

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

**March 8, 2026**

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

[stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org)

Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)

Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor

[bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org](mailto: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; *Bread of Life Setting* (With One Voice)**

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

*Light print = Pastor/Leader. Bold print = Congregation.*

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## **INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP**

*In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation,  
come to the aid of your people,  
turning us from sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit  
that, attentive to your Word,  
we may confess our sins,  
receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness of your Son,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the  
presence of God and one another.

*Kneel/Stand. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**In your compassion**

**forgive us our sins,**

**known and unknown,**

**things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit**

**so that we may live and serve you**

**in newness of life,**

**to the honor and glory of your holy name;**

**through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you,

forgive you all your sins

through Jesus Christ,

strengthen you in all goodness,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit

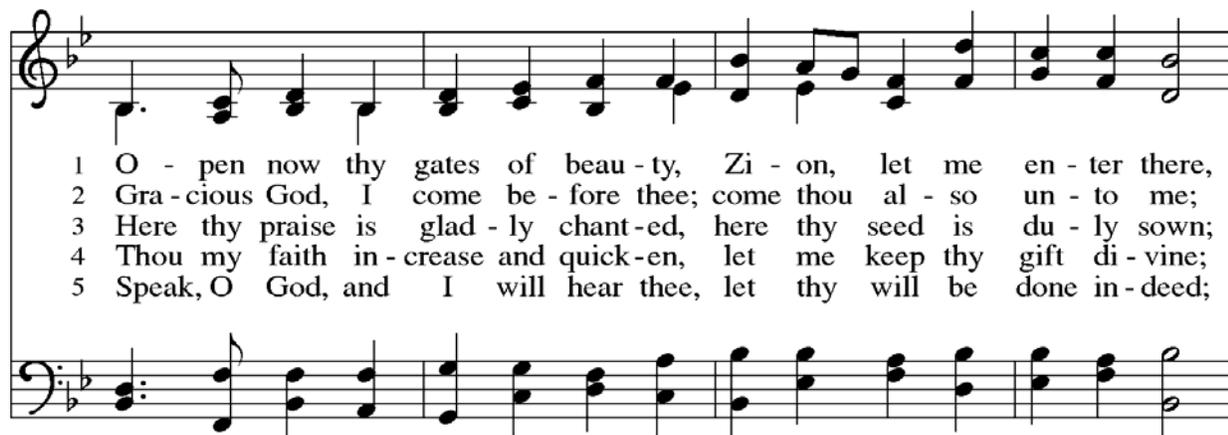
keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

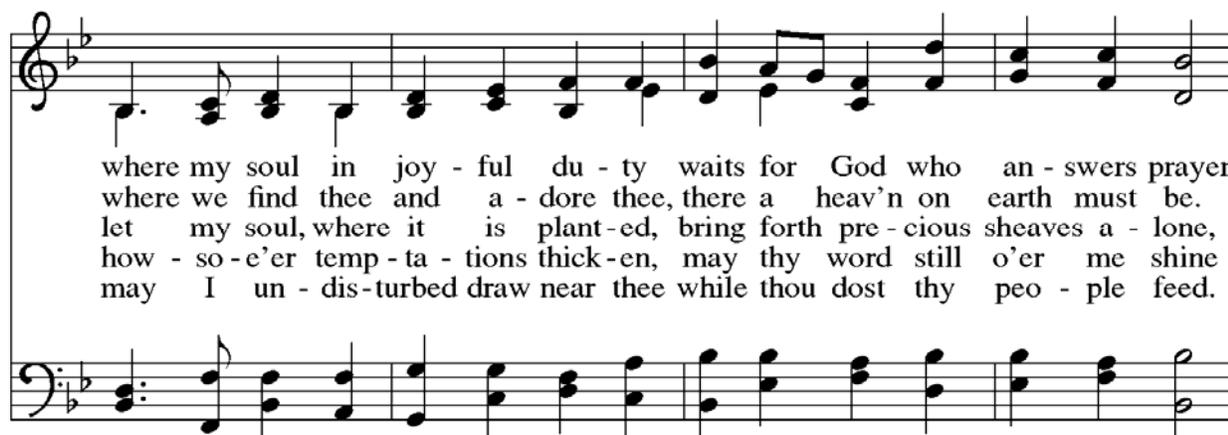
**\*HYMN    Open Now the Gates of Beauty**

**LBW, “Green,” 250**

## Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.  
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

## \*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



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:    ⓐ Christ, have mer - cy.  
*Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:*



Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    ⓐ Lord, have mer - cy.  
*Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:*

## \*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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: Exodus 17:1-7

<sup>1</sup> From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup> The people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” <sup>3</sup> But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup> So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the

elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 95**

<sup>1</sup> Come, let us sing | to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

<sup>2</sup> **Let us come before God’s presence | with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup> For you, LORD, | are a great God,  
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

<sup>4</sup> **In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

<sup>5</sup> The sea is yours, | for you made it,  
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

<sup>6</sup> **Come, let us worship | and bow down,  
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker.**

<sup>7</sup> For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep | of God’s hand.

