

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 22, 2024

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!

*This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. Join us as we seek,
"To know Christ and to make Christ known."*



Order for Holy Communion 8:00/10:30 am

(Lutheran Book of Worship, Setting Two)

Please Note:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use. Offerings may be received by way of offering plates as you enter or leave. **ALL HYMNS ARE PRINTED IN BACK OF BULLETIN AS WELL AS HYMNALS (LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book.**

Bold print indicates Congregation.

**Please stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome "all as children of God," make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of respect and honor in the assembly.

PRELUDE *Schmucke dich, o liebe Seele* Johann Gottfried Walther

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for forgiveness.

Kneel/stand. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

In our desire to be first

we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

***HYMN**

God is Here

WOV, "Blue," 377

***THE GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**



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

***THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Let us pray. O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING.....Jeremiah 11:18-20

18It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

19But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

20But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

The word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 54

1 Save me, O God, | by your name;
in your might, de- | fend my cause.

2 **Hear my | prayer, O God;**
give ear to the words | of my mouth.

3 For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my life,
those who have no re- | gard for God.

4 **Behold, God | is my helper;**
it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.

5 Render evil to those who | spy on me;
in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.

6 **I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice**
and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.

7 For you have rescued me from | every trouble,
and my eye looks down | on my enemies.

THE SECOND READING.....James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. 14 But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. 15 Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. 16 For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. 17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

4:1 Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? 2 You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8a Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

*THE 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 GOSPEL Mark 8:27-37 The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8th chapter

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

30[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;31for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” 32But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

33Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” 34But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. 35He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” 36Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 37“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.” The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

***HYMN** **Ah Holy Jesus** **LBW, “Green,” 123**

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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.**

***THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:** *After each petition,
“Hear us O God / Your mercy is great”.*

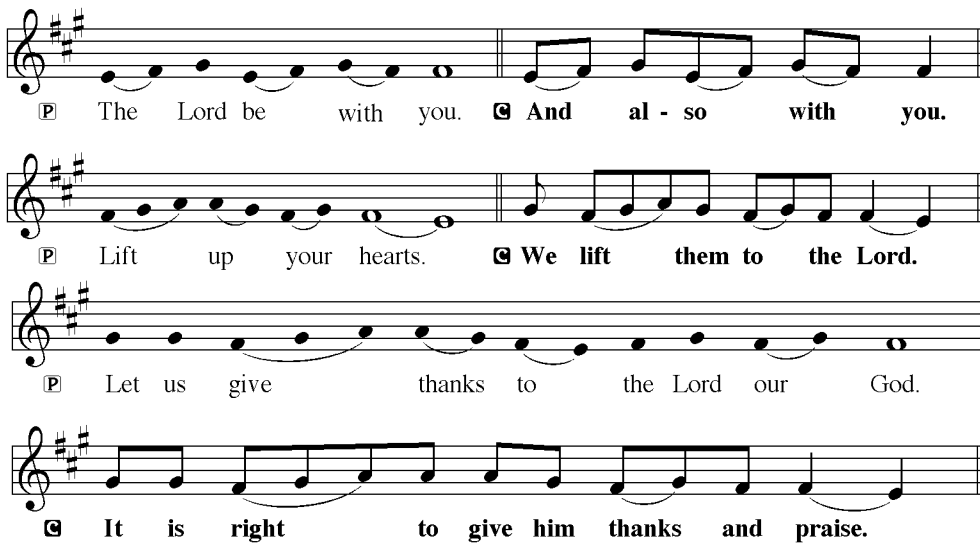
***THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

