

The Seventh Sunday of Easter
The Sunday after the Ascension
May 29, 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. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Our COVID-19 Guidelines:

- **Hand sanitizer is available for your use.**
- **Face masks are optional.**
- **Offerings may be received by way of baskets as you enter or leave.**
- **Please continue to observe social distancing and our directives as to where to sit.**

A Guide to Hymnal Use:

LBW refers to our Green Hymnal

WOV refers to our Blue Hymnal

An Order for Holy Eucharist, Setting One, Lutheran Book of Worship

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE *In Green Pastures* Harold Darke

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCING THE DAY

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Water is poured into the font as the pastor continues.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:
through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;
You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.
Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.
You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.
Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.

Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.
To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***HYMN Crown Him with Many Crowns**

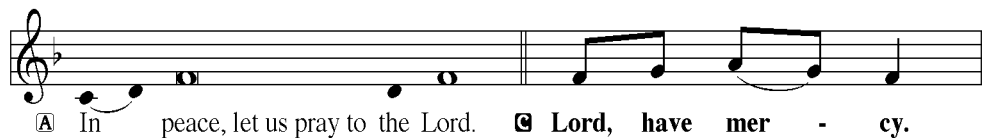
LBW, "Green", 170

*THE GREETING

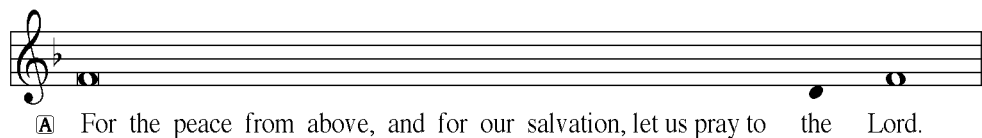
P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

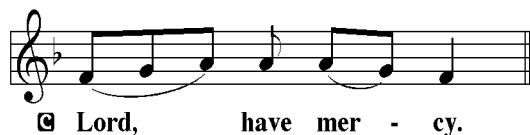
*KYRIE



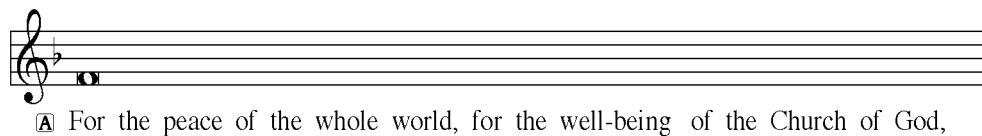
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



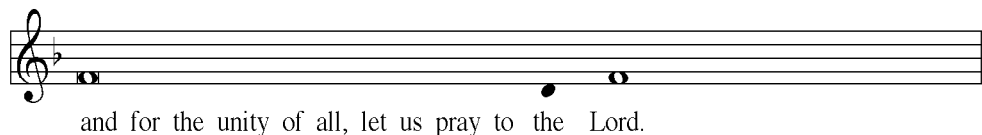
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



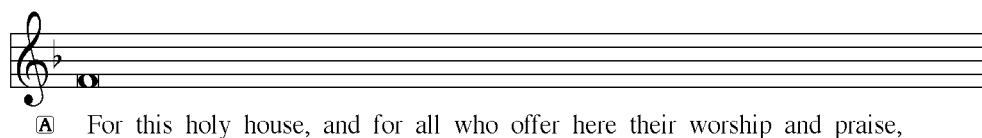
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



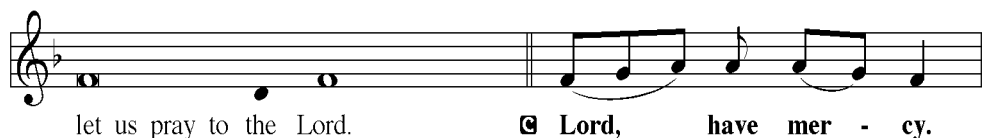
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

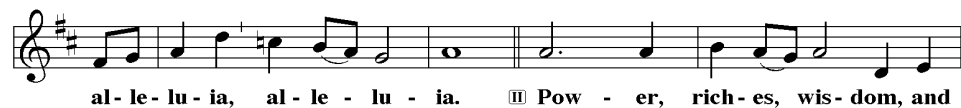


let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

*THIS IS THE FEAST



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

THE FIRST LESSON.....Acts 16:16-34

16One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. 17While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." 18She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

19But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. 20When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews 21and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." 22The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. 23After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. 24Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

25About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the

doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. 27When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. 28But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." 29The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. 30Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. 33At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. 34He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 97

1The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice;
let the multitude of the | isles be glad.

**2Clouds and darkness sur- | round the LORD,
righteousness and justice are the foundations | of God's throne.**

3Fire goes be- | fore the LORD,
burning up enemies on | every side.

**4Lightnings light | up the world;
the earth | sees and trembles.**

5The mountains | melt like wax
before the Lord of | all the earth.

**6The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O LORD,
and all the peoples | see your glory.**

7Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false gods!
Bow down before the LORD, | all you gods.

**8Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice,
because of your judg- | ments, O LORD.**

9For you are the LORD, most high over | all the earth;
you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

10You who love the | LORD, hate evil!

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand | of the wicked.

11Light dawns | for the righteous,
and joy for the hon- | est of heart.

