

ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
JUNE 28, 2026
5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY COMMUNION



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Worship Service

9:45 am - Summer Fellowship Time

10:00 am - Outdoor Service (1st & 3rd Sundays—July and August)

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: 878-295-2173

Pastor's Email: revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com

Karen Fisher, Office Manager

Karen's Cell Phone: 717-580-7507

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Office Email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com

Office Hours: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM - Monday through Thursday

Denise Hirn, Director of Children's Choir

Denise's Cell Phone: 717-802-1064

Email: denisehirn@hotmail.com

Brad Hull, Director of Music

Brad's Cell Phone: 202-738-2795

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www.stmarkmburg.com

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St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

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GUESTS:

We would like to get to know you! Please complete a "Welcome to St. Mark Church" card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate at the time of the offering. Thank you!

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Peter and Paul, Apostles

Monday, June 29, 2026

These two strong-willed apostles are the pillars of the church in the first generation after Christ. Peter was one of the Twelve, one who both offered a glorious confession of faith and later denied knowing Jesus. Paul once led the persecution of Christians, then was converted and helped bring the faith to non-Jewish people.

Thomas, Apostle

Friday, July 3, 2026

Though frequently remembered as "doubting Thomas," this apostle also demonstrated a willingness to suffer and die with Jesus (John 11:16) and finally claimed the risen Christ as "my Lord and my God!" By tradition, he later worked as a missionary in India. Long commemorated on December 21, Thomas's celebration is moved to July 3 in agreement with ecumenical calendars.

PRELUDE MUSIC

GATHERING

PSALM 118:24

P This is the day that the LORD has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

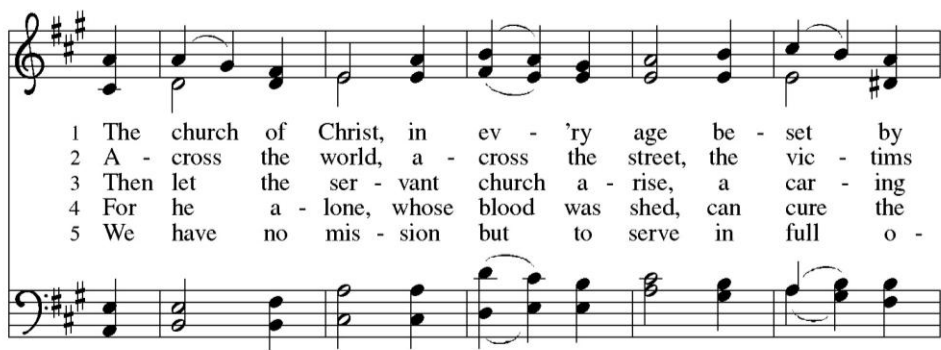
Silence for reflection and self-examination. Please kneel or be seated.

P Merciful and loving God,
C we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of ✙ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
C Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

The Church of Christ, in Every Age



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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*GREETING

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

C And also with you.

*KYRIE

Refrain




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Listen! You Nations

Refrain



Lis - ten! you na - tions of the world: lis - ten to the Word of the Lord. An -



nounce it from coast to coast; de - clare it to dis - tant is - lands.



1 The Lord who scat - tered Is - ra - el will gath - er his peo - ple a - gain; and



he will keep watch o - ver them as a shep - herd watch - es his flock. *Refrain*



2 With shouts of joy they will come, their fac - es ra - diant - ly hap - py, for the



Lord is so gen - 'rous to them; he show - ers his peo - ple with gifts. *Refrain*



3 Young wom - en will dance for joy, and men young and old will make



mer - ry. Like a gar - den re - freshed by the rain, they will nev - er be in want a -



gain. Break in - to shouts of great joy; Ja - cob is free a - gain! Teach



na - tions to sing the song: "The Lord has saved his peo - ple!"

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

P O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 28:5-9

Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

R A reading from Jeremiah.

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 89:1-4; 15-18

(Please read the Psalm responsively—Lectern side, the regular print; pulpit side, the bold print.)

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

²For I am persuaded that your love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

³ “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴ **‘I will establish your line forever and preserve your throne for all generations.’”**

¹⁵ Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

¹⁶ **They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

¹⁸ **Truly, the LORD is our ruler; the Holy One of Israel is our king.**

SECOND LESSON: Romans 6:12-23

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin’s final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin’s slavery to live obediently under God’s grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

A reading from Romans.