All may greet one another with these or similar words and/or gestures of peace

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



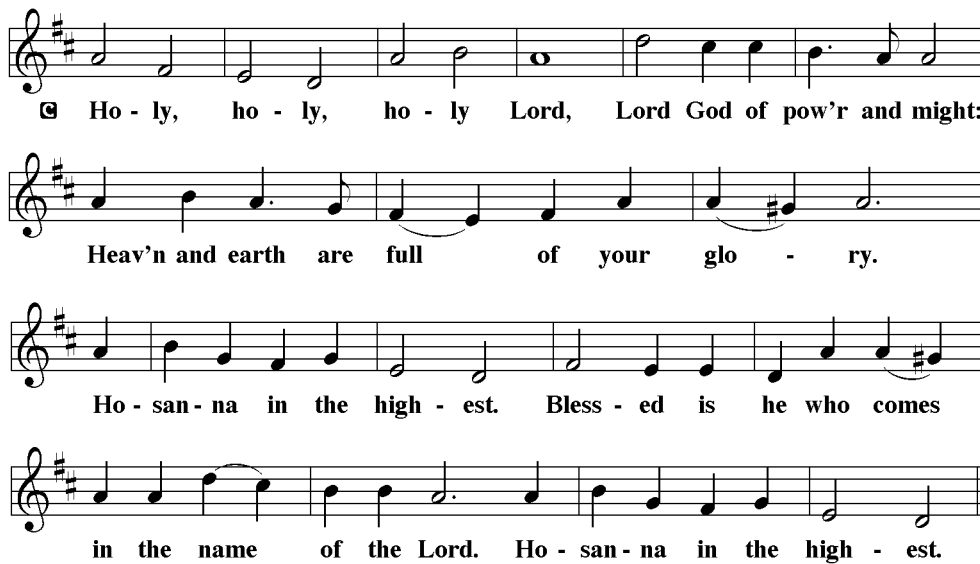
♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so with you.

♩ 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.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and 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 eternal life. 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, 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.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In your great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
who on the cross opened his arms to all,

and by his resurrection brought eternal life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread,
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."

Remembering, therefore,
his death, resurrection and ascension
we await his coming in glory.
Pour out upon us
the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills
of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood
of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom with you
and the Holy Spirit
be all honor and glory,
now and forever.

Amen.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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**



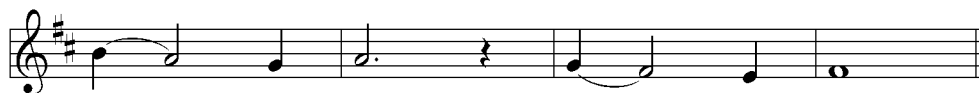
☞ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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, grant us peace.

***INVITATION**

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all! Come! **Amen**

COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Use the center aisle, pick up a small glass on the way. Receive the bread and then proceed to receive the wine by way of a pouring chalice. After communing return to your pew using a side aisle. Those not communing may come forward for a blessing.

Know that the crucified and risen Christ gives himself to you in his supper. If you cannot eat bread, drink only the wine. If you cannot drink wine, eat only the bread.

***AFTER COMMUNION**

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

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

The blessing of God, Father, Son, ✠ and Holy Spirit,
Bless you, keep you and give you peace

Amen.

***HYMN** **Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing** No Notation Available

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE *Herr Christ der einig Gottes Sohn* Johann Gottfried Walther

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PRAYER LIST

Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller,
Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler,
Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard,
Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Haussmann,
Kristin Rehm, Yvonne and Gerry Myers, Ariel, John Bower, Joseph Baur, John Tartline,
Bob Miller, Carl Hieber, Ann Kuntz, Donna Baker, Gary Weber, Tom Waffenschmidt,
Phil and Barb Thomas.

