

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 10, 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



An Order for Holy Communion 8 am and 10:30 am
(Setting Two, *Lutheran Book of Worship*)

Please Note:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use. Offerings may be received by way of offering plates as you enter or leave.

Bold print indicates Congregation.

HYMNS ARE PRINTED IN THE BACK OF OUR BULLETIN AS WELL AS HYMNALS (LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book)

****Please stand as you are able.***

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,

our refuge,

our delight,

our beginning and our end.

Amen.

Let us come in truth before the One who loves us
and has freed us from our sin.

Kneel/stand. A brief silence is observed.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,
**we confess that sin has taken hold of us
and we are complicit in its power.**

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

**Lead us again to the waters of rebirth,
that we may live just and generous lives
for the good of your world
and the care of our neighbors,
following in the servant way of Jesus.**

Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true:

Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross,
swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are † forgiven
and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again,
and rejoice in your salvation.

Amen.

***HYMN As Saints of Old**

LBW, “Green” 404

***THE GREETING**

The grace of the 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, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING.....1 Kings 17:8-16

8 The word of the LORD came to [Elijah,] saying, 9 “Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” 10 So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” 11 As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” 12 But she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” 13 Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the LORD the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the LORD sends rain on the earth.” 15 She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146

1 Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

2 I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

3 Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help

4 When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,

and in that day | their thoughts perish.

5 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

6 who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;

who keeps promis- | es forever;

7 who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

8 The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the LORD | loves the righteous.

9 The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

10 The LORD shall | reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!

THE SECOND READING.....Hebrews 9:24-28

1²⁴ Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. 2⁵ Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; 2⁶ for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. 2⁷ And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, 2⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

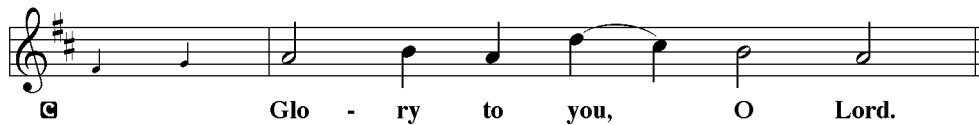
***THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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 12:38-44**

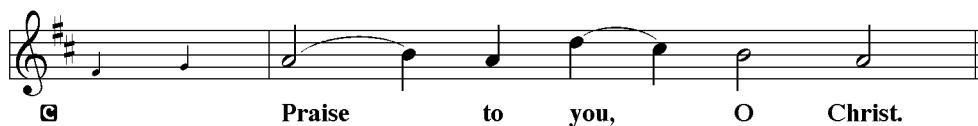
The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12th chapter



38 As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, 39 and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! 40 They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. 43 Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. 44 For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

The gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us**

LBW, “Green”, 424

***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, “Merciful God/Receive our prayer”.*

***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.

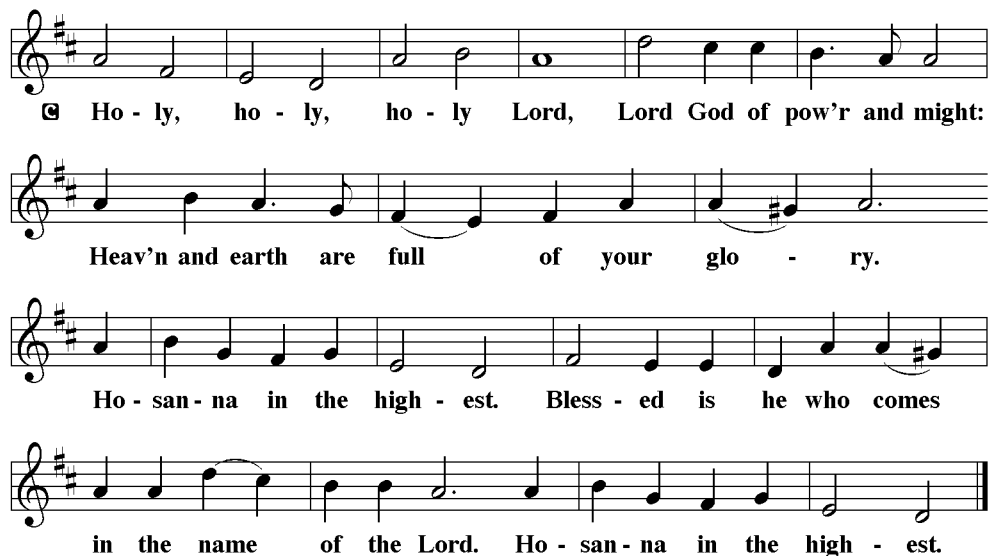
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ 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 in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 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.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God;
you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.
Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will
and accomplished our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving Passion and death,

his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought, but as we are able;
and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving,
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine;
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body,
and have our portion with all your saints.

All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, now and forever. **Amen.**

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,
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

Come, all are welcome to dine with our risen Lord. **Amen.**

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

Faithful God,
you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink
in the body and blood of your Son.
Now send us out to labor with you,
in service to the world you have made,

Parish Life	50.00
Family Promise Hosting	30.00
Capital Fund	30.00
Synod Benevolence	10.00
Grand Total	\$4,161.00

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God and:
 In honor of Charlie and Judy Fortin by Matt and Wanda Fortin and Family.
 In loving memory of Harry and Hester Nolan by the Family.