¹² Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R The word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

***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.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***GOSPEL: Matthew 10:40-42**

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 10th chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴² and

whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

NOISY SUNDAY

SERMON

*APOSTLES CREED

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.

*Or, He descended to the dead.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church
and the needs of the world.

A God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken
and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.
C Amen.

***PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.

P Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;

praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
Music: OLD HUNDREDDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- A Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart
in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can
taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus through
the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
- C Amen.

***PREFACE**

- P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

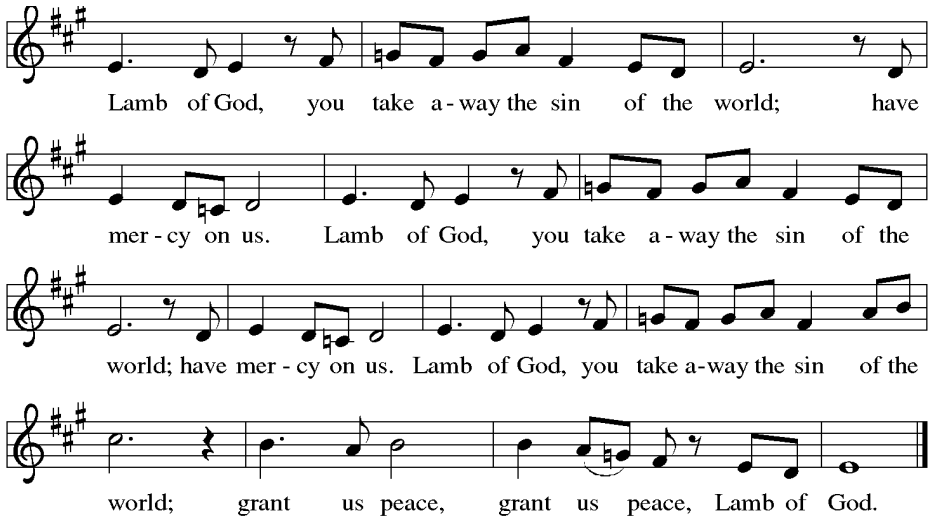
C Amen.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

*COMMUNION

P Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.



The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: "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, Lamb of God."

COMMUNION

All baptized, communion Christians are welcome to partake of the Holy Sacrament. We have gluten-free bread available and white grape juice (in addition to our traditional homemade bread and red wine) for those who need or prefer those. Simply let the pastor or assisting minister know if you prefer something other than bread and wine. Remember that we are promised that Christ is truly present in, with, and under each element.

P The body of Christ, given for you.

C Amen.

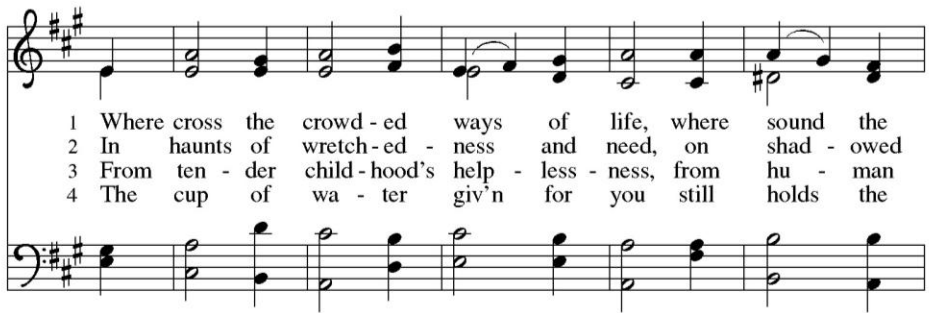
A The blood of Christ, shed for you.

C Amen.

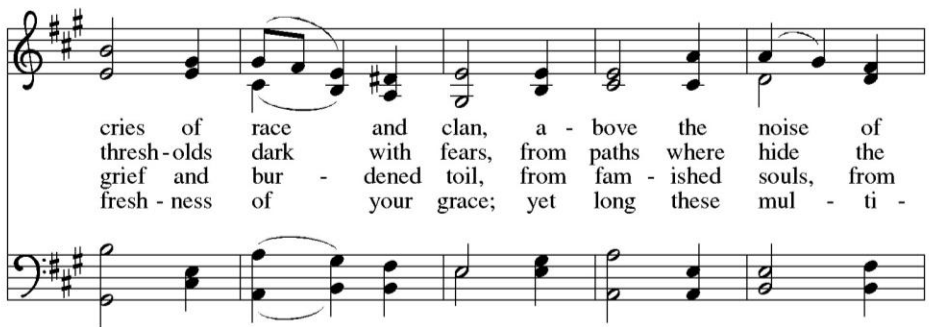
PLEASE SING THE FOLLOWING HYMNS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

-HYMN OF THE DAY-

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide;
oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,
and follow where your feet have trod;
till glorious from your heav'n above
shall come the city of our God.