**Oh, that today you would | hear God’s voice!**

<sup>8</sup> **“Harden | not your hearts,  
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup> There your ancestors | tested me,  
they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.

<sup>10</sup> **Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,  
‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.’**

<sup>11</sup> Indeed I swore | in my anger,  
‘They shall never come | to my rest.’ ”

## **THE SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand,

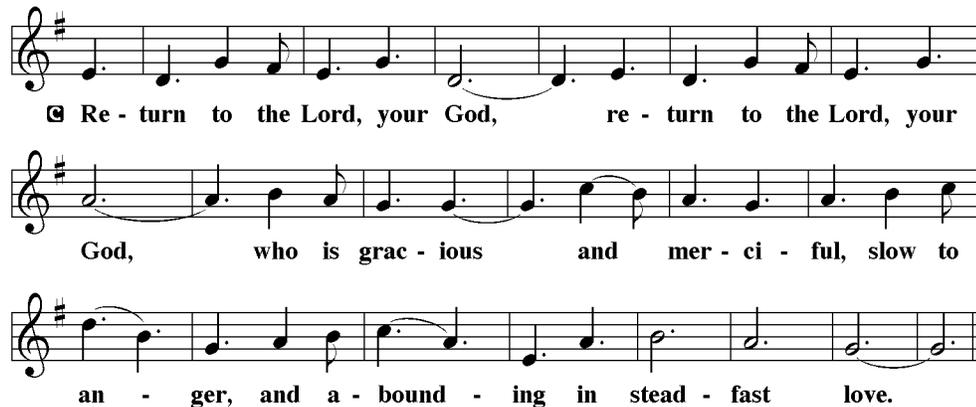
and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.<sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance,<sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,<sup>5</sup> and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup> But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



☩ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your  
God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to  
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**\*THE GOSPEL: John 4:5-42**

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.<sup>6</sup> Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup> A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."<sup>8</sup> (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.)<sup>9</sup> The Samaritan woman

said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” <sup>11</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup> Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” <sup>13</sup> Jesus said to her, “Everyone <sup>18</sup> who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup> but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” <sup>15</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” <sup>17</sup> The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband,’ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” <sup>19</sup> The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup> Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup> You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup> The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” <sup>26</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup> Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” <sup>28</sup> Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup> “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” <sup>30</sup> They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup> Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup> But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup> So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. <sup>35</sup> Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell

you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup> The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup> Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup> They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## THE SERMON

\*HYMN

**For All the Faithful Women**

**No reference available**

### For All the Faithful Women *The Woman at the Well*



1 For all the faith - ful wom - en who served in days of old,  
2 Re - call the out - cast wom - an with whom our Lord con-versed:  
3 All praise to God the Fa - ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told.  
Christ gave her liv - ing wa - ter to quench her deep - est thirst.  
All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave.  
Like hers, our hearts are yearn - ing; Christ of - fers us his word.  
With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro - claimed your pow'r to save.  
Then may our lips be burn - ing to wit - ness to our Lord.  
we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

