

**ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
OCTOBER 26, 2025
REFORMATION 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
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
Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com**

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 TODAY

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Reformation Day

Friday, October 31, 2025

By the end of the seventeenth century, many Lutheran churches celebrated a festival commemorating Martin Luther's posting of the Ninety-five Theses, a summary of abuses in the church of his time. At the heart of the reform movement was the gospel, the good news that it is by grace through faith that we are justified and set free.

All Saints Day

Saturday, November 1, 2025

The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year.

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

PRELUDE MUSIC

Built on the Rock the Church Doth Stand

T. Holty-Nickel

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 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

The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

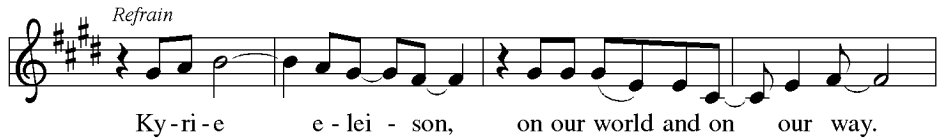
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

*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



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



hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,

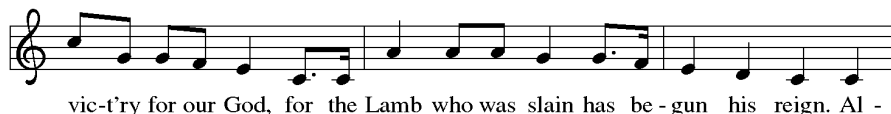
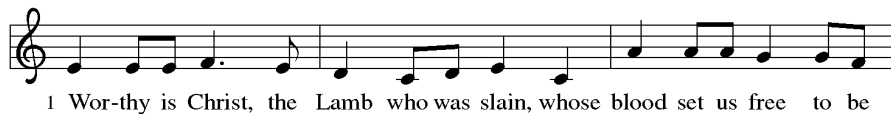
life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



*HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Final refrain



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

R A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

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



SECOND LESSON: Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

R A reading from Romans.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

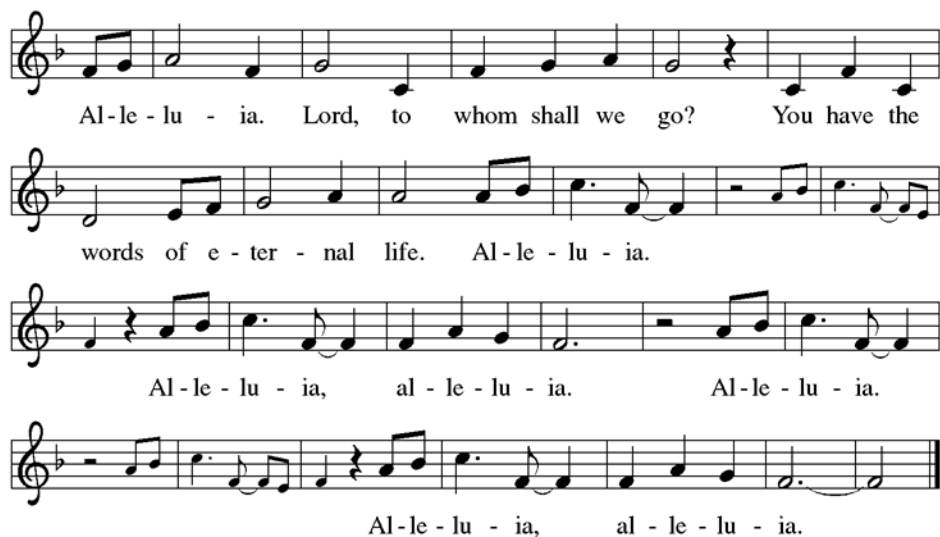
²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

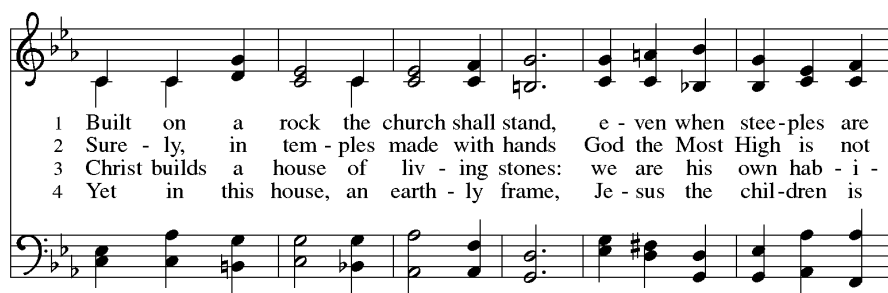
CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