-COMMUNION-

Just As I Am, without One Plea

The musical score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains four numbered lines of lyrics. The second system contains three lines of lyrics. The third system contains one line of lyrics. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines that support the vocal melody.

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

(Please stand as you are able.)

- *P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen.

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**


- A** Let us pray.
A O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.
C Amen.

***BLESSING**

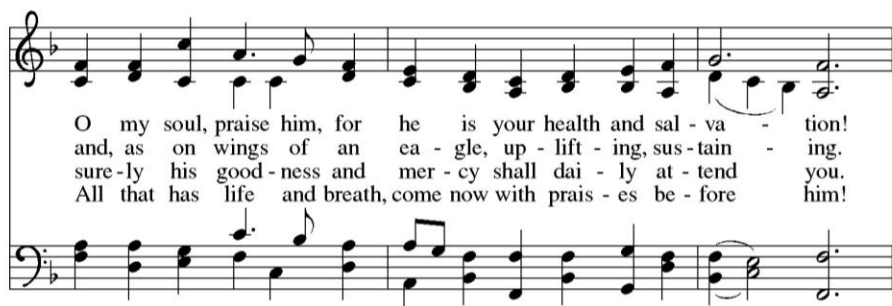
- P** God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Holy Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever.
C Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

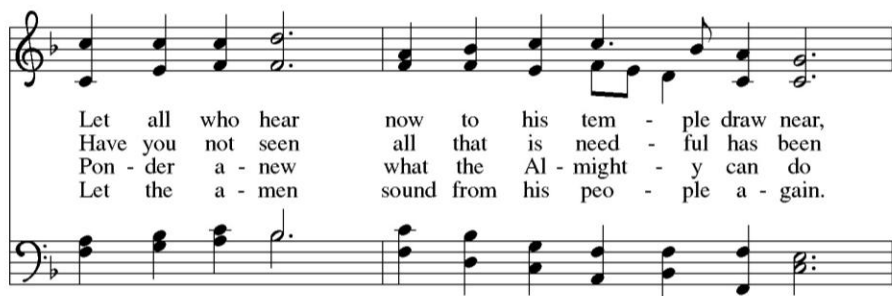
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



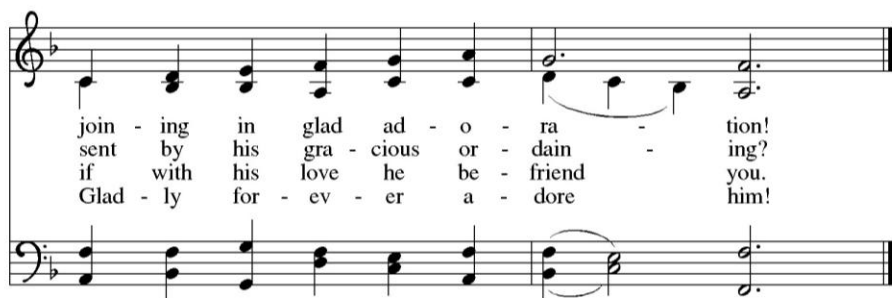
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
if with his love he be - friend - you.
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*DISMISSAL

A Heaven has come near. Go share the good news!
C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE



In loving memory of our beautiful mother, Anna Yenchko, who is gardening now in heaven, by her daughters Anne, Sue, and Beth.

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS

Altar flower sponsors are needed through November. Please use the form located in bulletins and the newsletter. Check with Connie Kuntz at 717-503-5244 for dates that are available.