**\*THE NICENE CREED**

With all people of God, 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.**

*People may greet one another with these or similar words or gestures.*

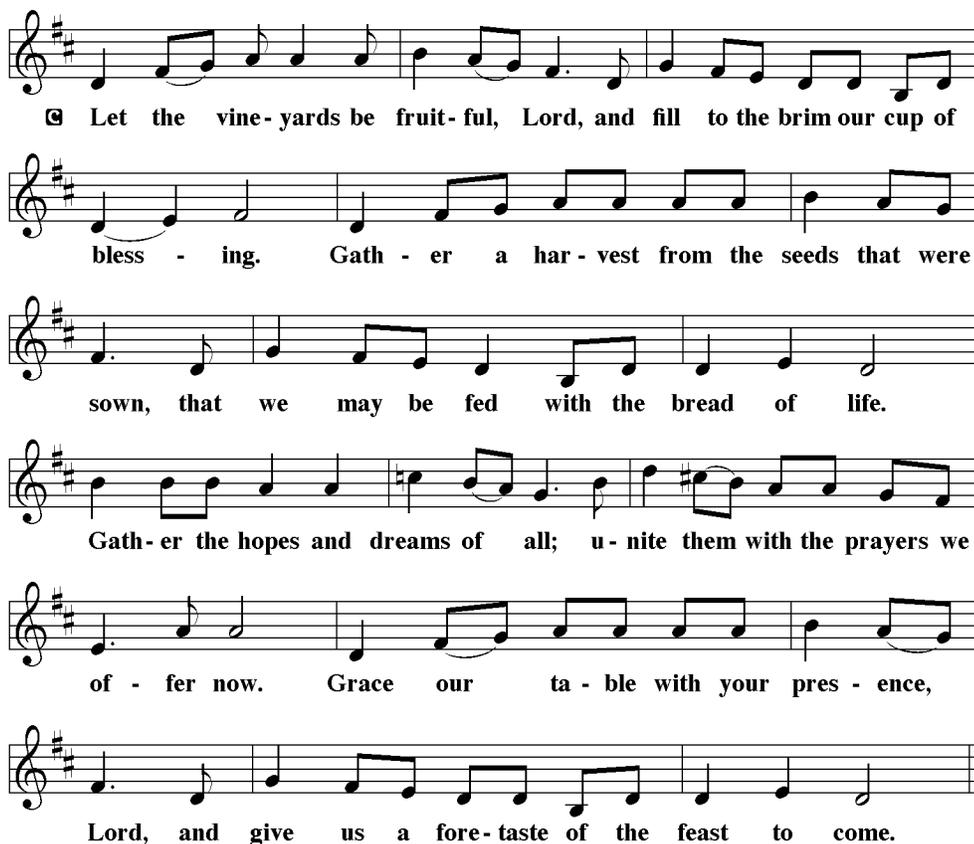
**ANTHEM**                      *O Love*                      Elaine Hagenberg

O Love that will not let me go  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
That in thy ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That mom shall tearless be.

- George Matheson

## OFFERTORY



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 now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.  
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.  
Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son,  
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.  
**Amen.**

## \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

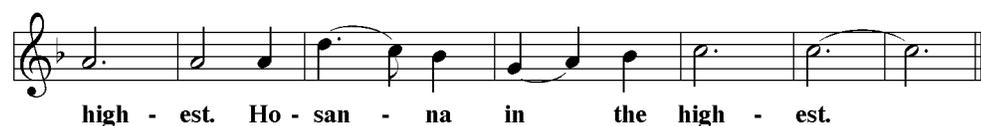
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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, through Jesus Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast.

Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.  
In mercy for our fallen world  
you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him  
should not perish but have eternal life.  
We give you thanks for the salvation  
you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit  
into our hearts,  
and on these gifts,  
that we may receive our Lord  
with a living faith  
as he comes to us in this his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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 is my blood of the new covenant  
shed for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**\*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. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNE**

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.  
**Thanks be to God!**

*All are welcome at our Lord's Table. Ushers will guide you to come to the chancel rail by tables. Kneel/stand according to your preference. Receive the bread followed by the wine from a pouring chalice. After you commune, please return to your pews by the side aisles. Those not communing may come forward for a blessing. Know that the crucified and risen Christ gives himself to you in his holy supper. If you cannot eat bread, drink only wine. If you cannot drink wine, eat only 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**

God of our salvation,  
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,  
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.  
Through the body and blood of your Son,  
may we become Christ's body in the world,  
bearing witness to your love for all creation,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon with favor †  
and give you peace.

**Amen.**

**\*HYMN      Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer**

**LBW, "Green," 343**

## Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me with your  
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my  
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on

pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
 Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es,

feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
 shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
 I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt.  
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the Good News!

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Music Notes:** Contemporary composer Elaine Hagenberg sets George Matheson’s 19th-century hymn text with luminous harmonies and flowing vocal textures. The anthem’s melodic lines rise and fall like water, mirroring the imagery of living water in Jesus’ conversation with the Samaritan woman. The text’s themes of God’s unending love, steadfast presence, and transformative grace are mirrored in the music’s gentle build toward moments of radiant climax, offering a contemplative yet hopeful Lenten reflection.

