

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 1, 2021

in the 168th Year of the Parish

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)

Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor

bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org



Welcome to Saint Mark's Lutheran Church!

Our Mission: *“To know Christ and to make Christ known.”*

An Order for Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m. (LBW setting two)

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

I Will Serve the Lord

Franklin Ritter

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The pastor leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father ✠, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our

sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

***HYMN**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

**Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.**

**From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.**

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.
Tune: DENNIS SM

***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.

***GLORY TO GOD**



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



B Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior

and Lord.

C Amen

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for daily manna. Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

2The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. 3The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

4Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

9Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" 10And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. 11The LORD spoke to Moses and said, 12"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" "

13In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. 14When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. 15When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM 78:23-29

23So God commanded the | clouds above

and opened the | doors of heaven,
**24raining down manna upon | them to eat
and giving them | grain from heaven.**
25So mortals ate the | bread of angels;
God provided for them | food enough.
**26The LORD caused the east wind to blow | in the heavens
and powerfully led out | the south wind,**
27raining down flesh upon | them like dust
and flying birds like the sand | of the seas,
**28letting them fall in the midst | of the camp
and round a- | bout the dwellings.**
29So the people ate and | were well filled,
for God gave them | what they craved.

THE SECOND LESSON.....Ephesians 4:1-16

1I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

7But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.”

9(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) 11The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to

maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. 14We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. 15But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
 You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....John 6:24-35**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

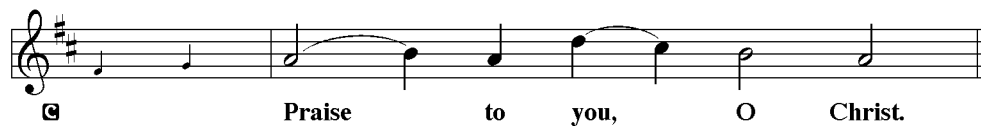
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

24When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

25When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” 26Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” 28Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” 29Jesus answered them,

“This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” 30So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” 32Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” 34They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

35Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”
The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, we affirm our faith:

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

After each petition, "Hear us, O God/Your mercy is great."

***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

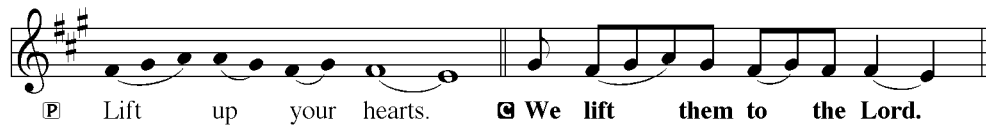
C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words, and/or gestures of peace, avoiding physical touch.

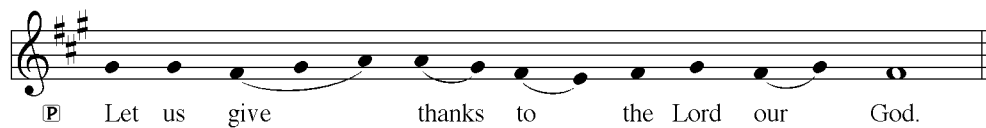
***THE
GREAT
THANK
SGIVIN
G**



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



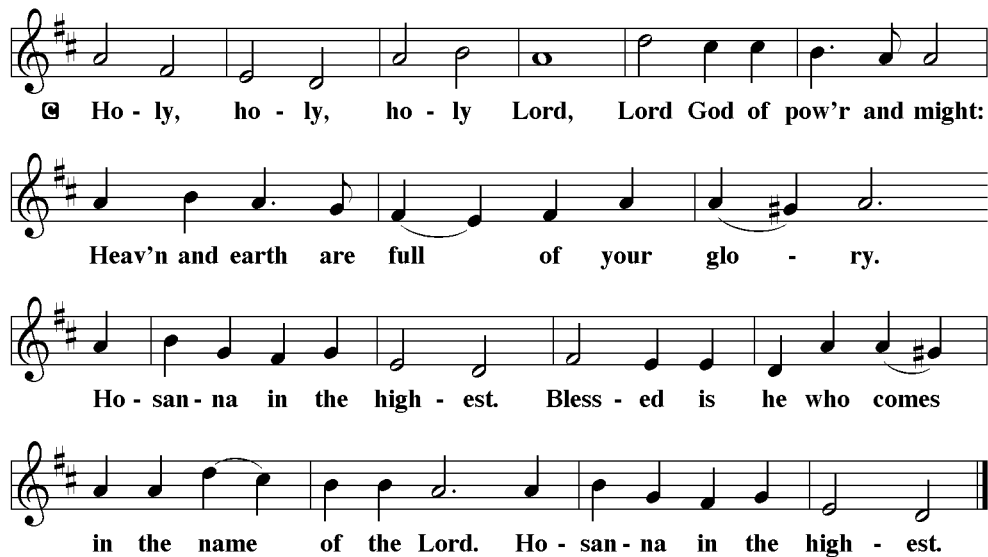
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our

Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and in heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P 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.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.
**Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Christ has set the table with more than enough for all! Come!
C Thanks be to God!

