

ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
NOISY SUNDAY
18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY COMMUNION



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Worship Service
9:45 am - Sunday Church School
9:45 am - Children's Sunday School
10:20 am - Youth Ensemble

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull, Pastor
Pastor's Cell Phone: 878-295-2173
Pastor's Email: revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com

Karen Fisher, Office Manager
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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 Youth Ensemble
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St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

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OF MECHANICSBURG
SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
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HOLY COMMUNION**



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

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Michael and All Angels

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Michael the archangel, captain of the heavenly hosts, is remembered on this day along with the other angels and archangels. The word "angel" means messenger, and in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, these beings have a fully spiritual nature and no physical body.

Jerome, translator, teacher, died 420

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Jerome was a biblical scholar and translator, but rather than translating the original Hebrew and Greek scriptures into classical Latin, he worked in the commonly-spoken Latin of the day, creating a version called the Vulgate.

PRELUDE

Toccata in C Major

J.S. Bach/Arr.. Thompson

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.

Asterisk (*) in the margin of this bulletin indicates to please stand as you are able.

*GATHERING HYMN

God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of

praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en;
change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;

what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's

(Continued next page)



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

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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



- 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

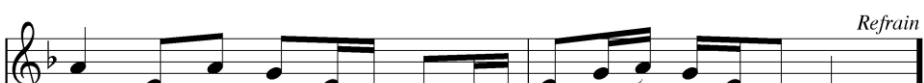


Lis - ten! you na - tions of the world: lis - ten to the Word of the Lord. An -



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

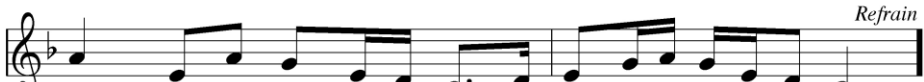
1 The Lord who scat - tered Is - ra - el will gath - er his peo - ple a - gain; and



Refrain

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

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



Refrain

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

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 God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

ANTHEM

Jesus, Name Above All Names

N. Hearn

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

R A reading from Ezekiel.

¹ The word of the Lord came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please sing the Psalm responsively; choir the regular print, congregation the bold print.)



² Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed | in their schemes.

⁴Lead me in your ¹ truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all ¹
the day long.

⁶ Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹ my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸ He guides the humble in | doing right
and teaches his way | to the lowly.

SECOND LESSON: Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

R A reading from Philippians.

¹If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,

¹⁰so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the

prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

NOISY SUNDAY COLLECTION

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 Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

NOTE: *Please read the **BOLDED FIRST NAMES ONLY** out loud down each column when prompted by the Assistant Minister.*

P Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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

2-part Invention #12 in A Major

J.S. Bach

*THE OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

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 the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff continues the melody. The third staff has a repeat sign at the beginning. The fourth staff continues the melody. The fifth staff ends with a double bar line.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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*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.

*EUCCHARISTIC 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**

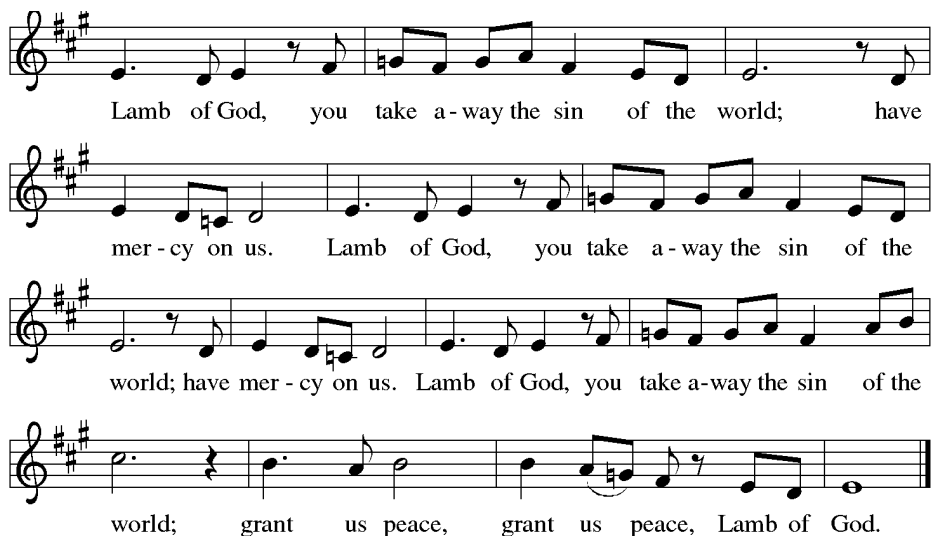
C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

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.