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**OUR PRAYER LIST**

Grace Arner, Vanessa Morgan, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, Gary Cable, Virginia Pulaskie, Bunny Ditchfield, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini, Walt Hausmann, Kristin Rehm, Ariel, John Tartline, George Poliska, Connie Shaible, John and Terry Holohan, Loretta Hawe, Donna Baker, Ann Kuntz, Ann & Charles Kuntz, Dave Williams, and the family of Rev. Brian Palmer.

**COMMEMORATIONS**

**Harriet Tubman, died 1913; Sojourner Truth, died 1883; renewers of society**

*Tuesday, March 10, 2026*

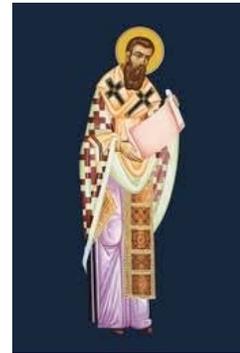
Harriet Tubman, born into slavery, helped about 300 others to escape slavery until the institution was abolished. Sojourner Truth, whose birth name was Isabella, was freed after slavery was abolished, and discerned a call to be a preacher. Taking the name Sojourner Truth, she set out on an evangelistic journey, where people found her testimony to be deeply moving.



**Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, died 604**

*Thursday, March 12, 2026*

Born into wealth and power, Gregory was for a time the chief administrator of the city of Rome. Giving this up for a life in the church, he was elected pope in 590. He influenced public worship through the establishment of a lectionary and prayers to correlate with the readings. Gregorian chant is named in his honor.



**THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S**

**Today, March 8**

**The Third Sunday in Lent  
Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30  
Sunday School, 9:15 am  
175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
following 10:30 Worship**

**Monday, March 9**

**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**

**Tuesday, March 10**

**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm  
West Branch Conference, 9:30 am**

**Wednesday, March 11**

**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm  
Lenten Bible Study, 12:10 pm**

**Thursday, March 12**

**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm  
1 pm Pastors' Lunch**

**Friday, March 13**

**Office Hours, 9 am- 1 pm**

**Saturday, March 14**

**Church Office Closed**

**Sunday, March 15**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Holy Communion, 8 and 10:30 am  
Sunday School, 9:15 am  
Worship & Music meets  
following 10:30 Worship**

**OUR STEWARDSHIP for March 1, 2026**

Regular Offering	\$4,999.00
Plate Offerings	20.00
Lent	170.00
Miscellaneous	10.00
Food Pantry	50.00
Parish Life	10.00
Operation Christmas Child	120.00
Family Promise Hosting	50.00
Roof Replacement Fund	25.00
Organ Fund	200.00
Flower Memorials/Tributes	70.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	100.00
Easter Flowers	20.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,844.00</b>

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God; and  
In loving memory of Robert & Anna Kuntz and Marty Kuntz, by Ann & Charles Kuntz; and  
In loving memory of Elmer D. & Eva F. Hunt, and Williams W. & Frederica M. Bastian, by Evelyn Bastian.

**WORSHIP LEADERS for March 8, 2026**

Lector	8:00 am	Vicki Hausmann
	10:30 am	Ralph Zeigler
Communion Assistants	8:00 am	Drew Hausmann
	10:30 am	Matt & Wanda Fortin
Ushers	8:00 am	Miller/Poff
	10:30 am	Shelby & Gary Weber
Hospitality	8:00 am	Vicki Hausmann
Organist		Sam Robinson
Altar Guild (MARCH)		Wanda Fortin, Ruth Ann Bigelow

**BIRTHDAYS**

Mike Kinney 3/11

**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."



Winter is just about over and the stores will be putting the winter clothing on sale. This is a good time to look for those 0-24 month sweaters/coats/sweatshirts. Also winter pajamas (remember, no feet) - 2 piece pajamas are OK. Some stores are still having "white sales" where you can get bath towels and hand towels cheap - remember, no bath blankets (too big). Have fun shopping. Deb Buckman



**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](mailto:stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org).



**Still Needed At.....**

Our congregation has been generous in their donations of food and hygiene items. But the need for these items continues. As you are able, please consider donating to these programs of United Churches.

**Shepherd of the Streets:** Bars of Soap, Deodorant, Razors, Tissues, Baby Oil, Powder, Body Wash Baby Wipes and Laundry Pods.