WORSHIP LEADERS

November 10, 2024

Lector	8 am	Candy Dewar
	10:30 am	Gary Weber
Communion Assistants	8 am	Jackie Kinney
	10:30 am	Deb Buckman and Mindy Wentzel
Ushers	8 am	Herb Poff and Richard Miller
	10:30 am	Mike Jensen, Pam Jensen, Shelby Weber, Gary Weber
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild (NOVEMBER)		Cindy Huff and Linda Rosini

CONGREGATIONAL REPORTS

End of year Congregational Reports of all church committees and ministries are now due! Please file reports with the Church Office. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S:

Sunday, November 10	Holy Communion 8 and 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:15 am
Monday, November 11	Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm Finance Committee, 5:30 pm
Tuesday, November 12	Church Office Hours, 9 am-1 pm West Branch Conference (chapel), 9:30 am
Wednesday, November 13	Church Office Hours, 9 am-1 pm Executive Committee, 2:30 pm
Thursday, November 14	Church Office Hours, 9 am-1 pm Faith Formation, 10:45 am City Pastors' Lunch, 1 pm
Friday, November 1	Church Office Closed
Saturday, November 2	Church Office Closed

BIRTHDAYS

Shawn Zimmerman	11/11
Elizabeth Haussmann	11/13

ANNIVERSARIES

Emily & David Elkin	11/15
---------------------	-------

+ 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) email (bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org) or his cell phone (272-788-0161). 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.

To keep members of the church update on new address, phone number, change in marital status or anything else that needs updated, you will see in the weekly bulletin and the “Lion”, updates on the information. If you have any information that needs to be updated, please send an email to jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org or call the church office at 570-323-4619, Tuesday through Friday 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. The office is working on an updated Church directory so please update any information ASAP to insure the directory is up to date.

BISHOP MILLER’S REFLECTIONS ON THE ELECTION

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?* Micah 6:8 (NRSV)

On Wednesday, I turned to my devotions to find that the appointed reading for the day is Micah 6:1-8, concluding with the words above. As so often happens in times of turmoil and anxiety, I found myself marveling at how the Holy Spirit provides fitting words for the day. On the morning after Election Day, I needed to hear again these words to remind me of what God deems important and to move me from my inward focus toward my neighbor.

These next days will be filled with stories, in the news and in our conversations with others, sharing feelings about the outcome of the election. Some will express relief or joy that their candidates won; others will speak of fear, sadness, and anxiety about what the next year will bring. The words of the prophet speak into all our feelings, reminding us that God remains in our midst as one who seeks the well-being of the world that includes us and those around us, friends, strangers, and enemies alike.

What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness. These words direct our attention to our neighbors, those near and far for whom we share responsibility. We live in community, and we thrive in community. When we turn away from our neighbors, community breaks down. To do justice and to love kindness is to pay attention to the needs of our neighbors and to seek the good for them. In a godly community, there are no enemies and no strangers, each cares for the other. “*Owe*

no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.” (Romans 13:8)

Martin Luther writes about the neighbor, “*we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light.*” (Small Catechism, the Eighth Commandment) Love for our neighbor means we avoid the slanderous words thrown against those who did not vote the way we wish. Instead, we strive to understand each other and our motivations. We listen without judgement to the hopes and fears that drove decisions to vote one way or the other.

Walk humbly with your God. No one of us knows the mind of God: We must always listen carefully to what the Lord God says to us, live in prayer, and walk by faith. Walking humbly means knowing that our actions are flawed, imperfect, and praying for God to bring good out of our failures. Walking humbly means acknowledging that our way is not always the best way. Walking humbly means trusting God to work through others, even those with whom we might disagree.

As we look toward the transitions in our government, let us pray for those who lead today and those who will take over leadership in January. Let us ask God to lead them in the ways of justice, kindness, and humility, for the sake of our neighbors. Amen.

As Saints of Old



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
3 In grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield;
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first-fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
O God, who gave your-self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
teach us to give our-selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christierson, b. 1900, alt.
Music: REGWAL, Leland B. Sateren, b. 1913

Text © 1961, 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved.
Music © Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our
 4 Yes, the sor - row and the suf - f'ring which on
 5 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your



life - blood as the price, nev - er grudg - ing
 free - ly, of your own. With the sun - shine
 hum - blest char - i - ty in your own mys -
 ev - 'ry hand we view chan - nels are for
 life - blood as the price, nev - er grudg - ing



for the lost ones that tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;
 of your good - ness melt our thank - less hearts of stone
 te - rious sen - tence, "You have done it all to me."
 gifts and of - f'ring due by sol - emn right to you;
 for the lost ones that tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



and with that have free - ly giv - en bless - ings
 till our cold and self - ish na - tures, warmed by
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, that you
 right of which we may not rob you, debt we
 Give us faith to trust you bold - ly, hope, to



count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
 deign for alms to sue, say - ing by your
 may not choose but pay, lest that face of
 stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of

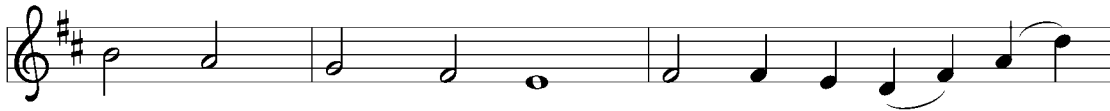


and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?
 love and pit - y turn from us an - oth - er day.
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793