# ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MECHANICSBURG NOVEMBER 2, 2025 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - HOLY COMMUNION



#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES**

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Worship Service

9:45 am - Sunday Church School

9:45 am - Children's SS and Choir

11:00 am - First Sunday of each month

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 Church Office: 717-766-4482

Church Office: 717-766-4482

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: <u>denisehirn@hotmail.com</u>

Brad Hull, Director of Music

Brad's Cell Phone: 202-738-2795 Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com

www.stmarkmburg.com

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St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

# ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 2, 2025

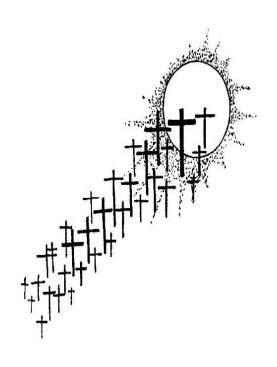
# CANDLES OF REMEMBRANCE

## ST. MARK MEMBERS

Mollie Randolph
Doris Berger
Ed Ruth
Betty Kearney
Charlotte Miller
Nancy Anspach
Jacqueline Kadel
Doris Zentmeyer
Gene Zentmeyer
Nina McElwain
Velma Mumper

#### REMEMBERING OTHERS

Ron Adams
Sam Davis
Pat Davis
Penelope Keith
Steve Kostelac
Stan Mateja
Sue Reday
Donald Thomas
Debbie Wallace



#### ST. MARK EVENGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MECHANICSBURG

#### **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!

#### **WELCOME TIMOTHY LUPIA**

Timothy Lupia is an American tenor, performing operatic roles, concerts, and original songs. Born and raised in Pennsylvania, he balances life as a professional performer and teacher. His charismatic conduct has delighted audiences in such roles as Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte*, Chevalier de la Force in *Dialogues des Carmélites*, and Alfred in *Die Fledermaus*. He has sung with Central City Opera, Seagle Festival, CoOPERAtive, and Penn Square Music Festival. His sundry repertoire also includes roles in new American operas such as Dallas in *Service Provider* and Mark Twain in *Harmony*. Most recently, you can see Timothy perform in Gamut Theatre's production of *The Mikado*, *Eh!* in November.

Timothy has performed with orchestras as the tenor soloist in Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, Handel's *Messiah* Part I, and Orff's *Carmina Burana*. In addition to concert work, he has sung recitals including works by Schumann, Finzi, and Heggie. Timothy is the tenor section leader at Pine Street Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg, PA. He serves as a contributing faculty member at Dickinson College, as a voice teacher at Lebanon Valley College's Community Music Institute, and he maintains a private studio. He is also an English teacher at East Pennsboro Area School District. Timothy received his bachelor's degrees in Music and Economics at Lebanon Valley College, and he received his master's degree in Voice Performance and Pedagogy at Westminster Choir College. In October 2025, he released an EP, Staircase, as the musical project, Lupia.

#### INTRODUCTION TO TODAY

In holy baptism God makes saints out of sinners. In holy communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In worship today we give thanks for all the saints "who from their labors rest." In the same breath we petition our God for the strength to hear and to heed the admonitions of Jesus in today's gospel. Sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Savior's body and blood, we live with joy as God gives us breath, to the praise of God's glory.

Asterisk (\*) in the margin of this bulletin indicates the congregation shall rise as able.

#### PRELUDE MUSIC

Special Music: Timothy Lupia

We Walk by Faith

## **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.

K. Marrolli

- C Amen.
- P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.
- P 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 Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are captive to sin 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 neighbors 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.
- C Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore 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.
- C Amen.

#### \*GATHERING HYMN

(Please bring Thanksgiving food items to the altar during the singing of the hymn.)

## For All the Saints



Please see next page for verses 4, 5, 6.



Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

Music: SINE NOMINE, R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

#### \*GREETING

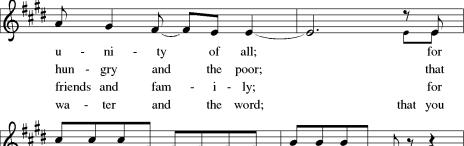
- P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

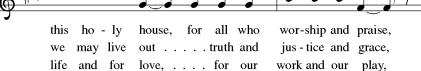






- For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im passioned re sponse to the 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the





souls . . . with your

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord,

nour-ish our

let us pray to the Lord.

bod - y and blood,



#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

#### **ANTHEM**

Special Music: Timothy Lupia

At the River A. Copland

## FIRST READING: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

The book of Daniel was written in the second century BCE, when the Syrian king Antiochus Epiphanes was severely persecuting the Jews. Daniel's vision of the four beasts proclaims that human kings will come and go, but the kingdom will ultimately belong to God and to God's people.

R A reading from Daniel.

<sup>1</sup> In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: <sup>2</sup> I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, <sup>3</sup> and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.

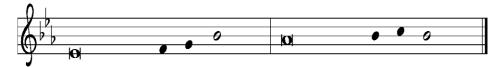
<sup>15</sup> As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. <sup>16</sup> I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: <sup>17</sup> "As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. <sup>18</sup> But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever."

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM: Psalm 149

(Please sing the Psalm responsively—Choir, the regular print; Congregation; the **bold print**.)



- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD | a new song; sing his praise in the congregation | of the faithful.
- <sup>2</sup> Let Israel rejoice | in his maker; let the children of Zion be joyful | in their king.
- <sup>3</sup>Let them praise his name <sup>1</sup> in the dance; let them sing praise to him with tim- <sup>1</sup> brel and harp.
- <sup>4</sup> For the LORD takes pleasure | in his people and adorns the | poor with victory.
- <sup>5</sup>Let the faithful <sup>|</sup> rejoice in triumph; let them be joyful <sup>|</sup> on their beds.
- <sup>6</sup> Let the praises of God be | in their throat and a two-edged sword | in their hand;
- <sup>7</sup> to wreak vengeance | on the nations and punishment | on the peoples;
- 8 to bind their | kings in chains and their nobles with | links of iron;
- <sup>9</sup> to inflict on them the judg- | ment decreed; this is glory for all his faithful people. | Hallelujah!

# SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:11-23

After giving thanks for the faith of the Ephesians, the writer of this letter prays that they might understand the wisdom, hope, and power of God that is embodied in Jesus Christ.

# R A reading from Ephesians.

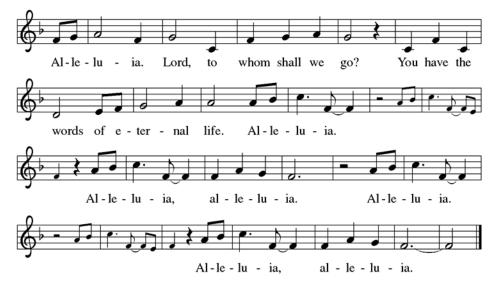
<sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according

to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

#### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



#### \*GOSPEL: Luke 6:20-31

In echoes of the prophet Isaiah and Mary's song of praise, Jesus reveals surprising things about who enjoys blessing and who endures woe. He invites his disciples to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders.

- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.
- <sup>20</sup> Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said:
  - "Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

- <sup>21</sup> "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.
- "Blessed are you who weep now,

for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.
<sup>23</sup> Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in

heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> "But woe to you who are rich,

for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

<sup>27</sup> "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; <sup>28</sup> bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. <sup>29</sup> If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup> Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. <sup>31</sup> Do to others as you would have them do to you."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

