THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(The Holy Trinity)
June 15, 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, 9:30 am (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 10)

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

"O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Today we celebrate the holy Trinity. Paul writes that through Jesus we have peace with God, whose love pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, giving us lasting hope. We celebrate the gracious One-in-Three, eternal Three-in-One, as we worship in community; as we share water and word, bread and wine; and as we bring God's love and hope to our neighbors.

PRELUDE *Meditation on Nicaea* Anonymous

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*A BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Kneel/Stand)

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sins and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

*HYMN Holy, Holy, Holy

LBW, "Green," 165



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt. Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

*THE GREETING

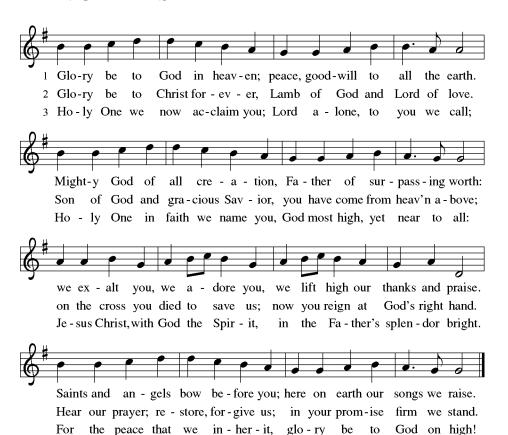
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

*KYRIE



*HYMN OF PRAISE



*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE FIRST READING: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

¹ Does not wisdom call,

and does not understanding raise her voice?

² On the heights, beside the way,

at the crossroads she takes her stand;

³ beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

4"To you, O people, I call,

and my cry is to all that live.

²²The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago.

²³Ages ago I was set up,

at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth,

when there were no springs abounding with water.

²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped,

before the hills, I was brought forth—

²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil.

²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there,

when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸ when he made firm the skies above,

when he established the fountains of the deep,

²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit,

so that the waters might not transgress his command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight,

rejoicing before him always, ³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 8

¹O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in- | fants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and avenger.

³ When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,

⁴ what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them, human beings that you should | care for them?

⁵ Yet you have made them little less | than divine; with glory and hon- | or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works | of your hands; you have put all things un- | der their feet:

⁷ all | flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts | of the field,

8 the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.

⁹O | LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in | all the earth!

THE SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-5

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*THE GOSPEL: John 16:12-15

The holy gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said,] ¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

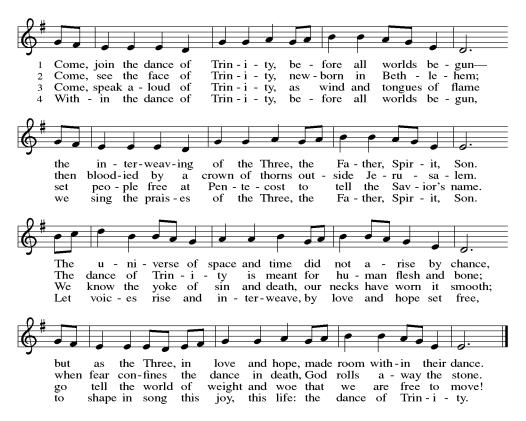
Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity *HYMN

No Reference Available

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity



Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune Text © 2001 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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*PUBLIC AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Today we rejoice that Scott and Alexandra Seyler wish to unite with us in membership here at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. At this time I ask that they join me at the baptismal font.

Scott and Alexandra, in Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his church. In the community of God's people, you have learned the Word of God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been nourished at Christ's holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I ask you, and all who are present, to profess your faith in Christ Jesus:

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 congregation may be seated

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: To live among God's faithful people, to hear the Word and share in the supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Scott and Alexandra: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

Let us pray. Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you made Scott and Alexandra your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them in the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace and the spirit of joy in your presence; through the same Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Now it is our joy to welcome Scott and Alexandra! *The congregation responds with gestures of welcome.*

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition: God of grace/Hear our prayer.

*THE PEACE

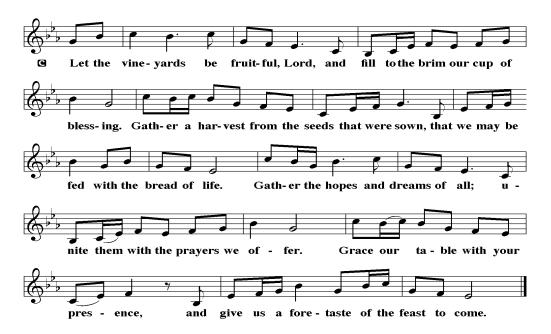
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

The King of Love My Shepherd Is Arr. Dan Forrest

*OFFERING



*OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,

in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

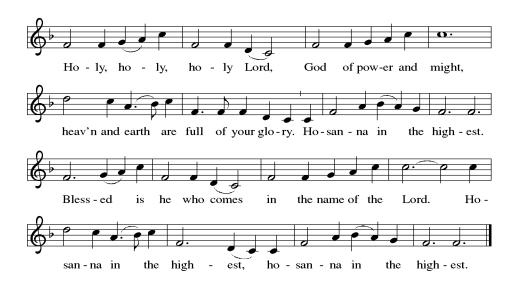
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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 ever living God. You revealed your glory as the glory of your Son and Holy Spirit: Three persons, equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, yet one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your everlasting glory. And so with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

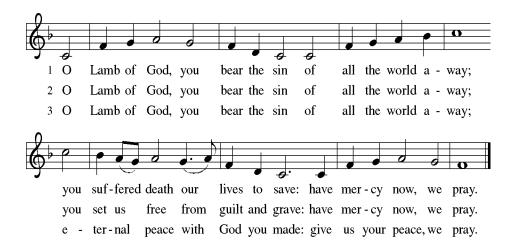
With all your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

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



*INVITATION TO COMMUNE

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice!

