

ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 24, 2025



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Worship Service

9:45 am - Summer Fellowship Hour

11:00 am - Indoor Worship Service (1st 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

**ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 24, 2025**



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

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord’s day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Bartholomew, Apostle

Sunday, August 24, 2025

Mentioned as one of Jesus’ disciples in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Bartholomew’s name is replaced in John’s gospel by Nathanael, leading many to believe that the two are different names for the same person. Little is known about his work, though some traditions place him later in India or Armenia.

Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Converted from life as a thief and a robber to Christianity, Moses was an Ethiopian who became a desert monk at Skete. The change in his heart and life had a profound impact on his native country. He was murdered when Berber bandits attacked his monastery.

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

PRELUDE MUSIC

Prelude in C Major from WTC 1

J.S. Bach

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 Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

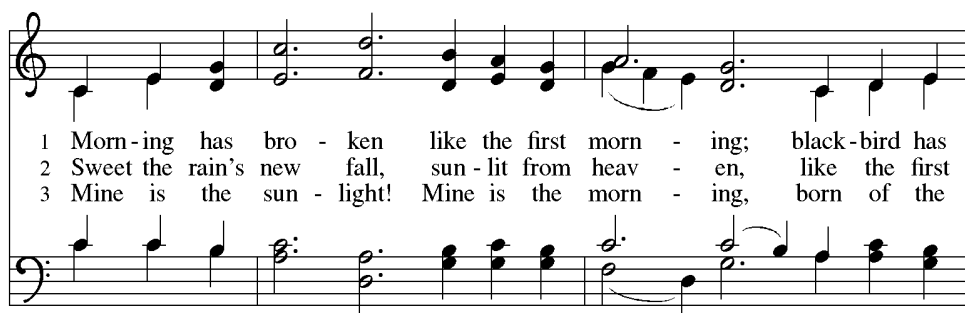
Silence for reflection and self-examination. Please kneel or be seated.

P Most merciful God,
C you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

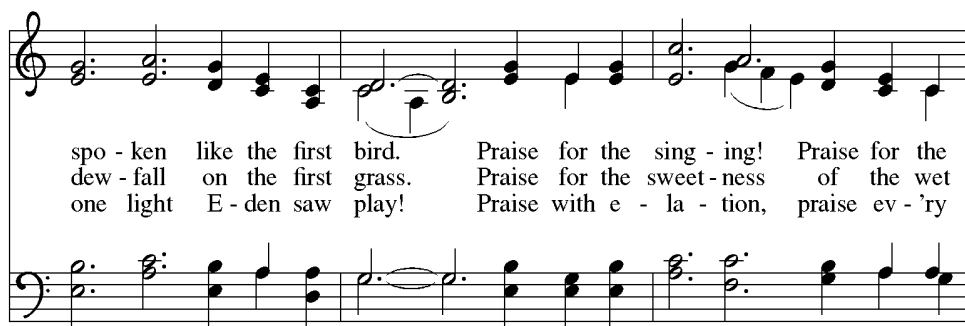
P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
C Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN

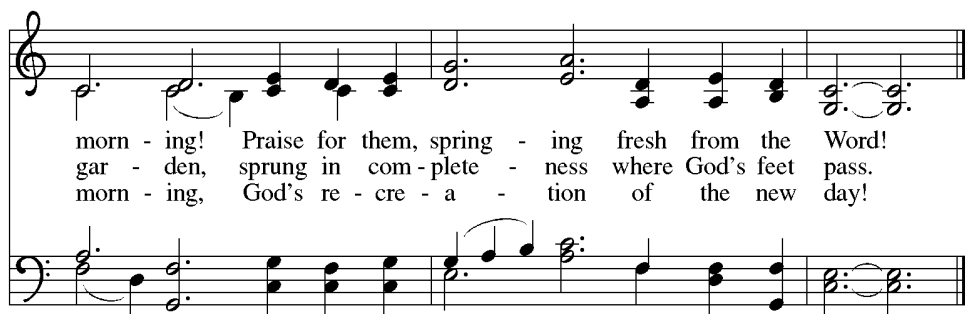
Morning Has Broken



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

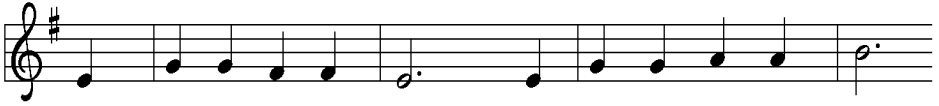
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