NOISY SUNDAY

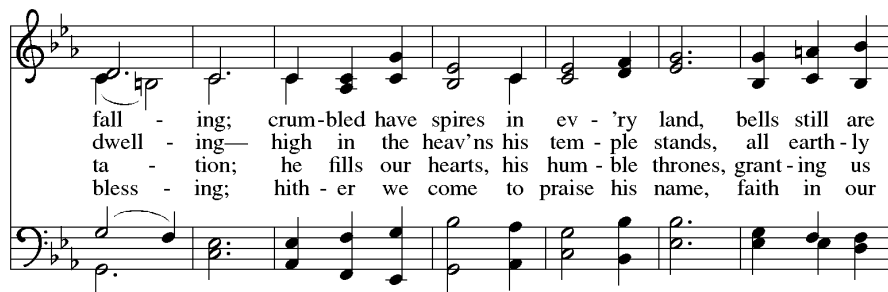
SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

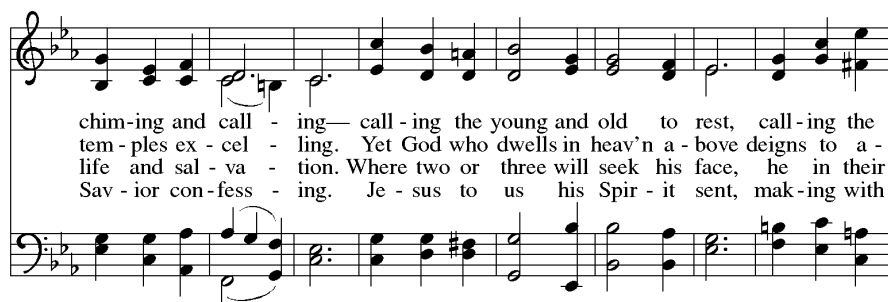
Built on a Rock



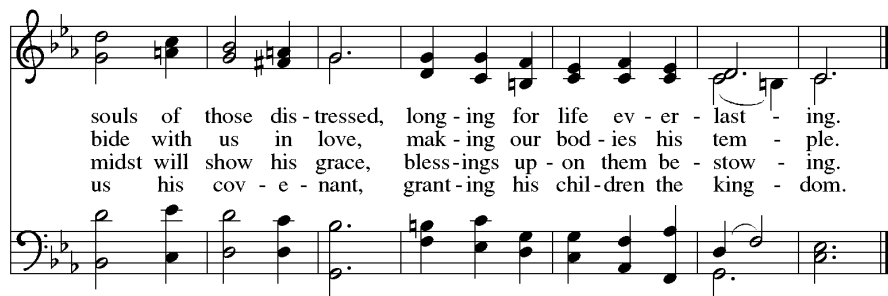
1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'n's his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
 grant that, when church bells are ringing,
 many may come to hear your Word,
 who here this promise is bringing:
 "I know my own, my own know me;
 you, not the world, my face shall see;
 my peace I leave with you. Amen."

***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**

A Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church,
the world, and all creation.

A God of grace,
C receive our prayer.

NOTE: Please read the BOLDED FIRST NAMES ONLY out loud down Each column when prompted by the Assisting Minister.

Charlene Albert	Ed Fencil	Lori Hull	Regan Moyer	Dolores Stevens
Bennett Berlin	Diann Foltz	Duryea Hummer	Amanda Mulkey	Carol Stolz
Karrigan Berlin	Ann Gilbert	Chuck Irvin	Ryan Musser	Jennifer Torok
Bob Curll	Rosie Guarino	Clairene Jones	Steve Nelson	Eden Wagner
James Dobbs	Alba Halbleib	John Kuntz	Rachel Nickle	Muretta Yentzer
Alice Dunbar	Joan Harding	Bartok Lewczuk	Alice Park	Garry Zeigler
Derwood Dunbar	Doug Hopkins	Dorota Lewczuk	Karen Priester	
Mary Jane Erby	Rick Hopkins	Family of Nina McElwain	Dolores Ruth	
Carol Fencil	Terri Hopkins	Joann Miller	Ez Sassaman	

P We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, 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

We Are the Church

Words by J. Rojah; Music By L. Dengler

*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;

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a G4 quarter note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes, and ends with a G4 half note. The bass staff begins with a G2 half note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes, and ends with a G2 half note. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

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

The second line of musical notation continues the melody from the first line. It also consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a G4 quarter note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes, and ends with a G4 half note. The bass staff begins with a G2 half note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes, and ends with a G2 half note. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us
to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who
richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless
all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our 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 our 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE: ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION

A Variable Prayer Form

This prayer is based on the readings appointed for Reformation Day: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Romans 3:19-28; and John 8:31-36. It celebrates our Lutheran heritage.

(P) Pastor Marleen (A) Karen Heath (R) Dave Harnish

- P We praise you, all-holy God,
A our maker, our lover, our keeper,
R *our Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of Truth,*
- P for the universe beyond our knowing,
A for seas and forests and fields,
R *for the waters of Wittenberg and for flowers in this place,*
- P for creatures seen and unseen,
A for animals both wild and tame,
R *for our ancestors and godparents from around the globe,*
- P and for the places we humans call home,
A for cities and churches and schools,
R *for seminaries and missions and fellowship halls.*
- P We praise you for your covenant people,
A for Moses and Miriam and Aaron,
R *for Jeremiah and the psalmists,*
- P and for centuries of faithful Christians,
A for Mary Magdalene, Peter and Paul,
R *for Luther, Melanchthon, Muhlenberg, and Fedde,
for Katie Luther and Cranach, Bach and Nicolai,
Nommensen and Kierkegaard,
Bonhoeffer and Hammar skjöld,
for all servants of the Reformation.*
- P We praise you, O God, for Jesus Christ,
A who saves us from sin and from evil,
R *embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free,*
- P who on the night before he died,
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.