**Sojourner Truth Ministries (STM):** Needed are brown, large-size lunch bags, ice tea mix and napkins.

**United Churches Food Pantry:** Most needed are boxes of Macaroni, Canned Pasta, Boxed Potatoes, Spaghetti Sauce, Hot Chocolate and Chicken Noodle Soup.

**Sandwich Crews at St. Mark's:** We provide sandwiches weekly to New Covenant's Blessing Boxes. Monetary donations to offset the cost of rolls, meat and cheese are always appreciated. Checks may be made payable to St. Mark's with the memo line indicating Parish Life.

### **Community Easter Egg Hunt Is Happening On.....**

**Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. at Lycoming College**

St. Mark's and New Covenant UCC have helped to sponsor this community outreach in the past. Again, this year, the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee needs the congregation's help in donating plastic eggs, individually wrapped candy, fruit snacks, mini-Rice Krispie treats and any other goodies for this kid friendly activity. **Donations are due by Sunday, March 15** and may be placed in the tub in the Narthex.

### **Evangelism and Fellowship Committee Meeting Rescheduled**

Due to the icy weather on March 3, 2026, the Evangelism and Fellowship Committee meeting is rescheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in Middle Lounge. If you would like to learn more about our outreach please join us.

### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesdays in Lent, beginning February 25 and concluding March 25, we will gather in Fellowship Hall from 12:10 – 12:50 pm, to study how the themes associated with Isaiah echo the mission and ministry of Jesus. Our schedule appears below:

March 11: How best to be prepared for God's Reign?

March 18: What might God's Reign look like?

March 25: The Suffering Servant; a model for discipleship

**All are welcome! Bring a friend; bring a bag lunch to munch; bring yourself!**

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**

**Chrism Mass (Renewal of Vows for Clergy and Church Members), March 31, 10:30 am, Milton Lutheran Church.**

**Maundy Thursday, April 2:**

**12:10 pm, Holy Communion (chapel)**

**7:30 pm, Holy Communion and Foot Washing (nave)**

**Good Friday, April 3:**

**Noon, Ecumenical Worship, Trinity Episcopal Church, Williamsport**

**7:30 pm, Tenebrae, *Service of the Shadows*, St. Mark's Nave**

**EASTER SERVICES**

**Saturday, April 4, The Eve of Resurrection**

**8 pm, “The Great Vigil of Easter”, beginning in the chapel**

**Sunday, April 5, The Resurrection of Our Lord**

**8 am, Holy Communion**

**9:15 am, Extended Hospitality in Fellowship Hall**

**10:30 am, “Festival Eucharist”**

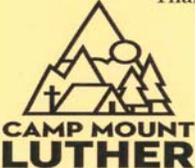


**MARCH 11-12, 2026**  
**CAMP MOUNT LUTHER**

is once again participating in Raise the Region and we need YOUR support! Your donations made through [raisetheregion.org](http://raisetheregion.org) will help Camp Mount Luther continue to provide quality spiritual formation, outdoor adventure, intentional community, and leadership development experiences for people of all ages. The more donors and donations we raise the better our chances of receiving incentives, stretch dollars, and awards!

Please go to [raisetheregion.org](http://raisetheregion.org) March 12 at 6pm through March 13 at 11:59pm to make your contribution.

Thank you for your generosity!



[campmountluther.org](http://campmountluther.org)  
 355 Mt Luther Ln, Mifflinburg PA 17844  
[cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org)  
 (570) 922-1587





A bus trip to see “**Joshua**” at Sight & Sound is scheduled for Wednesday, 9-23-2026. Meet at the west end of Beiter’s parking lot at 6am. The price for the trip is \$178.00 per person which includes the ticket to the show, the bus, and a meal at Hershey Farm Inn. To purchase tickets or with any questions please contact Cheryl Williams at (327) 1627.

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**St. Mark's Easter Lily  
Order Form 2026**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I am orderin :

\_\_\_\_ 6" Asiatic Lilies (assorted) @\$8.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 6" Easter Lilies (1 bulb) @\$8.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 10" Easter Lilies (2 bulb) @ 17.00= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ 6.5" Tulips (6 bulbs) @\$7.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Pink or \_\_\_\_ Purple

And/or a gift for other decorations = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

And/or a donation to local hunger = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

These are given:

In honor of (living person[s])

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In memory of (deceased)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**All flower orders must be in by March 22, 2026.**

*Flowers will be available for you to take home follow  
Easter service.*

*Return order slips to    A — Collection plate  
  B — Office*