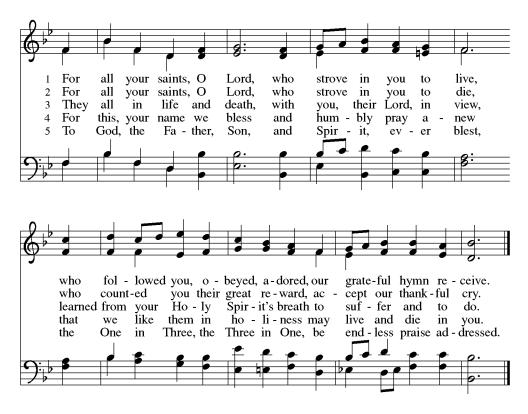
C Praise to you, O Christ.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**SERMON** 

#### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

# For All Your Saints, O Lord



Text: Richard Mant, 1776–1848, alt. Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 \*NICENE CREED 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

- Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, Α the world, and all who are in need.
- Hear us, O God. Α
- Your mercy is great.

- P We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- 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.

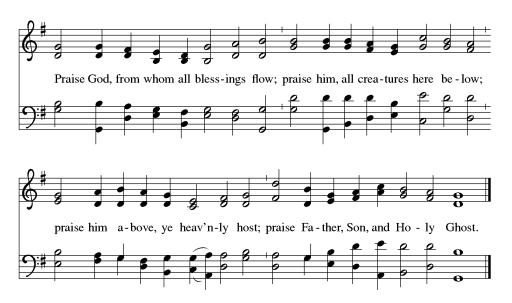
#### **OFFERING**

# **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**Come Share The Lord

B.J. Leach/arr. R. Tabell

#### \*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

# Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

#### \*OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- 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 him 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. By the witness of your saints, you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.

# (A bell will ring after each individual's name is read.)

And so, with

Mollie Randolph Doris Berger Ed Ruth

Betty Kearney Charlotte Miller Nancy Anspach Jacqueline Kadel Doris Zentmeyer Gene Zentmeyer

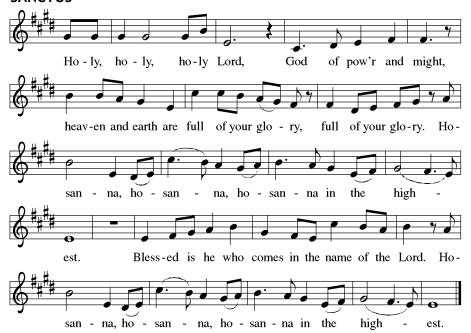
Nina McElwain Velma Mumper Ron Adams Sam Davis Pat Davis

Penelope Keith Steve Kostelac Stan Mateja Sue Reday

Donald Thomas Debbie Wallace

and all the saints, with the choirs of angels, and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### \*SANCTUS



#### \*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.

You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

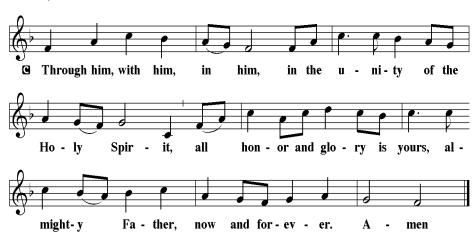
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

- P Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us.

  And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
- C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.
- P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



#### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

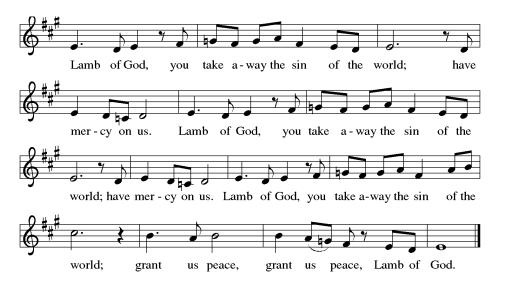
C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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 There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.



#### 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.

# Give Thanks for Saints



Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, b. 1962

Music: REPTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918 Text © 2003 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission.