**12 Rejoice in the | LORD, you righteous,
and give thanks to God's | holy name.**

THE SECOND LESSON.....Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

12 "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

14 Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

16 "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

17 The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

20 The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

21 The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

***THE GOSPEL.....John 17:20-26**

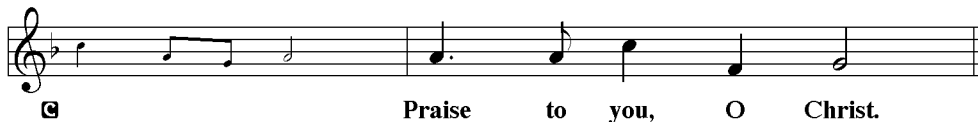
P The holy gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] 20“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, 21that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, 23I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

25“Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. 26I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

P The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

*HYMN The Church's One Foundation

LBW, “Green”, 369

*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: Lord, in your mercy/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 physical contact.*


*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so 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 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, almighty and everliving God. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death, and by his rising has brought us eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels, and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.



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 Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations and made for yourself a chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. 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 which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to 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 this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Join our prayers with those of your saints of every time and place, and unite them with ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the u - ni - ty of the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is yours, al -
 might - y Fa - ther, now and for - ev - er. A - men

***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**



☩ 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.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

- *Observing social distancing communicants 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 at this time. Thank You!

P The risen Christ dwells with us here.

All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

C **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup

we have tasted the new heaven and earth

where hunger and thirst are no more.

Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.

C **Amen.**

***BLESSING**

P Almighty God, the God of resurrection and new life; Father, Son † and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

***DISMISSAL**

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
P Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Toccata in Seven John Rutter

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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, Jeremy Splain, Ryan Dancho, the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, All victims and their families of the Robb Elementary School Shooting (Uvalide, TX)

WORSHIP LEADERS (5/29/2022)

Lector 8 a.m. Vicki Haussmann
 10:30 a.m. Deb Buckman

Communion Assistants
 8 a.m. Drew Haussmann

10:30 a.m. Gregg and Kathy Dancho

Organist Sam Robinson

USHERS:

8 a.m. Dick Miller and Herb Poff

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



CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED ON MAY 30

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day.



WEAR RED NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 5!

In celebration of the Day of Pentecost, all members of our congregation are asked to “wear an article of red clothing” to worship! Pentecost celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit and red is the color associated with the Holy Spirit.



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS JUNE 5, 2022.

Three youth will be confirmed as members of St. Mark's on Sunday June 5: Levi Gair, Hudson Ott and Nolan Ott. Please keep these youth in your in your prayers as they publicly affirm their baptism in Christ.



ONE WORSHIP TIME BEGINS JUNE 5!

Sunday, June 5, St. Mark's will have ONE WORSHIP TIME at 9:30 AM. Please mark on home calendar.

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.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE. Lutheran Disaster Response is accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Rest assured that gifts to Eastern Europe Crisis Response will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Should you wish to contribute please make checks payable to St. Mark's and note, "Ukraine" on the memo line. Thank you for your gifts and prayers for the people of Ukraine.

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 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 (5/22/2022)

Regular Offering	3265.00
Plate Offerings	4.00
Miscellaneous	25.00
Memorials	50.00
July 4 th Celebration	25.00
Grand Total	3369.00



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Honor of Sarah Jones’ Birthday, by Sally Bjornstad
+In Celebration of Saint Mark’s Family



To our church family at St. Marks

Thank you for all the cards with thoughts and prayers for us through the pandemic and Gary's surgery. They were so very uplifting knowing you thought of us. Gary is convalescing but doing much better. God bless you all.
Yours in Christ,
Donna Clark



Cookies Needed

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee are in need of additional cookie donations for Redeemer's Community dinner on June 9, 2022. Cookies may be homemade or store bought. Our supermarkets have tasty options at reasonable prices. Speak with or call Becky Miller Pryor at 570-971-4585 if you are able to provide a dozen or two of cookies. Thank you for any help you can give.

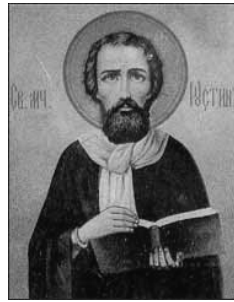




Jiri Tranovsky



Visit of Mary to Elizabeth



Justin, martyr of Rome

COMMEMORATIONS

Jiri Tranovský, hymnwriter, died 1637

Sunday, May 29, 2022

Tranovský is considered to be the father of Slovak hymnody as well as an important reformer of the Slavic church. He translated the Augsburg Confession (the basis of Lutheran teachings) and published a collection of Slovak hymns.

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

Tuesday, May 31, 2022

This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the Magnificat.

Justin, martyr at Rome, died around 165

Wednesday, June 1, 2022

Born of pagan parents, Justin was influenced by an elderly Christian in Ephesus. He became a teacher of philosophy and the Christian faith. Jailed for practicing an unauthorized religion, he refused to renounce his faith and was beheaded.



The Martyrs of Uganda, died 1886

Friday, June 3, 2022

On June 3, 1886, thirty-two young men were burned to death for refusing to renounce Christianity. The confident manner in which these Christians went to their deaths contributed to a much stronger Christian presence in Uganda.



John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, died 1963

Friday, June 3, 2022

When elected pope, the former Angelo Roncalli was expected to be a short-term caretaker. He showed great spirit, though, and convened the Second Vatican Council which helped bring great changes to Roman Catholic and other churches.