***LAMB OF GOD**



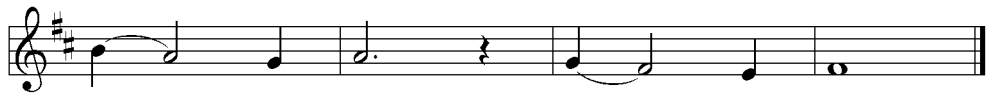
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION

Persons may come forward to the chancel to receive Holy Communion. This format will be more “continuous” noting the following procedure:

- *Communicants will come forward as directed by ushers by way of the center aisle and receive the bread from Pastor Vasey.*

- *Once receiving the bread, communicants will pick-up an empty cup and proceed to one of two stations (left or right) to receive wine from the pouring chalice.*
- *After receiving wine, communicants will place the empty cup in a tray and return to their pew by way of the side aisles.*

Please do not kneel at the rail. Kneeling at the rail will return at a time to be determined by pastor and Church Council.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THE BLESSING**

P The blessing of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever.

C Amen

***HYMN**

Son of God, Eternal Savior

**Son of God, eternal Savior,
source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us
hallows all our human race,
you our head, who, throned in glory,**

**for your own will ever plead:
fill us with your love and pity,
heal our wrong, and help our need.**

**Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
King of love and Prince of peace;
hush the storm of strife and passion,
bid its cruel discords cease.
By your patient years of toiling,
by your silent hours of pain,
quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
stem our selfish greed of gain.**

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932
Tune: IN BABILONE 87 87 D

***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ
C **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE** *Call of the Trumpets* Purcell, arr. Franklin Ritter

+++++

Portions of this service are reprinted with permission from...

Lutheran Book of Worship (copyright, 1978)

Augsburg-Fortress Publishers (#2562-L).

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (copyright 2006)

Augsburg-Fortress Publishers, under license #2562-L.

sundayandseasons.com (copyright 2019), Augsburg-Fortress. All rights reserved.

Augsburg-Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB144818.

“One License” A-738528.

+++++

Prayer List: Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Doris Brown, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Patricia Alexander, Joann Zeigler, Diana Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Ruth Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Bernadette Jones, Kay Poliska, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, Mel

Wentzel.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Lector Mel Wentzel

Cantor/Song-leader Deb Buckman

Communion Assistants Becky Pryor and Ralph Zeigler

Organist Sam Robinson

USHERS:

Carl Albright, Captain; ushers: Brenda, Owen, Levi Gair. Side door, Connie Shaible.

JOIN US ON SUNDAY AUGUST 15!

On Sunday, August 15 at our 9:30 am worship service St. Mark's Church Council will recognize and say “thank you” to Bernadette Haas Jones for her many years of service and employment in our congregation. A basket for cards is available in the narthex today, next Sunday (August 8) and August 15 for those who wish to participate in a “card shower” for Bernadette.

Please Note: The Center for Disease Control has provided new guidelines stating that some restrictions may now be lifted in areas where the infection rate is less severe. Following these guidelines Church Council suggests that if you are fully vaccinated, and feel comfortable in doing so, you may remove your mask. If you are not fully vaccinated, please continue to wear your mask.

COVID CONTACT: Please note that your attendance at worship will be recorded. This serves as a precaution in case contact-tracing due to the pandemic is warranted. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Faith and Fellowship has temporarily “moved some books” from our church library to the Front Lounge in order to make them more accessible. Stop by the Front Lounge and take a look!

**OUR STEWARDSHIP
(07/25/2021- 7/26/2021)**

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Regular Offering | \$3, 652.50 |
| Plate Offering | \$ 21.00 |
| Miscellaneous | \$ 30.00 |
| Operation Christmas Child | \$ 30.00 |
| Pastor's Discretionary Fund | \$ 125.00 |

Grand Total \$3,858.50

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:

+ In honor of our children by the Wentzels

+ In loving member of Ann Grueber Miller by Bob Miller

BULLETIN SPONSORS: Walt and Leah Hausmann. Thank you Walt and Leah.

COMEMMORATION

Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), died 1221

Sunday, August 8, 2021

Dominic was a pastor of Spanish descent who saw the wealth of the clergy as a stumbling block for the church, so he formed a movement, the Order of Preachers (commonly called Dominicans) devoted to itinerant preaching and living in poverty.