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## Shall We Gather at the River



Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry (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

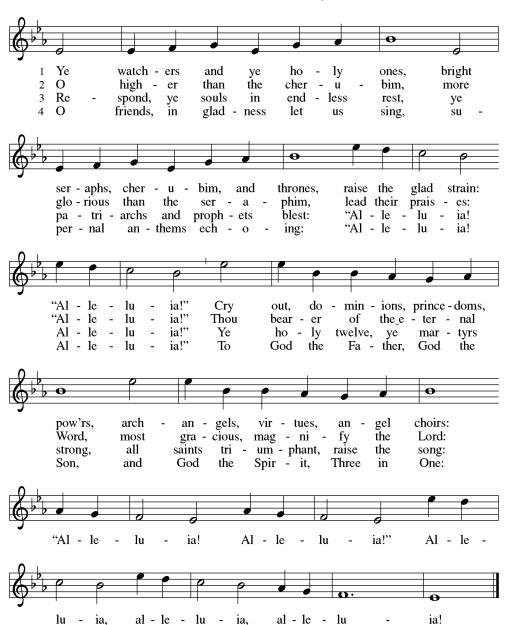
- A Let us pray.
- A We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### \*BLESSING

- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
- C Amen.

#### \*CLOSING HYMN

# Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones



Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858–1945 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623 Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### \*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C Thanks be to God.

# \*POSTLUDE When We All Get To Heaven

E.E. Hewitt



To the Glory of God by the Johnston Family.

# **TODAY'S ASSISTANTS**

Assisting Minister: Sean Gimbel

Lay Reader: Barb Yost

Acolyte: Joan Murphy

Ushers: Gene Shaner, Terry Shaner

Altar Guild: Terry Shaner, Cindy Larkin

Money Duty: Ben Yost, Karen Fisher

Your 2026 offering envelopes are available in the Narthex.

#### THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, November 2 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
THANKSGIVING FOOD FOR NEW HOPE

8:30 am Worship Service-Communion

9:45 am Sunday Church School 9:45 am Children's SS and Choir

11:00 am Worship Service-Communion 12:00 pm Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Monday, November 3

2:45 pm Violin Lessons 7:00 pm German Group

Tuesday, November 4 Election Day 1:00 pm Book Club

Wednesday, November 5

11:00 am Bible Study 12:30 pm Evangelism

2:00 pm Worship & Music 3:30 pm Worship Planning

6:00 pm Bell Choir

7:00 pm Adult Vocal Choir

Thursday, November 6

3:15 pm Violin Lessons

7:00 pm Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Friday, November 7

3:00 pm Violin Lessons

Saturday, November 8

Sunday, November 9 22<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:30 am Worship Service

9:30 am Congregation Meeting 9:45 am Children's SS and Choir 12:00 pm Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

LESSONS: NOVEMBER 9, 2025 FIRST LESSON Job 19:23-27a PSALM Psalm 17:1-9

SECOND LESSON 2<sup>nd</sup> Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

GOSPEL Luke 20:27-38

#### -ANNOUNCEMENTS-

#### NEW HOPE MINISTRIES—HELPING THOSE IN NEED

The Social Ministry Committee designates one Sunday per month to bring items in support of New Hope Ministries. Following are the items for November and December:

TODAY - November 2 - Thanksgiving Food Items

Turkey, Potatoes, Stuffing, Canned Yams, Canned Corn, Canned Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Gravy, Aluminum Roaster pan, Pumpkin Pie Mix, Boxed Potatoes, Canned Fruit Cocktail, Boxed Stuffing, Dry Beans, or anything you would like to give.

#### December 7 - Christmas Food Items

Turkey or Ham, Potatoes, Stuffing, Canned Yams, Canned Corn, Canned Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, Gravy, Aluminum Roaster pan, Pumpkin Pie Mix, Boxed Potatoes, Canned Fruit Cocktail, Boxed Stuffing, Dry Beans, or anything you would like to give.