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.

-HYMN OF THE DAY-

At the Name of Jesus



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
 2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name
 4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
 5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.
 all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
 from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
 all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.
 on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,
 thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,
 faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;
 Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
 for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
 all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
 brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.
 let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
 and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

Text: Caroline M. Noel, 1817-1877

Music: KING'S WESTON, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Music from *Songs of Praise*, © Oxford University Press 1925.

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-COMMUNION-

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
 win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
 you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.
 Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898

(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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing, to God ev-er-liv-ing,

the peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—

The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,

the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.

The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing

to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

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(Please be seated for announcements.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***DISMISSAL**

A Heaven has come near. Go share the good news!

C Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**

Take the Name of Jesus With You

Baxter/Doane



In memory of parents by Tyson and Joan Murphy.

TODAY'S ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister:

Barb Yost

Lay Reader:

Scott Kreiger

Acolyte:

Caroline Stull

Ushers:

Ben Yost, Bev Weaver

Altar Guild:

Connie Kuntz, Cindy Larkin

Zoom Operator

Lori Clelan

Council Money Duty:

Ben Yost, Amy Gimbel

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, September 27

**18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOISY SUNDAY**

8:30 am

Worship Service—Communion

9:45 am

Church Sunday School

9:45 am

Children's Sunday School

10:20 am

Youth Ensemble

12:00 Noon

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Monday, September 28

2:45 pm

Violin Lessons

7:00 pm

German Group

Tuesday, September 29

Wednesday, September 30

11:00 am

Bible Study

6:00 pm

Bell Choir

7:00 pm

Vocal Choir

Thursday, October 1

2:45 pm

Violin Lessons

7:00 pm

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Friday, October 2

2:45 pm

Violin Lessons

Saturday, October 3

Sunday, October 4

19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:30 am

Worship Service—Communion

9:45 am

Church Sunday School

9:45 am

Children's Sunday School

10:20 am

Youth Ensemble

12:00 Noon

Blessing of the Pets

12:00 Noon

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

LESSONS:

OCTOBER 4, 2026

FIRST READING

Isaiah 5:1-7

PSALM

Psalm 80:7-15

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:4b-14

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

PET BLESSING

Bring your pets to our back yard on **Sunday, October 4**, (rain date is October 11) at **12 noon** for a blessing.

MONTHLY SUNDAYS TO BENEFIT NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

Here are the items for October, November, and December:

October 18	Thanksgiving Food to Include Turkeys <i>Canned fruit, corn, peas, green beans, stuffing, gravy packs</i>
November 15	Christmas Food to include Ham/Turkeys
December 13	To be announced

YELP LOCAL GUIDE WANTED

We are still looking for Yelp Local Guides to update the comments shown in Google maps. If you know a local guide, ask them to comment on St. Mark!

ANNUAL SOUP ON THE SIDEWALK—MECHANICSBURG HALLOWEEN PARADE

Stop by St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mechanicsburg on **Tuesday, October 13, 2026**, starting at **6:00 PM** for our ***Soup on the Sidewalk event***. We are asking if you would donate a crockpot of soup. We are also looking for individually wrapped baked goods. **Please bring soup and baked goods to St. Mark no later than 5:45 pm the night of the parade.** Help is needed by serving the soup at this event as well. Sign-up sheets will be posted at entrances to St. Mark. Please contact Marlin Brown, Fellowship Chair, with any questions.



CROP Hunger Walk Benefit PANCAKE BREAKFAST Sat., Oct. 10, 2026, 8-11AM

**Shepherdstown United Methodist Church
1934 S. York St., Mechanicsburg PA 17055**

**Pancakes, Sausage Links, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit Cups,
Coffee, Tea, Milk, Orange Juice, Apple Juice**

100% of donations will benefit the CROP Walk



CROP Walk

The 55TH annual Mechanicsburg/West Shore CROP Hunger 5K Walk/Run will be held on **October 18** in **Mechanicsburg Memorial Park**. Registration is at **1:00 PM**. Team photos are at **1:20 PM**, and the Walk/Run starts at **2:00 PM**. You can join St. Mark Lutheran Church Keller Street Walkers by contacting the church office or sign up on your own. This walk is an international activity to feed the hungry in our community. Walkers are sponsored by donations which contribute to local organizations that do this work.