OUR STEWARDSHIP September 15, 2024



Regular Offering	\$1,972.00
Plate Offering	3.00
Miscellaneous	794.60
Food Pantry	25.00
Parish Life	23.00
Children's Church-CROP Walk	15.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,832.60



ALTAR FLOWERS

Today (Sunday, September 22, 2024) are given to the glory of God:
In Celebration of our St. Mark's Family

WORSHIP LEADERS September 22, 2024

Lector	8:00 AM	Becky Pryor
	10:30AM	Brenda Gair
Communion Assistants	8:00 AM	Becky Pryor
	10:30AM	Ralph and LouAnn Zeigler
Ushers	8:00 AM	Herb Poff, Richard Miller
	10:30AM	Carl Albright, captain
		Brenda and Levi Gair
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild	September	Leah Haussmann, Deb Buckman

Music Notes

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748) was a prominent German organist and composer of the Baroque period. He is best known for his organ works, including chorale preludes and arrangements of other composers' works, and for compiling one of the earliest music encyclopedias. Walther's contributions had a lasting impact on the development of German organ music, and he was a cousin and contemporary of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Lutheran World Relief



Blanket Sunday will be Sunday October 6. Acceptable blankets should be 60x80 inches or twin size. Materials accepted are cotton, flannel, or light weight wool. Please bring in before Oct. 6. All kits need to be in by Sunday September 29. Packing up of kits will be Monday Sept 23 at 11 AM, Tuesday Sept. 24 at 6:30 PM, and Tuesday Oct. 1 at 10 AM. Anyone is welcome to come help pack up the kits for delivery to the synod gathering place.

Stewardship

Stewardship Sunday will be held on All Saints Day, November 24, 2024. Please begin thinking about your commitment to the financial well being of our church. Right now there is a repair of the organ and replacement of the dossal. Next year, one of the roofs will have to be replaced plus there are the everyday expenses such as salaries, utilities, etc. Please think about being generous with your pledge.

Budget Time

Budget time - all committee heads need to see me about budget paperwork.

Thanks – Deb Buckman, Treasurer

Tastykakes by the Boxful



The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee is grateful to the congregation for their donations of 21 boxes of assorted TastyKake cupcakes. That is 126 servings, more than enough for the dinners that were served at Redeemer's Community dinner on September 12. Thank you for your willingness to say "yes" to our requests.

We Batted a Thousand !!!!!



Our final Cereal Sunday last week saw donations totaling 70 boxes of assorted cereals. Our grand total for this project is **318 boxes of cereal**. We met AND exceeded our goal of 300 boxes. If all this

news is not good enough, we donated 27 more boxes of cereal this year than in 2023! The folks at the United Churches Food Pantry were thrilled with the carload of cereal that was delivered last Monday. The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee thanks you from the bottom of our hearts for answering our call to help prevent food insecurity in our community.



Urgent Need! **There is Still No Vacation from Hunger.**

The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee is holding a mini food drive that continues through September 22, 2024 to further assist the United Churches Food Pantry. There is still time to take a small grocery bag from the stack in the Narthex and fill it with a few items from your own pantry or add an item or two to your shopping list. We could not do what we do without the support from the members of St. Mark's. Thank you for any help you can give.

Youth Game Night
Sunday, September 22, 2024

No registration required! Just show up with a game!
Calling all youth!



Do you enjoy church but wish there were more kids your own age? Well then we have good news for you! You are invited to the Upper Susquehanna Synod Youth Group's first gathering on Sunday, September 22, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Christ's Lutheran Church in Lewisburg. The theme is game night, so bring your favorite board game. We will spend some time getting to know each other, playing games, and enjoying some refreshments. All youth confirmation-age and up are invited! We hope to see you there!



Our Community's annual walk to fight hunger, CROP Hunger Walk, will be held **Sunday, October 13th** at 1:00 PM, on the River Walk in Williamsport. The walk begins here at St. Mark's and you can walk 3, 6 or 9 miles (most of us walk 3 miles).

Join the **St. Mark's Lutheran Church Lions** team to walk or donate. Our goal is \$1,000 (last year we raised \$940)! Hungry people in developing countries can walk as many as six miles a day for food and water. We walk

because they walk. By walking on a fall afternoon, you create awareness to these issues, raise funds and have fellowship with members of the St. Mark's congregation as well as other congregations.