# January/February 2026

Soup-er Bowl-Chicken Noodle and Tomato Soup

#### **BOOK CLUB**

The Evangelism Committee is hosting a book club read on **Tuesday**, **November 4**, **at 1:00 pm in the parlor**. The suggested read is a book entitled, *A Man Called Ove*, by Fredrik Backman. The book is available through the library, Thrift Books, or Amazon. Please join us for fellowship and discussion.

#### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will be held **Sunday, November 9, at 9:30 am following worship service in the Sanctuary.** The agenda includes approval of the 2026 Budget and election of council members for 2026. Copies of the budget are available at entrances to the church.

# BE A SANTA TO UNDERPRIVILEGED ADULTS—CONTRIBUTIONS AND SHOPPERS NEEDED

Over the past 14 years, we have purchased and delivered Christmas gifts to residents of the American House Apartments and Brethren House Apartments located in the Borough of Mechanicsburg. These facilities are designed for underprivileged individuals who are 62 years of age or older or individuals who are disabled. These residents are on a limited income; many with no or estranged families, and most of the residents do not own or drive a car. We would like to continue providing Christmas to these individuals as well as a luncheon for the residents.

We will be requesting "wish lists" from each of the residents. We have been blessed with a wonderful group of shoppers and a wonderful group of individuals who donate and help with the shopping.

If you are interested in making a financial contribution to help defray the expenses, please mark your offering envelope "Social Ministry" no later than Sunday, November 9. If you would like to help with the shopping, please contact Karen Fisher at 717-580-7507 or email at kfisher@stmarkmburg.com.

#### PARENTS' NIGHT OUT & YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT

Mark your calendars for Saturday, **November 22, 2025**—it's going to be a funfilled evening at St. Mark Lutheran Church!

#### Parents' Night Out (5:00-7:00 p.m.)

Need a break? We've got you covered! Parents of potty trained preschoolers through 5th grade children are invited to enjoy a night out while your kids enjoy a safe and fun evening right here at church. From 5:00-7:00 p.m., our Older Youth and Adult volunteers will provide babysitting, dinner, and engaging activities for the children. Please let us know how many children and their ages will be attending NO LATER THAN Wednesday, November 19 by emailing: revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com

## Youth Movie Night (7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.)

The fun doesn't stop there! At 7:00 p.m., our Older Youth will stay for a special Movie Night. Popcorn will be provided, and each youth is asked to bring along a favorite snack to share with friends.

This evening is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, fun, and a little break for parents—while our young people build community together. Don't miss it!

#### CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS EXPRESS

Our Christmas Blessings Express tree is located at the back entrance of St. Mark. We are collecting unwrapped gifts through <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 30</u>. Copies of the New Hope Ministries Wish List are available at entrances to the church as well.

#### TAKE TIME TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD - JOINT THANKSGIVING SERVICE

We celebrate Thanksgiving as a time to break from our normal schedule and give God thanks for all that we have! The Mechanicsburg Area Lutheran Churches are planning a special time to give thanks with a joint worship service on **Sunday, November 23, at 6:30 pm** at Trinity Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg (that is Trinity on Main Street at 132 E Main Street). You are encouraged to join with your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ this Thanksgiving!

#### SAVE THE DATE-DECK THE HALLS

Come join in the fellowship as we hang the wreaths and decorate the trees for Christmas on **Saturday**, **December 13**, **at 9:00 am**. Hoping to see you there!