TODAY'S ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister:	Karen Heath
Lay Reader:	Karen Fisher
Acolyte:	Audrey Johnston
Ushers:	Ken Shur, Donna Shur
Altar Guild:	Joan Murphy, Bev Reihart
ZOOM Operator	Sandy Brown
Money Duty:	Barb Yost, Karen Fisher

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, June 28

8:30 am

9:45 am

12:00 pm

5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Service—Communion

Summer Fellowship

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Monday, June 29

2:45 pm

7:00 pm

Violin Lessons

German Club

Tuesday, June 30

Wednesday, July 1

12:00 Noon

2:00 pm

3:30 pm

Evangelism Committee

Worship and Music

Worship Planning

Thursday, July 2

7:00 pm

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Friday, July 3

2:30 pm

(4th OF JULY HOLIDAY OBSERVED)

Violin Lessons

Saturday, July 4

Sunday, July 5

8:30 am

9:45 am

10:00 am

12:00 pm

6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

US SEMI QUINCENTENNIAL

Worship Service—Communion

Summer Fellowship

Outdoor Worship Service

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

LESSONS:

FIRST READING

PSALM

SECOND READING

GOSPEL

JULY 5, 2026

Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalms 145:8-14

Romans 7:15-25a

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

MONTHLY SUNDAYS TO BENEFIT NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

The Social Ministry Outreach Committee designates one Sunday a month to collect items for New Hope Ministries. Here are the items for June, July, and August:

July 19

August 16

September 20

Brownie and Cake Mixes and Icing

Canned Spaghetti-O's and Ravioli

Puddings and Applesauce

NEW HOPE SUNSHINE BAGS


The Women in God's Service (WinGS) are collecting **TRAVEL SIZE ITEMS** for New Hope Ministries Sunshine Bags. Please fill a gallon size Ziploc bag with **travel size items**. These bags are provided to individuals when they go to New Hope to take a shower. A container has been placed at the back entrance of the church. Please contact Tina Freidhof with any questions. THANK YOU!


Items for women: shampoo, conditioner, razor, shaving cream, soap, deodorant, comb, toothbrush, toothpaste.

Items for men: shampoo, razor, shaving cream, soap, comb, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste.

Vacation Bible School at Trindle Spring Lutheran Church

 Sunday, July 26, 2026 to Thursday, July 30, 2026

 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

 14 State Road, Mechanicsburg, PA, USA

Sign up today for VBS! Throughout this program, we will go on a Tropical Trek and along the way be guided by our Savior, Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life! Let's go on an unforgettable journey!

<https://vbsmate.com/students/trindlespringlutheranvbs/32028>

Register through the above web link for Trindle Spring Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School. Each night we'll serve a kid-friendly dinner beginning at 5pm, and VBS will run from 5:45-8pm. On Thursday evening, we'll have a big celebration open to the whole family with lots of activities, games, and more great food. Then, on Sunday, August 2, at 9:15am, all VBS participants and their families are encouraged to join our congregation for VBS Sunday - where we'll share pictures, songs and stories about our week together! So, mark your calendars now - we can't wait to see you!

SUMMER DAY CAMP FOR KIDS

Mark your calendars! Day Camp at St. Mark will return this summer for kids from K- 5th grade. Those who are older are encouraged to come and help during camp this summer. On **August 3 through August 7 from 8:30 am—3:30 pm**. This year we use the ELCA's National Youth Gathering's theme: *Imagine More, Courage, Joy, Love, Welcome, and Grace*. We will learn how the Kingdom of God is a place of **more**. This **FREE** camp is a great way for our youth and youth in our community to grow in their faith! If you know young people who would like to attend, invite them to join us. If you want to be part of sharing faith with the next generation, let Pastor Marleen know, and we will find ways for you to participate.

DAY CAMP WISH LIST

Pastor Marleen has developed a Wish List for this year's Day Camp which will be held **August 3-7**. Please look over the following list and select something that you might be willing to donate. Keep checking, as well, because the list is sure to be updated as we get closer to August.

Toilet paper rolls
Paper towel rolls
Large bottles of acrylic glue
(assorted colors)
Large metal cans

Scrap paper—especially
colored paper
Cardboard boxes
Masking tape
Colored cardstock
Ping pong balls

** children, grandchildren, neighbors!

** loving adults and older youth (Even 2 hours of your time that week helps!)

PURSE PROJECT

Again, this spring and summer, the Social Ministry Outreach Committee will be collecting items for their *Purse Project*. **WE NEED YOUR HELP**. Our Purse Project is aimed at supplying women with some of the little things they need to get back on their feet. Here are some items to consider when donating:

