

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 11, 2025

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 do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Our Mission: "To know Christ and to make Christ known."



Please note:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use.

Offerings may be received by way of offering plates as you enter or leave.

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

A guide to hymnal use: All hymns are printed in the bulletin and when reference is available the LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book

**Please stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection,
and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism,
waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness,

and empower us to be witnesses in your name.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that strengthen believers

and give new life to beloved servants of your church;

waters that extend your boundless love

and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism,

waters that open the hearts of believers

and give a voice in the night to those in captivity;

waters that set your people on a new path,

rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,

that our every day is shaped by these waters

that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

Amen.

***HYMN Holy God, We Praise Your Name**

LBW, "Green," 535

Holy God, We Praise Your Name



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
set of sun through the church the song goes on.
bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900
Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

***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.

*KYRIE



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



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



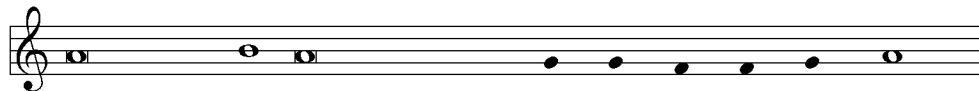
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty 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 wor - ship and praise,



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



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

*HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Ⓑ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among

us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

³⁶ Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷ At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸ Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰ Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹ He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴² This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

¹ The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.

² **The LORD makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.**

³ You restore my | soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways | for your name’s sake.

⁴ **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no
evil;**

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence | of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.**

THE SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹ After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹¹ And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” ¹⁴ I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵ For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷ for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, word of life.

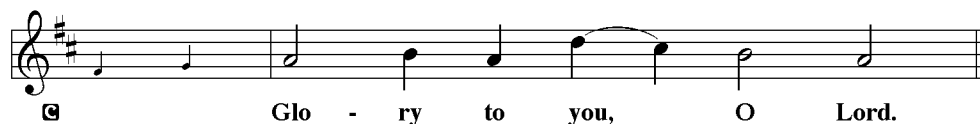
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



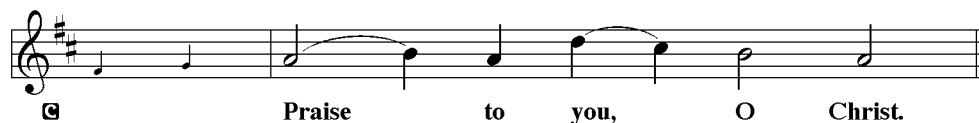
*THE GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

The holy gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, according to St. John, the 10th chapter.



²² At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵ Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶ but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰ The Father and I are one.

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

*HYMN The Lord's My Shepherd

LBW, “Green,” 451

***THE NICENE CREED**

Together with the whole church, we confess our faith:

**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**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

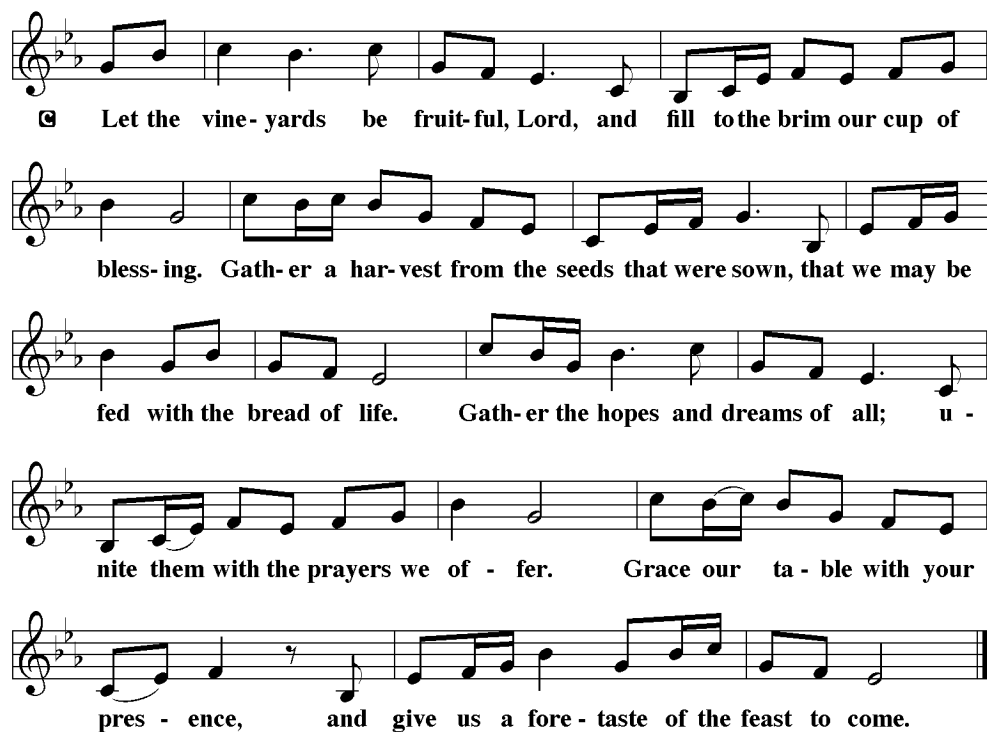
After each petition: Hear us, O God/Your mercy is great.

***THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*OFFERING



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

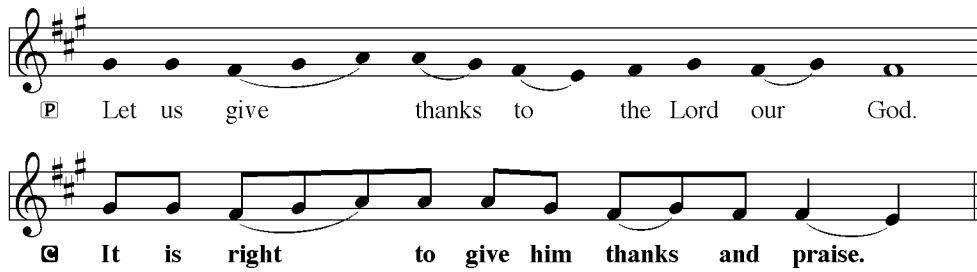
*OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,
you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again,
breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world. **Amen.**

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



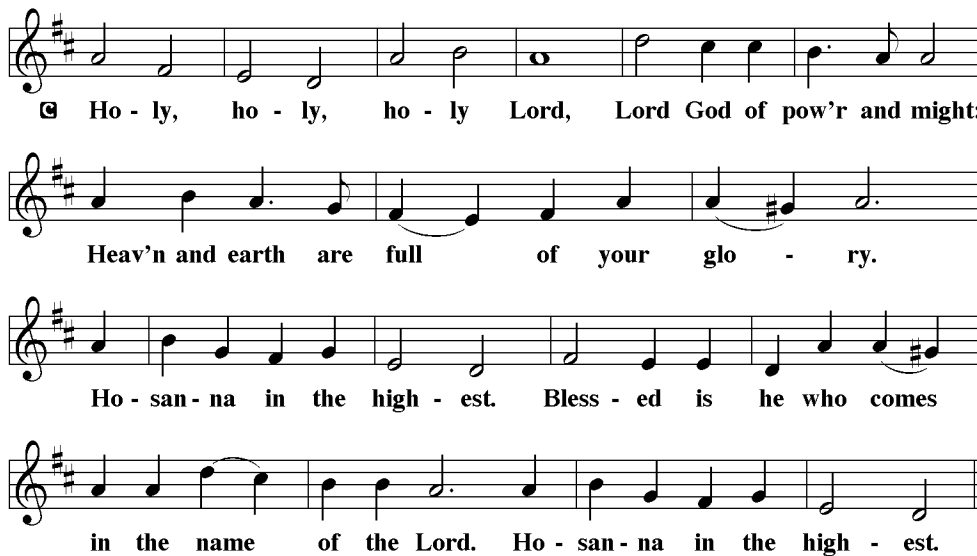
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



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, 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 to eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene, Peter and all 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, 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 are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
 By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection
 you gave birth to your church,
 delivered us from our slavery to sin and death,
 and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.
 By your great mercy we have been born anew

to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead
and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading.
Once we were no people, but now we are your people,
declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,
who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.
When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it his disciples, saying, "Take and eat.
This is my body given for you.
Do 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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover
from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth burning with justice, peace and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With all your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

Amen.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord as you have taught us, so now we 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.



***INVITATION TO COMMUNE**

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life!

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

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.

THE COMMUNION

***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**

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.

Amen.

***BLESSING**

Triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Father, † Son and Holy Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

Amen.

***HYMN**

For All Your Saints, O Lord

LBW, "Green," 176

***DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

OUR PRAYER LIST

Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, Gary Cable, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Hausmann, Kristin Rehm, Gerry Myers, Ariel, John Tartline, Donna Baker, George Poliska, April Clark, Pam Osbaugh, Connie Shaible, and Becky Pryor.

IN SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION TO ETERNAL LIFE WE COMMEND OUR BROTHER JOE BAUR. The Memorial Service for Joe Baur (our former Administrative Assistant) will take place Saturday, May 17, 2025, 11 am, St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

OUR STEWARDSHIP for May 4, 2025

Regular Offering	\$4,288.00
Plate Offerings	45.00
Easter	20.00
Lent	35.00
Food Pantry	5.00
Flower Memorials/Tributes	106.00
Memorials	475.00
Synod Benevolence	1.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
Lutheran World Relief	25.00
Grand Total	\$5,010.00

BULLETIN SPONSOR

To the Glory of God and in honor of our Family by Mel & Mindy Wentzel

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God; and

In loving memory of Rosena Haines by Dan Zeigler; and

In honor of our mothers, Judy Fortin & Ruth Ann Bigelow by Wanda & Matt Fortin & family; and