<https://crophungerwalk.org/mechanicsburgpa>

TRUNK OR TREAT

On **October 24 (rain date Oct 31) at 10:00 AM** our Noah's Ark themed Trunk or Treat welcomes you to trick-or-treat at the decorated car trunks and play Halloween games in our backyard! We will be serving hot dogs.

Items Needed for Trunk or Treat:

- Donations of **candy and other Trick or Treat items**—leave in the Upper Room or give to an Evangelism Committee member **no later than Sunday, October 18**.
- **Cars** for kids to visit—you can decorate it in our Noah's Ark theme, or our youth can do it for you, you can stay and hand out treats or not.
- People to "man" the trunks to help **pass out treats**.
- People to help **run games** for kids.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, or you can let a committee member know—**Evangelism Committee:** Jessica Johnston, Amy Gimbel, Gene Shaner, Pastor Marleen

SPREAD THE WORD

INVITE YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO THIS FUN EVENT!

REFORMATION BINGO

Join us in Fellowship Hall during Sunday School time on Reformation **Sunday, October 25 for Reformation BINGO and Jeopardy**. Everyone is invited. Please bring a German themed snack to share.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On **Sunday, November 1, 2026**, we will remember the Saints who have died in faith since last All Saints' Sunday, November 2, 2025. **If you have a loved one whom you would like to remember this year, please contact the church office no later than Monday, October 12, 2026.**

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Join us on Thanksgiving Day, **November 26**, for a family style meal beginning at **1:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall. Whether you are one or a dozen people, you are welcome to join the festivities. Please let us know whether you are coming or would like to help serve by contacting the church office at 717-766-4482 **no later than November 16**.

GETTING READY SUNDAY

Get ready for Advent by joining us in Fellowship Hall on **November 29 at 9:45 AM** for Advent crafts and cookie baking. We bake for the Carlisle Truck Stop Ministries so truckers can get a taste of Christmas while they are away from home. If you cannot join us but would like to donate premade cookies, contact the church office.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER RETURNING

We are planning on celebrating Thanksgiving dinner at St. Mark this year on **Thursday, November 26, 2026, at 1:00 PM in Fellowship Hall**. Helpers are needed to set up, serve, clean up, and help wash dishes. We are soliciting donations of any kind of dessert. **To defray the cost of the meal, we are requesting donations of any amount.** Please make checks payable to St Mark and write *Thanksgiving dinner* on the memo line. **Please use the sign-up sheets at entrances to our church no later than November 16** or contact the church office at 717-766-4482 to make a reservation. For additional questions or additional information, please contact Keith Hensel at 717-319-1199.

BLANKETS, HATS, SOCKS, SCARVES, AND GLOVES FOR THE HOMELESS

Fall and Winter will be here before we know it. The Blankets, Hats, Socks, Scarves, and Gloves for the Homeless Program continues year-round. New or gently used blankets, new hats, new socks, new scarves, and new gloves should be placed in the container at the back entrance. Thank you for your generosity and helping those in need.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Please contact Sara Jane Miller at 717-448-4777 or Karen Fisher in the church office at 717-766-4482 if you would like to obtain a prayer shawl, blanket, or prayer square to give as a blessing to someone or if you would like to join our wonderful team of crocheters and knitters. Thanks to all our members and friends who continue to knit/crochet for the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

"Pray with your feet" and walk your values at the
Mechanicsburg/West Shore
CROP Hunger Walk

to benefit **New Hope Ministries, Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels and Church World Service**



**Sun., Oct. 18,
2026, 2:00PM**

**Memorial Park, Memorial Park
Mechanicsburg, PA**

5K/1.5-mi. Fun Run/Walk *Rain or Shine*

**1:00PM Day of Registrations 1:20PM Team Pictures
2:00PM Fun Run/Walk Begins**

**Register online by midnight, Sun. Sept. 27 and be
guaranteed a T-shirt and be entered for door prizes.**

Strollers, leashed dogs welcome. Live DJ. Refreshments

**Use the link or QR code to register and
donate OR register in person the day of
the walk. Bing cash or a check payable to
CWS/CROP.**