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

| November 2<br>November 2   | All Saints Sunday<br>Camp Nawakwa Quilt Auction                                                                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 4<br>November 4   | Book Club<br>Election Day                                                                                             |
| November 9                 | Congregation Meeting                                                                                                  |
| November 22<br>November 22 | Parent's Night Out (5:00 pm-7:00 pm) Youth Movie Night (7:00 pm-9:00 pm)                                              |
| November 23                | Joint Thanksgiving Svc. at Trinity-6:30 pm                                                                            |
| November 30                | Deadline to order poinsettias                                                                                         |
| December 7<br>December 7   | Christmas Caroling for Neighbors-3:00 pm<br>Christmas Carol Sing with cookies and<br>cocoa in Fellowship Hall-4:00 pm |
| December 13                | Decorate the church for Christmas                                                                                     |
| December 24                | Christmas Eve Services & Lighting of the Luminaries                                                                   |
| January 2026               | Soup-er Bowl Begins                                                                                                   |
| January 6<br>January 6     | Epiphany Day Taco Tues - 6:00 pm<br>Epiphany Day Service - 7:00 pm                                                    |
| February 2                 | Roller Skating                                                                                                        |

#### DISCLAIMER FOR RECORDING SERVICES

We are blessed to be able to record our worship services. By entering and by your presence here, you consent to be filmed and/or otherwise recorded for our congregation and on YouTube. Our cameras are generally directed at the front of the sanctuary.

#### POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia(s) to be placed in the chancel for Christmas or donate money to Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels, please complete the form below. The cost of each poinsettia is \$13.00 for a red poinsettia in a 6" pot that will have at least four blooms. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, November 30. Separate checks should be made to St. Mark Lutheran Church and be sure to put Altar Guild on the memo line. Please place your check with your order in the offering plate.

П

POINSETTIA

#### PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX

**MEALS ON WHEELS** 

| □ In honor of                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------|
| □ In memory of                                     |
| ☐ To the Glory of God                              |
| Presented by                                       |
| □ Deliver to Shut-in                               |
| □ Will pick up after worship service on Christmas. |
| Total number of Poinsettias ordered                |
| Amount of Check                                    |

# SPONSOR A LUMINARY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24, 2025



We are offering you the opportunity to sponsor a luminary for \$5.00. Every dollar collected will be donated to Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels.

We will place your name on the luminary bag(s) along with the information you provide below.

We will begin the lighting of the luminaries at 3:15 pm on Christmas Eve. You are welcome to join us and light the luminaries that you sponsor, or we will light them for you. Worship services will be held at 4:00 pm (special music starting at 3:45 pm) and 9:30 pm (special music starting at 9:00 pm).

#### PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOXES

| Total number of luminaries sponsored                |
|-----------------------------------------------------|
| ☐ I will come and help light luminaries at 3:15 pm. |
| ☐ In honor of                                       |
| ☐ In memory of                                      |
| ☐ To the Glory of God                               |
| Sponsored by                                        |
| Check amount                                        |

Please make checks payable to St. Mark Lutheran Church and note "luminary sponsor" on the memo line no later than December 14.

#### **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

#### A GREAT REWARD

It's a dramatic scene: that moment in a movie when a large family comes together for the reading of the last will and testament. Usually, a lawyer sits facing the assembly with a pile of papers. The family members sit on the edge of their seats in anticipation. As the camera pans around the room, we can imagine their thoughts: "What will I get?" "Which one of us will keep the mansion?" "How much will my inheritance be?"

This typical scene of "reading the will" gets flipped upside down on All Saints Sunday. Yes, All Saints Sunday is about the reality of death and what happens next. But on this day, instead of looking at a lawyer, we look to Jesus. We give thanks for the inheritance Jesus has already made possible for us through his death on the cross and his resurrection to eternal life.

Our inheritance from Jesus isn't only hope for the future. It's the fuel that helps us live today. When we are poor, we can trust that one day, God will give us his kingdom. When we are hungry, we can trust that God will fill us. Jesus' words assure us that he is with us now and that our reward is great in heaven. In him, God has conquered sin and death. Our inheritance as children of God is secure.

Jesus' words are a comfort to us. His promise about our inheritance fills us with hope, especially when we hear the names of those who have died in the past year read aloud on All Saints Sunday. Even as we grieve their loss, we trust that their reward is great in heaven. Because of God's reconciling love for all creation, the inheritance of eternal life belongs to us and to the saints who have gone before us.

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