

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



18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 4, 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 today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Medley of Hymns for Reflection*

HYMN #654 *The Church Is One Foundation*
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,

who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.
C Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful God, have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

C Amen.

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

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 Beloved God, from you come all things that are good.

Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those

things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us

to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

WORD

Sit **First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7**

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

Let me sing for my beloved

my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard

on a very fertile hill.

He dug it and cleared it of stones,

and planted it with choice vines;

he built a watchtower in the midst of it,

and hewed out a wine vat in it;

he expected it to yield grapes,

but it yielded wild grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

I will make it a waste;

it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;

I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,

and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;

he expected justice,

but saw bloodshed; righteousness,
but heard a cry!

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 80:7-15

READ IN UNISON

Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

**You have brought a vine out of Egypt;
you cast out the nations and planted it.
You cleared the ground for it;
it took root and filled the land.
The mountains were covered by its shadow
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
You stretched out its tendrils to the sea
and its branches to the river.
Why have you broken down its wall,
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
Turn now, O God of hosts,
look down from heaven;
behold and tend this vine;
preserve what your right hand has planted.**

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything

as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 21st Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said to the people:] “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you O Christ**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

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

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 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 Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

C You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.

Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,

nourish us with this rich food and drink,

and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you,

C And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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 Come to the banquet table

where Christ gives himself as food and drink

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 We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.

Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who
hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus
Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P Mothering God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C Amen.

Sit **HYMN #835** *All Creatures Worship God Most High*
Organ Only

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

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 *We are Marching in the Light* ~African

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Operating Receipts thru August 31: \$184,840

Payments made thru August 31: \$176,983

Attendance: 09/27/2020 60

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

READINGS for October 11, 2020:

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm: Psalm 23

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

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.

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 - Bruce Senft; Dave Featherman

FLOWER DELIVERY - Zara Bennett

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIRECTOR - Pam Baranowski 671-4855

SEXTON - Don Young

Altar Flowers are in Celebration for Margie Stouffer's "85th" Birthday, given by Loraine Mariner & St Mark's Church family

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.

Birthdays for October

10/03 – Terry Fleegal	10/16 – Nathan Cleaver
10/03 – Margie Stouffer	10/16 – Bennett Fleegal
10/04 – Hannah Leigh DeFrank	10/17 – Amelia Heym
10/04 - Melissa Dinger	10/17 – Brooke DiSerio
10/04 – Holly Evans	10/21 – Richard Deppen
10/04 – Leo Brown	10/21 – Wayne Smithers
10/05 – Emma Mink	10/21 – David Kolter
10/06 – Dorothy Sutch	10/22 – Lennox Powell
10/07 – Marsha Nicodemus	10/24 – Kristian Beverly
10/08 – Jackson Klick	10/24 – Alexis Neidig
10/08 – Kathryn McClain	10/26 – Jared Fleegal
10/09 – Dameion Frey	10/28 – Laura Young
10/10 – Kendall Beverly	10/28 - John Herigan, Jr
10/10 – Wayne Metz	10/29 – Larry Watkins
10/11 – Zara Bennett	10/30 – Thomas Tommy
10/11 – Reuel Deppen	10/30 – Brian Dinger
10/11 - Sara Lawrence	10/30 - Nolan Dulovich
10/13 – Mason Brown	10/30 – Paul Whipple
10/14 – Susan Bennick	10/31 – David Featherman
10/15 – Tina Smith	

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS



2020 Adult Study Retreat at Nawakwa - **Cancelled**

Capture the Flag Spectacular at Kirchenwald

October 4 3-5:30pm | Free

*** Masks and social distancing required at all LCC events ***

[Register Now!](#)

Fall Foliage Day at Kirchenwald - [Register Now!](#)

Fall Foliage Day at Nawakwa - [Register Now!](#)

*** Masks and social distancing required at all LCC events ***

October 18 1-6pm | \$10 per person (5 & up)

Annual Quilt Auction

Join us from November 1-8 **online** for this virtual event!

Follow along at the [Quilt Auction Website](#)

Women's Craft Retreat at Nawakwa

November 6-8 | \$155

*** Masks and social distancing required at all LCC events ***

Registration is limited to 20 participants - [Register Now!](#)

Wittel Farm Events

*** Masks and social distancing required at all LCC events ***

10/18/2020 - Dinner and Campfire Worship night. 6:00 to 8:30 pm.

11/8/2020 -Dinner and Campfire worship night. 6:00 to 8:30 pm

Here is the link to register for the dinners:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0949A9A72EA7FB6-dinner>

12/20/2020 - Advent/Christmas in the Barn. 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

SUPPORT THE CAMPS

Make a gift today to support the ministries of the Lutheran
Camping Corporation.

Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary

it's **BBQ** Time!



Saturday, October 24, 2020
10:30 am—until Sold Out

\$9.00 per Chicken Dinner

\$12.00 per Ribs Dinner

**All dinners include: Baked potato, Apple
sauce, Roll & Water**

Baked goods are gladly accepted.

DINNERS CAN BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE

**from any member of Fellowship Ministry or call
Church Office, 717-652-6700**

St. Mark's Nursery School – Fall Fundraiser

R&K Subs & Pretzel Sandwiches Sale

Start Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2020

End Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Pickup Date & Time: Wednesday, October 28, 2020, 4-6 PM

Someone will be selling them in the Narthex after services or you can call the church office (717)652-6700 to place your order.

*Checks should be made out to **St Mark's Nursery School***