P And so we remember your Word,
A his life, his death, and his glorious resurrection,
R *his presence in this meal around the world,*

P and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

P We pray, O God, for your Spirit,
A your breath, your fire, your wisdom,
R *your law, your grace, your freedom.*

P Bless this meal and all those who share it;
A inspire your people for service;
R *continue the reformation of your churches;*

P and renew the world with your mercy,
A with your healing, your justice, and your peace,
R *with the joy of life in your household.*

P We praise you, all-holy God,
A the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit,
R *mighty Fortress, victorious Champion, powerful Shield,*

P today, tomorrow, 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.

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.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
 2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,

no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
 when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is

sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

(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 The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✝
bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

8

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Christ Has Made the Sure Foundation

M. Neale



ALTAR FLOWERS

As we celebrate Pastor Appreciation Month, the flowers are presented in honor of Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull.

TODAY'S ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister:	Karen Heath
Lay Reader:	Dave Harnish
Acolyte:	Joan Murphy
Ushers:	Ken Shur, Donna Shur
Altar Guild:	Joan Murphy, Sandy Brown
Money Duty:	Amy Gimbel, Karen Fisher

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, October 26

REFORMATION SUNDAY

NOISY SUNDAY

8:30 am

Worship Service-Communion

9:45 am

Intergenerational Sunday School

12:00 pm

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

3:00 pm

Recital, Fellowship Hall, Dawn Bennett

Monday, October 27

2:45 pm

Violin Lessons

7:00 pm

German Group

Tuesday, October 28

Wednesday, October 29

11:00 am

Bible Study

6:00 pm

Bell Choir

7:00 pm

Adult Vocal Choir

Thursday, October 30

3:15 pm

Violin Lessons

7:00 pm

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Friday, October 31

3:00 pm

Violin Lessons

Saturday, November 1

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

LESSONS:

NOVEMBER 2, 2025

FIRST LESSON

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

PSALM

Psalms 149

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:11-23

GOSPEL

Luke 6:20-31

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Next **Sunday, November 2, 2025**, we will remember the Saints who have died in faith since last All Saints Sunday.

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:

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.

BOOK CLUB

The Evangelism Committee is hosting a book club read on **Thursday, 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.

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 it **"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 fun-filled 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 Sunday, November 30.** Copies of the New Hope Ministries Wish List are available at entrances to the church.

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

OCTOBER 2025	PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH
October 26	Reformation Sunday
November 2	All Saints Sunday
November 4	Book Club
November 4	Election Day
November 9	Congregation Meeting
November 22	Parent's Night Out (5:00 pm-7:00 pm)
November 22	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	Christmas Caroling for Neighbors-3:00 pm
December 7	Christmas Carol Sing with cookies and 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	Epiphany Day Taco Tues - 6:00 pm
January 6	Epiphany Day Service - 7:00 pm

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.

--WORD SEARCH--

Martin Luther and the Reformation

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

counter reformation
predestination
Reformation
Wittenberg
Council
France

ninety five Theses
Printing press
inquisition
Protestant
Germany
Calvin

Ulrich Zwingli
Martin Luther
university
Pamphlet
Europe
Erfurt

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.



PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX

☐ **POINSETTIA** ☐ **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.**

## REFORMATION SUNDAY

### HOME, SWEET HOME

Whether you have lived in several places or very few, you probably have a method for transforming a space to live into a home. Maybe you put family photos on the walls, set out mementos, or spread a favorite quilt on the bed. These touches are important if we want to feel like we belong in a new space.

Jesus offered the gift of belonging to people who newly believed in him, but they had a hard time accepting it. He said if they would continue, or abide, in his word, they would be his disciples, know his truth, and be set free. They would receive the gift of belonging to his household forever.

To us the listeners' response is surprising, as if the new believers had shut their ears as soon as they heard Jesus say, "The truth will make you free." They didn't want to accept that there was anything they needed to be set free from. On a deeper level, they didn't want to believe that someone else would need to set them free. Jesus' words invite us to reflect on where our freedom comes from, and where we belong, as his disciples.

On Reformation Sunday, we celebrate how the Holy Spirit is constantly reforming the church, the community of Jesus' disciples. We give thanks for the gospel message that Jesus saves us from sin and death through his cross and resurrection. We don't have to earn our salvation; we can simply trust that Jesus is the one who makes it possible. That's how we receive genuine freedom—as a gift of God's grace. Thanks to Jesus, we have a permanent home. No matter how many times we move, we abide with Jesus forever. This festival day encourages us to keep listening to Jesus' word, growing in faith as his disciples, and giving thanks that with him, we are always at home.

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