

The First Sunday in Lent
March 6, 2022
in the 169th 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



Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church!

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

This is Christ's Church. There is a place for you here.
We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Please note the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has provided revised guidelines with regard to mask wearing. Following these guidelines, and the specific recommendations of our bishop (Bishop Collins of the Upper Susquehanna Synod) Church Council strongly recommends that masks be worn, social distancing followed and to speak and sing in very low tones when worshipping at St. Mark's. Thank you!

A Guide to Hymnal Use:

LBW refers to our Green Hymnal

WOV refers to our Blue Hymnal

An Order for Holy Eucharist, Setting Ten, Evangelical Lutheran Worship
**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

Choral Dorian

Jehan Allain

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCING THE DAY

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

C Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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

Kneel as able. Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life †.

C Amen.

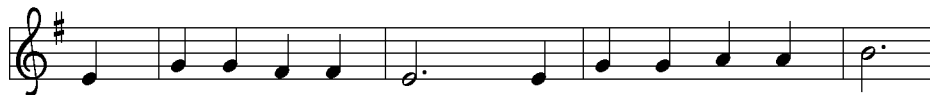
***HYMN The Glory of These Forty Days WOV, “Blue”, 657**

***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.

***KYRIE**



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS:

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Deuteronomy 26:1-11

1When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." 4When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, 5you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and

bow down before the LORD your God. 11Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 91

1You who dwell in the shelter of | the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of | the Almighty—

**2you will say to the LORD, “My refuge | and my stronghold,
my God in whom I | put my trust.”**

9Because you have made the | LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,

**10no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.**

11For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.

**12Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.**

13You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.

**14I will deliver those who | cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they | know my name.**

15They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.

**16With long life will I | satisfy them,
and show them | my salvation.**

THE SECOND LESSON.....Romans 10:8b-13

8b“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” 12For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

***THE GOSPEL.....Luke 4:1-13**

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P 1Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” 4Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

5Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” 8Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

9Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,
to protect you,’

11and

‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

12Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 13When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.
THE SERMON**

***HYMN A Mighty Fortress Is Our God LBW, "Green", 229**

***THE NICENE CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, let us affirm our faith.

**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**

After each petition: Merciful God/Receive our prayer.

***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, limiting physical touch and contact with one another.

ANTHEM (10:30 A.M.) *Come, Ye Sinners*

Joseph Hart

***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.**

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. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to children of God. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, 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 as our Savior Christ has taught 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.

***LAMB OF GOD**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

- *Communicants, masked and observing social distancing, are asked to come forward as directed by ushers by way of the center aisle, take a cup from the tray provided and receive the bread from Pastor Vasey.*
- *Once receiving the bread, communicants will 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 the designated 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.

P Here is food and drink for the journey. Come and be filled.

C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P The body and blood our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

P Let us pray. Blessed Jesus,
in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope
to a world in need.

C Amen.

***BLESSING**

P Almighty God, Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

***HYMN**

Bless Now, O God, the Journey

ELW 326

Bless Now, O God, the Journey



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ - ers and pil - grims who share this wind - ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus - tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and wĩnds the moun - tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait - ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
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***DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Olivet

Karl Osterland

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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, Diana Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Ruth Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Susan Kalabacas, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer, Mary Lou Doebler, Walt Haussmann, Lou DeSeau and Jeremy Splain,

WORSHIP LEADERS (3/06/2022)

Lector 8 a.m. Leah Haussmann

10:30 a.m. Dan Zeigler

Communion Assistants

8 a.m. Drew Haussmann

10:30 a.m. Ralph & Lou Ann Zeigler

Organist Sam Robinson

USHERS:

8 a.m. Dick Miller/Herb Poff

10:30 a.m. Tim Maggs, Captain. Carl Hieber and Charlie Fortin

DO YOU ENJOY QUILTING?

St. Mark's would like to "resurrect" our Quilting Ministry! If you like to sew or quilt or are just interested contact Kathy Dancho at 570-435-2716 or dancho2@verizon.net.

THE AED (Automated External Defibrillator) and first aid kit are located in the hallway outside of the chapel.

CONFIRMATION CLASS meets on Sunday, March 13, 9:15 a.m. in the Crossways Room.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY, 12:15 – 12:45 p.m., Wednesdays beginning March 9 through April 6 in Fellowship Hall. "Conversation and Catechism" will explore the scripture texts of Luther's Small Catechism. No meal will be served but feel free to bring a "bag lunch" if you so desire. Coffee, water and tea will be provided. All are welcome!

EASTER LILIES. White lily orders for Easter must be in to the church by March 13. Only white lilies are available at \$8.00 for a 6" bulb or \$16.00 for a 10" bulb. Asiatic lilies may be ordered for \$8.00 for a 6" bulb. They are colorful but no choice is given in a particular color. Hunger and dedication options may be made as well. Envelopes and order forms will be available – in the rear of the Narthex – through March 13. We will place the orders on that date. Thank you!

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!

FAMILY PROMISE. Family Promise is up and running again with families staying at the Center. St. Mark's is scheduled for March 27-April 2, July 10-16, Oct. 16-22 and Dec. 11-17. Our commitment at this point would be providing evening meals. I will be getting in touch with our "cooks" later this month. Thank You! Deb Buckman.

OUR STEWARDSHIP (2/27/2022)

Regular Offering	\$ 2,287.00
Lent	\$ 8.00
Initial Offering	\$ 5.00
Food Pantry	\$ 10.00
Sunday School Offering	\$ 14.00
Operation Christmas Child	\$ 40.00
Flower Memorials/ Tributes	\$ 30.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$ 65.00
Grand Total	\$ 2,459.00

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:

+ In loving memory of Dr. Ted Larson and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Shipman, by Jane Larson.

+ In loving memory of our parents, Dick and Marty Pryor and Shuman and Lori Miller, by Tom and Becky Miller Pryor.

COMMEMORATIONS

Perpetua and Felicity and companions, martyrs at Carthage, died 202

Monday, March 7, 2022

Vibia Perpetua, a noblewoman, and Felicity, an enslaved woman, were catechumens at Carthage, northern Africa. They, with four other catechumens, had defied the Roman emperor who had forbidden conversions to Christianity, and were put to death in the amphitheater.

Harriet Tubman, died 1913; Sojourner Truth, died 1883; renewers of society

Thursday, March 10, 2022

Harriet Tubman, born into slavery, helped about 300 others to escape slavery until the institution was abolished. Sojourner Truth, whose birth name was Isabella, was freed after slavery was abolished, and discerned a call to be a preacher. Taking the name Sojourner Truth, she set out on an evangelistic journey, where people found her testimony to be deeply moving.

Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, died 604

Saturday, March 12, 2022

Born into wealth and power, Gregory was for a time the chief administrator of the city of Rome. Giving this up for a life in the church, he was elected pope in 590. He influenced public worship through the establishment of a lectionary and prayers to correlate with the readings. Gregorian chant is named in his honor.