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

Triune God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

Amen.

*BLESSING

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

Amen.

*HYMN Holy God, We Praise Your Name

LBW, "Green," 535

Holy God, We Praise Your Name



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

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Nun Danke alle Gott Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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 Haussmann, Kristin Rehm, Gerry Myers, Ariel, John Tartline, Donna Baker, George Poliska, April Clark, Connie Shaible, Ann Kuntz, Michael Reitz and Becky Pryor.

OUR STEWARDSHIP for June 8, 2025

Regular Offering	\$3591.00
Plate Offering	110.00
Bulletin Sponsor	10.00
Family Promise Hosting	30.00
Flower Memorials/Tribute	s 70.00
Memorials	50.00
July 4 th Celebration	20.00
Grand Total	\$3881.00

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God; and

In loving memory of Prudence & William Poff by their son, Herb Poff; and In honor of our 31st wedding anniversary by Gary & Shelby Weber.

WORSHIP LEADERS for June 15, 2025

Lector	9:30 am	Brenda Gair
Communion Assistants	9:30 am	Ralph & Lou Ann Zeigler
Ushers	9:30 am	Matt F., Glenn Y., & Mel W.
Hospitality	9:30 am	Gary & Shelby Weber
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild (JUNE)		Mindy & Mel Wentzel

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Monday, June 16 Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm

Tuesday, June 17 Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm

Wednesday, June 18 Office Hours, 9 am – 1pm

Thursday, June 19 Office Hours, 9 am - 1 pm

Friday, June 20 Office Hours, 9 am – 1pm

Saturday, June 14 Office Closed

Sunday, June 22 Holy Communion, 9:30 am

BIRTHDAYS

Ruth Sherlinski	6/15	Robert Campbell	6/21
Wanda Fortin	6/16	Richard Reitz	6/21

Brandon Fortin 6/20

ANNIVERSARIES

Charles & Ann Kuntz 6/18 Gary & Shelby Weber 6/18

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."

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 June, we are collecting: \sim small balls (no super balls please), yo-yo's (light up if possible), bungee cords, and screwdrivers.

Monetary donations are also welcome to help offset the \$10.00/box cost for shipping our shoeboxes. This \$10.00 also provides devotional material for every child who receives a shoebox. 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)

Our Fourth of July Celebration Needs You!

Only a few weeks remain before for our annual July Fourth lawn party. We have been celebrating God and Country with our community for more than two decades. Please consider donating candy, condiments, trinkets or money. A list of needed items is in the June Lion. Checks can be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating July Fourth.

Volunteers are needed on the big day to set up, serve snacks and clean up before the fireworks begin. A poster with options for helping is in the Narthex. Don't wait, sign up now to help.

The Great Grab and Go will be held <u>after church</u> on June 29. If you can help bring July Fourth supplies from the basement to Fellowship Hall, meet in Fellowship Hall. With enough volunteers it should only take 10-15 minutes.

Cereal Sundays are Back for 2025!

Our first Cereal Sunday saw the donation of 32 assorted boxes of cereal. The United Churches Food Pantry was thrilled to receive our donations and look forward to the next collection. In case you missed it, the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee is designating the second Sunday of June, July, August and September to collecting boxes of cereal of any kind and in any size including the double boxes from Sam's Club. Our next collection will be Sunday, July 13, 2025. Can you help?

We Care for Families

During May and June, when we celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day, the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee asks that you consider donating hygiene items that are of tremendous help to families with children. We are requesting baby shampoo, baby lotion, baby/kids body wash, baby wipes, tissues and kids' toothbrushes and toothpaste. Items may be placed on the table in the Narthex closet.

Ongoing Collections and Activities at St. Mark's:

- <u>Dinner and Desserts:</u> The Evangelism and Fellowship Committee thanks members of the congregation for their assistance with baking cakes for the luncheon at Sojourner Truth Ministries and providing pans of brownies for Redeemer's community dinner. Both events were appreciative of our efforts.
- <u>United Churches Food Pantry:</u> The following items are **most needed** at this time. Small bags of white and brown sugar, wide egg noodles, cans of pineapple and mandarin oranges, Spam, cans of pork and beans, chunky soups, ramen noodles and salt and pepper sets.
- Shepherd of the Streets: See the article We Care for Families.
- <u>Summer Blessing Box Needs:</u> With summer temperatures being so warm, it is difficult to provide our usual meat and cheese sandwiches. The Parish Life and Evangelism and Fellowship Committees are asking for two

specific donations. They are Star-Kist Deli Style Tuna Salad and Star-Kist Chicken Salad. Both come in a foil packet and are ready to eat. These items are able to resist spoiling due to extreme temperatures. A container is available in the Narthex for these specific items. Thank you to everyone who donated 17 packets so far this summer.

• <u>Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM):</u> Air Freshener (light scents,) sugar, mayonnaise, ketchup, and large size lunch bags.

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.



WANT TO EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A **Become 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

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stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org.

Pastor Vasey will be on vacation June 16-23. Should you be in need of a pastor during this time, please contact, The Rev. Jeffery LeCrone, 570-220-3631.

<u>WELCOME!</u> Today we receive into church membership Scott and Alexandra Seyler. Scott and Alexandra join St. Mark's by way of transfer of membership from St. Luke Lutheran, Williamsport. Welcome Scott and Alexandra!

COMMEMORATIONS

Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died 2015

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza



Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Congregations of the ELCA are encouraged reaffirm their commitment to repenting of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931 Saturday, June 21, 2025

Onesimos was born in Ethiopia. Captured, enslaved, and taken to Eritrea, he was there freed by Swedish missionaries. He translated the Bible into his native Oromo and returned to preach there.



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