25% of the funds we raise support local hunger agencies and the other 75% is distributed by Church World Service nationally and internationally. In partnership CROP walks support self-help programs, assist after disasters and help address root causes of poverty by providing water systems and tools to grow the food they need.

To register to walk or donate to our team, you can speak with Brenda Gair (text 570-220-8859) or on-line; <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/cropwalks/team/st-marks-lutheran-church-lions>

Click the orange "Donate Now"

Checks can be made payable to "CWS/CROP"



Monday, September 21, -
Sunday, September 29, 2024

Monday, September 23
Tuesday, September 24 thru
Friday, September 27
Sunday, September 29
Sunday, September 29

Little Lambs Liaison Meeting 12:15PM ML
Office Hours 9 am – 1 pm
Holy Communion 8:00AM and 10:30AM
Worship & Music meeting, ML, after 10:30
worship

BIRTHDAYS

Abbigail Robertson September 26

ANNIVERSARIES

Jackie and Michael Kinney September 25

Please remember to let the administrative assistant know when committee meetings are scheduled, or changed, so it can be included in the bulletin.

If there is anything you would like to include in the “This Week at Our Church”, please email jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org



When you or a family member are ill, have a crisis of faith, or have a personal concern of which you wish to make the pastor aware, please contact him directly by church office telephone (570-323-4619) 272-788-0161 (cell) or email (bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org). Do not assume the pastor will know of your need any other way.



When you or a loved one has a change of address, telephone number or email, please contact the church office at 570-323-4619 or stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family.

COMMEMORATIONS

Michael and All Angels

Sunday, September 29, 2024

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.



Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Monday, September 30, 2024

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.



Camp Mount Luther

“Foundations for the Future” Capital Campaign



For over 60 years Camp Mount Luther has been providing ministry to youth, families and adults from the congregations and communities of Central Pennsylvania and beyond. After 60 years, however, upgrades and renovations are needed to ensure that this important outdoor ministry will continue for generations to come.

Over the last several weeks we received information regarding the importance of working toward our **congregational goal** of raising **\$7500.00**. We look forward to supporting this capital campaign, and pray that through our generous spirit others may continue to learn about and know the love of Christ found in this amazing space known as Camp Mount Luther.



**FOUNDATIONS
FOR THE FUTURE**
CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

PLEASE RETURN TO:
Camp Mount Luther
355 Mt Luther Ln,
Mifflinburg, PA 17844
(570) 922-1587
www.campmountluther.org

Gifts are tax-deductible as provided by law. Checks may be payable to Camp Mount Luther. Contact Chad Hershberger at Camp Mount Luther to make a non-cash gift.

White: Camp Mount Luther Copy
Yellow: Donor Copy
Pink: Congregation Copy

In gratitude to God and in support of the **Foundations for the Future Campaign** and Camp Mount Luther's life-changing ministry, I/we intend the following gift:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 per month for 36 months = \$5,400 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 per month for 36 months = \$720 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 per month for 36 months = \$3,600 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 per month for 36 months = \$360 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 per month for 36 months = \$2,700 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5 per month for 36 months = \$180 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 per month for 36 months = \$1,800 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ per month for 36 months = \$_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 per month for 36 months = \$1,080 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: \$_____ |

I/We intend to complete this gift as follows: \$_____ initially

With the balance payable:

- monthly quarterly semi-annually annually other _____

The first payment will be made on or about (date) _____

Congregation _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

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Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended



1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed that man to
2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; the slave hath
4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, thy mor - tal
5 There - fore, kind Je - sus, since I can - not pay thee, I do a -



judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; for man's a - tone - ment,
sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; thy death of an - guish
dore thee, and will ev - er pray thee; think on thy pit - y



by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
while he noth - ing heed - eth, God in - ter - ced - eth.
and thy bit - ter pas - sion, for my sal - va - tion.
and thy love un - swerv - ing, not my de - serv - ing.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
Music: HERZLIEBSTER JESU, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789

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