In loving memory of Shirley Miller by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

WORSHIP LEADERS for May 11, 2025

Lector	8 am	Candy Dewar
	10:30 am	Mary Ann Stiller
Communion Assistants	8 am	Nikki Jackson
	10:30 am	Deb Buckman & Mindy Wentzel
Ushers	8 am	Herb Poff and Dick Miller
	10:30 am	Gary & Shelby Weber
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild (MAY)		Sally Bjornstad & Vicki Hausmann

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, May 12	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
Tuesday, May 13	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm West Branch Conference, 9:30 am
Wednesday, May 14	Office Hours, 9 am – 1pm “Joshua” Study, 12:10 pm
Thursday, May 15	Office Hours, 9 am – 1 pm
Friday, May 16	WCCO Concert, 7:30 pm
Saturday, May 17	Baur Memorial, 11 am
Sunday, May 18	Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am Sunday School, 9:15 am

BIRTHDAYS

Vincent Bardsley 5/12	Thomas Waffenschmidt 5/12
Catherine Lundy 5/13	Jane Larson 5/15
Karen Mariano 5.14	

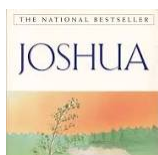
KEEP IN MIND:

~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, email, or telephone number, please contact the church office at stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org or 570-323-4619. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family, so that in may be included in the weekly bulletin and/or the "Lion."



A study of the Book of Revelation takes place in Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour. We will continue this study through May 25. Please join us.



The Faith Formation Committee is pleased to once again be offering the opportunity to grow in our faith through a 4 week book study using the novel Joshua written by Joseph Girzone. We will be meeting on Wednesdays from 12:10-12:50 beginning May 7th. If you would like a copy of this book, please let Vicki Haussmann know at haussfamily1@comcast.net by Friday, May 2. We are looking forward to using a bit of a different format for this study, and hope that you can join us!



United Churches Food Pantry: Small bags of sugar, ground coffee, canned tuna, Pop Tarts, salt and pepper sets, mayonnaise.

Shepherd of the Streets: baby shampoo, baby lotion, baby/kids body wash, baby wipes, tissues and kids' toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Sojourner Truth Ministry: Air Freshener (light scents,) sugar, mayonnaise, ketchup, and large lunch bags.



Summer Camp brochures are available in the church office or contact Camp Mount Luther at 570-922-1587 or at cml@campmountluther.org.

Don't forget to look for items for all of the types of kits in preparation for the fall. Especially needed are receiving blankets (medium weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn – 36” to 52” square (no polar fleece), baby shirts up to 24 months with no snap crotches, cotton fabric, diapers (flat fold) and items for school kits (we do not need pencils, erasers or bags). For more info please contact Deb Buckman.



A great big THANK YOU to everyone who continues to donate items for our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes! Never doubt that God is using these seemingly small items for good. **“Our economic condition is very poor, so my parents cannot afford to buy toys for me. When I heard that I would get a gift box, I was so excited! Thank you to all of my foreign friends who sent me the toys and other amazing things.”**

–Samia, East Asia

In May we will be collecting Jump Ropes, Hair Accessories, Bungee Cords, Screwdrivers

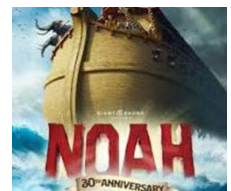
Monetary donations are also welcome as we would like to include “Grow With Me” shoes in as many shoeboxes as possible this year. Shoes are a requirement to attend school, so receiving a pair is a huge blessing indeed! Checks may be made to St. Mark’s with OCC in the memo line.

These items (or anything else you may find) may be placed in our red, OCC bin located in the narthex. Thank you!

*The age ranges for the boxes we fill are 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14 (both boys and girls)

ALL ABOARD THE ARK!

A bus trip to see **Noah** at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, PA is being organized by Cheryl Williams. This trip is being planned for Wednesday, September 24, the 11:00 AM show. While the bus will be pulling out around 6:00 AM, the early start will certainly be well worth it! Bus fare, show ticket, and dinner at Hershey Farm Inn are all included in



the adult price of \$176.77 and \$110.61 per child. If interested, please contact Cheryl Williams at (570) 327-1627.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

**WANT TO EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A
LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN?** Adults wishing to unite with St.
Mark's in church membership are invited to contact PASTOR
VASEY at 570-323-4619 or email

stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org.

Congratulations Megan and Shawn!

Yesterday, Megan Louder and Shawn Cartwright were united in Christian Marriage here at St. Mark's. May our Lord bless them and keep them; shine upon them with grace and mercy; look upon them with favor and give them peace.

COMMEMORATION

Matthias, Apostle

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 Matthias was the apostle added to the Twelve after Jesus' resurrection, as a replacement for the dead Judas Iscariot. He had traveled among the followers of Jesus throughout the Lord's ministry. Formerly commemorated on February 24, Matthias's celebration is moved to May 14 in agreement with most Western calendars.





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