<https://crophungerwalk.org/mechanicsburgpa>

For more info, contact Ulli Klemm

ulliklemm@yahoo.com 724.464.8748



CROP Hunger Walk
Benefit PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Sat., Oct. 10, 2026, 8-11AM

**Shepherdstown United Methodist Church
1934 S. York St., Mechanicsburg PA 17055**

**Pancakes, Sausage Links, Scrambled Eggs, Fruit Cups,
Coffee, Tea, Milk, Orange Juice, Apple Juice**

100% of donations will benefit the CROP Walk

JOIN IN THE FUN—VIDEO GAMING NIGHT

Video Gaming Night

For Youth in **Grades 9-12**



St. Mark Lutheran Church



117 West Keller Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



Saturday, November 21



4-8 p.m.

« **Bring a friend** and a snack
or drink to share »



October 4	Blessing of the Pets
October 10	CROP Walk Benefit Pancake Breakfast Shepherdstown United Methodist Church
October 13	Soup on the Sidewalk at Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade
October 18	55 th Annual CROP Walk—Memorial Park
October 24	Trunk or Treat
October 25	Reformation Bingo and Jeopardy (During Sunday School time)
November 1	All Saints Sunday
November (TBA)	Annual Meeting
November 21	Video Gaming Night
November 26	Thanksgiving Meal
December 24 December 24	Lighting of the Luminaries Christmas Eve Services
January 6, 2027	Epiphany, Waffle Wednesday, Chicken & Waffles
February 10	Ash Wednesday
March 25	Sedar Meal
March 28	Easter

-WORD SEARCH-

Names of Jesus

D C P R I N C E O F P E A C E L Z
R L T S Z U U O F J L M C I K I S
E O L O D Q M F J R O M W E I O S
H R K N M M M Y E D R X G F N N E
P D V O V F W M B R D C Q I G O N
E O Z F W L E I K O O X P L O F S
H F F T O E J C X L F P N F F J U
S A Y H D U V H Z E L C M O K U O
D L S E D N K R U L O S E D I D E
O L R M I A D I D P R Y S A N A T
O D R O X M H S O H D B S E G H H
G R I S K M H T G C S B I R S R G
Q N W T I I G V F U N I A B A V I
E N U H C G O H O L Y C H I L D R
D R O I V A S N N R K T Z P H C R
K J G G D O G F O B M A L I F Q U
O G H H Y Y O V S Q Y T Q B X V O

Son of the Most High

Lord of Lords

Good Shepherd

Lamb of God

Redeemer

Christ

Our Righteousness

Bread of Life

King of Kings

Son of God

Immanuel

Savior

Prince of Peace

Lion of Judah

Lord of All

Holy Child

Messiah

Lord

LECTIONARY 26

MARCHING ORDERS

Members of the string quartet look around at each other, nod, and begin tuning up to play. The basketball team huddles around the coach as she draws up the play on a dry-erase board. The volunteer teams go over their assignments one last time before heading off to their positions for the charity run. In each instance, before beginning their mission, the group takes a moment to get on the same page, to get their marching orders. In our lives as disciples of Christ, that moment is baptism.

Our marching orders, our mission guidelines, are marked on our hearts in baptism. The good news of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation in Jesus Christ that is poured over us spills out in our lives, and we are called to be agents of restoration: to bind up the brokenhearted, to care for all people and all creation. Just as the coach draws up the play or someone makes a list of the things that need to get done, we are imbued with a way of life in baptism's waters. Our motivation for this way of life is the love that has also been shown to us in Jesus: the love that feeds us each week as we gather around our Savior's table.

Even if we are sometimes reluctant, like the son in Jesus' parable who initially says he will not go to the vineyard but eventually goes, we are motivated to carry out the work to which God has called us because of the baptismal grace we have received. And whenever we pause to collect ourselves—whether it's tuning up before the performance, getting the play in the huddle, or just taking a deep breath before beginning the next item on the to-do list—we think of baptism, when our marching orders and our motivations are indelibly marked on us by Jesus.

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