**Large purses or totes
(preferably new or gently used)**

Full size bottle of shampoo	Mints
Wash cloth	Deodorant
Bar of soap	Comb
Body wash	Razor
Toothpaste	Scarf
Toothbrush	Hat
Any hygiene product	Gloves
Make-up	Small first aid kit
Hand wipes	Thermal socks
Bottled Water	Chapstick
Hand sanitizer	Facial Wipes
Hand lotion	Trail Mix
Beef jerky	Gum
Applesauce	Other appropriate items

Containers have been placed at the back entrance of St. Mark for your donations. Please contact Karen Fisher, Chair, Social Ministry Committee, with questions.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF—SCHOOL KITS

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children—and in some cases—adults continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families, and their communities.

The Social Ministry Outreach Committee is collecting items listed below for Lutheran World Relief to fulfill their urgent need of School Kit requests. We will be collecting items through **Sunday, September 6.**

Please place items in the containers marked “School Kits.” Thank you so much for helping individuals who are in need.

- Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8” X 10½”; no loose-leaf paper
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener

- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secured together with a rubber band
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secured together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 2½” eraser

If you would like to contribute toward the purchase of backpacks, supplies, or shipping fund, please mark your contributions accordingly.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

ELECTRONIC GIVING

St Mark has successfully established a non-profit Venmo account which enables electronic giving. Venmo has some fees, a 1.9% processing fee and a 10 cents per transaction fee. When you give, St Mark will pay these fees. Your donation record will reflect your full donation.

To give this way, you must have an active Venmo account. You can give using the charity name, St Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mechanicsburg, @StMark-117 or by using the following QR code.



If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Amos or Barb Yost.



July 5 & 19 July 23	Outdoor Worship—10:00 am Book Club
July 26-July 30	Vacation Bible School at Trindle Spring
August 2 & 16	Outdoor Worship—10:00 am
August 3-7	St. Mark Day Camp
August 9	Annual Church Picnic-Memorial Park
August 16	Blessing of the Backpacks
September 13	God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday
September 20	Peaches & Ice Cream following worship
October (TBA)	In-Gathering for LWR
October 13	Soup on the Sidewalk at Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade
October 18	55 th Annual CROP Walk-Memorial Park
November (TBA) November 26	Annual Meeting Tentative Thanksgiving Meal
December 24	Lighting of the Luminaries Christmas Eve Services

Altar Flower Sponsorship Form

Please check the one that applies to your sponsorship and complete the following statements:

- In memory of _____
- In honor of _____
- To the Glory of God

Sponsor Name: _____

Sponsor Phone #: _____

Sponsor Email: _____

Date Requested: _____

- Willing to Share

Circle Payment Enclosed:

\$25.00 One Vase of Flowers

\$50.00 Both Vases of Flowers



Checks should be made payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church and note "Altar Guild" in the memo line. Place in the offering plate or mail directly to the church office



Please check any that apply!

- Flowers will be picked up by sponsors.
- Deliver one vase of flowers to shut-in or hospital
- Deliver both vases of flowers to shut-in or hospital

Please contact Connie Kuntz at 717-503-5244 with any questions.

THANK YOU!

LECTIONARY 13

FROM WELCOME TO BELONGING

In just a few verses, the word welcome sets the tone in this week's gospel passage. There are transactional aspects when we welcome guests into our personal spaces, or when we are welcomed by others. We are aware of the power dynamics between host and guest, and the welcome that is given and received reflects our understanding of these roles. There are also different degrees of welcome. For example, it is one thing to experience a welcome of our physical presence, and quite a different matter when our perspectives and opinions are welcomed. The former relies on host-guest roles; the latter relies on a relationship being formed beyond culturally established roles.

It is no surprise that congregations pay attention to their welcome practices. Some even adopt and publicize welcome statements. Congregations usually consider how visitors or guests come into their space for a worship service they host. When deeper welcome practices are employed, we can grow in our understanding of how we give and receive. This provides an interesting opportunity to consider that welcoming is more than just hospitality. We can also consider how the worship event happens because we are gathered by the Holy Spirit, so God is our host and we are all guests in that space.

Moving worship beyond a typical guest-host transaction, the reward is experiencing our belonging together as people of God. Belonging means welcoming one another into shared space. Seeking a wide expression of belonging challenges power dynamics that might otherwise remain in place in more traditional guest-and-host situations. Belonging is a culture we in congregations can cultivate and a gift we can share.

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