C like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

**We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.**

**We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.**

**We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.**

**Free us from our sin, gracious God.**

**Listen when we call out to you for help.**

**Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.**

**Amen.**

P All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

**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 Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

## WORD

*Sit* **First Lesson: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29**

*What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?*

<sup>4</sup>The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; <sup>6</sup>but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

<sup>10</sup>Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup>So

Moses said to the Lord, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? <sup>12</sup>Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors’? <sup>13</sup>Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ <sup>14</sup>I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

<sup>16</sup>So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

<sup>24</sup>So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. <sup>25</sup>Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

<sup>26</sup>Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” <sup>28</sup>And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” <sup>29</sup>But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 19:7-14

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY WHOLE VERSE**

<sup>7</sup>The teaching of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

<sup>8</sup>**The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

<sup>9</sup>The fear of the Lord is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup>**More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.**

<sup>11</sup>By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup>**Who can detect one's own offenses?  
Cleanse me from my secret faults.**

<sup>13</sup>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.

<sup>14</sup>**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 Lesson: James 5:13-20**

*Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.*

<sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup>you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

A The Word of the Lord  
C **Thanks be to God**

Stand/Spoken **Alleluia. Your word, O Lord, is truth; sanctify us in the truth. Alleluia**

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark the 9th Chapter  
C **Glory to you O Lord**

**Gospel: Mark 9:38-50**

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.*

<sup>38</sup>John said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for

no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup>“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>“For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

P The Gospel of the Lord

**C Praise to you O Christ**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

**Hymn #800** *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

**C Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;  
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;  
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,  
and make me love you as I ought to love.**



Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and  
mind?

I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!

8:15 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** 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 God of abundance,

**C you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.**

**Accept the gifts you have first given us.**

**Unite them with the offering of our lives**

**to nourish the world you love so dearly;**

**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**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 All who hunger and thirst, come.  
The table is ready.

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

A Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

**SENDING**

Stand **BLESSING**

P People of God,  
you are Christ's body,  
bringing new life to a suffering world.  
The holy Trinity, + one God,  
bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**Hymn #675** *O Christ, Our Light, O Radiance True*

**C O Christ, our light, O Radiance true,  
shine forth on those estranged from you,  
and bring them to your home again,  
where their delight shall never end.**

**Make theirs with ours a single voice  
uplifted, ever to rejoice  
with wond'ring gratitude and praise  
to you, O Lord, for boundless grace.**

### **DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**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** *CD Music — Chris*

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**READINGS for October 3, 2021:**

**First Lesson:** Genesis 2:18-24

**Psalm:** Psalm 8

**Second Lesson:** Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

**Gospel:** Mark 10:2-16

**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.**

**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**

Operating Receipts thru August 31: \$170,080

Expenditures thru August 31: \$188,973

Attendance: 09/19/2021 74

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

**Altar Flowers** for September 12, 2021 are with Thanksgiving for Our Church Family given by Randy & Carla Whitaker

**Altar Flowers** for September 19, 2021 are with Thanksgiving to the Glory of God given by Emmor & Joe Bosler

**Altar Flowers** for September 26, 2021 are with Thanksgiving to the Glory of God

**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 don't show up on the list, you can call or send your updated information to church office.

**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; Barb Dudek

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

**GREETERS** -

**COMMUNION ASST** -

**WORSHIP ASST** -

**LECTOR** - Bruce Senft; Susan Shultz

**FLOWER DELIVERY** - Laurie Womer

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT** - Stephanie Carl

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

**SEXTON** - Don Young

**St. Mark's Nursery School has raffle prizes remaining from the 2020 Bunny Breakfast that was cancelled due to Covid 19. They have no expiration date except for the Cabot Cheese package which expires 12/31/21. If you would like to bid on any of these items place your best bid on the form above and return it to the church office. Be sure to include your name, address, and phone number. The deadline to return your bids is October 31, 2021. There is no limit to the number of items that you can bid on and you can list all your bids on one sheet. The deadline of 10/31/21 is firm and no bids will be accepted after that date. In the event that there are multiple people with the same highest bid, the names will be entered into a drawing for the winner. Forms are available in the Narthex.**





Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania

ALiVE at Nawakwa - September 24 - 26, 2021

ALiVE is our annual synod middle-school retreat, scheduled for September 24-26, 2021, at Camp Nawakwa. Congregations from across our synod gather with their adult advisors and youth for an early fall weekend that includes large group gatherings with singing led by our ALiVE Alumni Band, theme-centered videos and stories, and games, interspersed with small group gatherings, where youth gather with peers and a small group leader, to converse about the theme and it's impact in their lives of faith. It's a great event for your Confirmation students and classes.

The weekend also includes crafts, games, campfires, free-time, and community-building that allows youth and their adult counterparts time to deepen existing friendships, and create new ones. Congregational advisors can also count on the option of receiving some intentional continuing education. Plus, inspiring outdoor worship often highlights our last morning together at Nawakwa's famous Upper Temple!

Capture the Flag Spectacular at Kirchenwald - October 3, 2021  
Review your camp map, paint your face, and practice your cone zone celebration dance. Invite your friends and family (parents, too) to join you in this CTF summer reunion event. Play alongside familiar faces from your week at camp, plus campers from every other week of the summer. Campfire worship to follow.

Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa - October 5 - 7, 2021 \$150

All meals (7) are included in the price and served at the Dining Hall. This mid-week retreat begins Tuesday morning and ends with lunch on Thursday. Lodging in Zinn-Tozer Lodge.

Books for 2021:

- *Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis* – J. D. Vance
- *Appalachian Reckoning: A Region Responds to Hillbilly Elegy* – Anthony Harkins
- *At Home in the Heart of Appalachia* – John O'Brien
- What You Are Getting Wrong about Appalachia* – Elizabeth Catte

Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald at Kirchenwald - October 24, 2021

• Return to camp for the afternoon to enjoy fall activities, worship, and a picnic supper. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet up with old friends or introduce new folks to camp. An evening meal is included. Event runs from 1-6pm. At Kirchenwald, enjoy Pumpkin Painting, Canoeing / Kayaking, Mountain Biking, Hayrides, Hiking, and More! Registration Fee: \$10 per person covers activities and an evening meal.

-  
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Annual Quilt Auction at Nawakwa - November 7, 2021  
Join us for this year's Quilt Auction, November 7, at Nawakwa. This fun-filled day of bidding raises money for the LCC Endowment Fund, which helps to financially sustain our fine ministry activities

Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa - November 12 - 14, 2021 \$155

Try new techniques, share your latest creations, work on UFO's, and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of camp in the fall. Worship led by Rev. Cindy Brommer. All meals provided. Please register by November 1.

Stay over an additional night (Thursday): \$30 no food included

Advent Day Apart at The Wittel Farm - December 4, 2021

- Join us as we guide you in contemplative, hope-filled watching and waiting for the birth of the Christ child. \$15.00 per person includes lunch.

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Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald - January 7 - 9, 2022

- Enjoy Kirchenwald in the Winter! Play broom hockey and other games on the frozen pond. Have fun sledding, playing snow soccer and other winter games. Creative Bible studies and worship experiences led by our summer camp counselors are an important part of this retreat. Meet new friends and catch up with your summer camp friends. Other indoor and outdoor activities may be included, as the weather dictates.

## **Upcoming Events List**

ALiVE at Nawakwa - September 24 - 26, 2021

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.

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

Don Young's son, Doug thanked everyone for egg cartons. He don't need anymore until further notice.

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.

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 Monday, September 27th and delivery will be Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.