P O God, mighty and immortal you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Holy, Holy, Holy with Holy is the Lord

T. Fettke

Duet:

Denise Hirn

Denise Bernatos

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt, and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

R A reading from Isaiah.

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the Lord honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;

¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the Lord,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8

(Please read the Psalm responsively—men the regular print; women the bold print.)

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

² **Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.**

³ He forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities;

⁴ **he redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with mercy and lovingkindness;**

⁵ he satisfies you with good things, and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **The LORD executes righteousness and judgment for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ He made his ways known to Moses and his works to the children of Israel.

⁸ **The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.**

SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

R A reading from Hebrews.

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in

heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven!

²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17**

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding “sabbath work” to include setting people free from bondage.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath.

¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en-dures un-chang-ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!



***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.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole
people of God, for God is near.

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 Assisting Minister.

Charlene Albert	Ed Fencil	Duryea Hummer	Regan Moyer	Carol Stolz
Jill Arbogast	Diann Foltz	Clairene Jones	Amanda Mulkey	Darlene Thomas
Birgit	Ann Gilbert	Elane Jones	Roger Myers	Jennifer Torok
Randy Brown	Gregor Family	Elijah Jones	Steve Nelson	Rita Towner
Amy Corallino	Rosie Guarino	John Kuntz	Rachel Nickle	Mitzi Valentine
Bob Curl	Alba Halbleib	Layne Lebo	Alice Park	Eden Wagner
Deb	Jim Harding	Pearl Lehmer	Karen Priester	Muretta Yentzer
James Dobbs	Debby Hardy	Bartok Lewczuk	Cynthia Roteman	Garry Zeigler
Alice Dunbar	Mike Hertwick	Dorota Lewczuk	Dolores Ruth	
Derwood Dunbar	Doug Hopkins	Sue Loy	Ez Sassaman	
Carol Fencil	Rick Hopkins	Nina McElwain	Dolores Stevens	

P Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

C Amen.

OFFERING

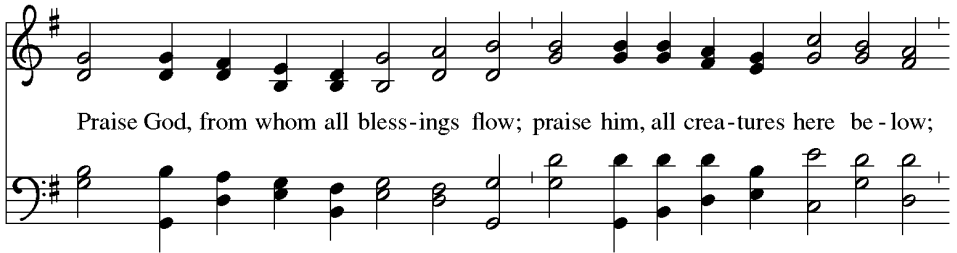
OFFERTORY

"Presto" from Sonata in E Minor

F.J. Haydn

*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 system of musical notation is for the first line of the hymn. It consists of a treble and a bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across words.



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

The second system of musical notation continues the hymn. It also consists of a treble and a bass staff with the same key signature and time signature. The melody and accompaniment continue in the same style. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across words. The system ends with a double bar line.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

*THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P O Holy One of wisdom, throughout human history and today among us here, you call us to walk the path of justice and peace. We praise you, O God of truth, for your precious words. Grant that sheltered under their richness as under the tree of life, we live in gratitude and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, your Word and our Wisdom, now and forever.

C Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

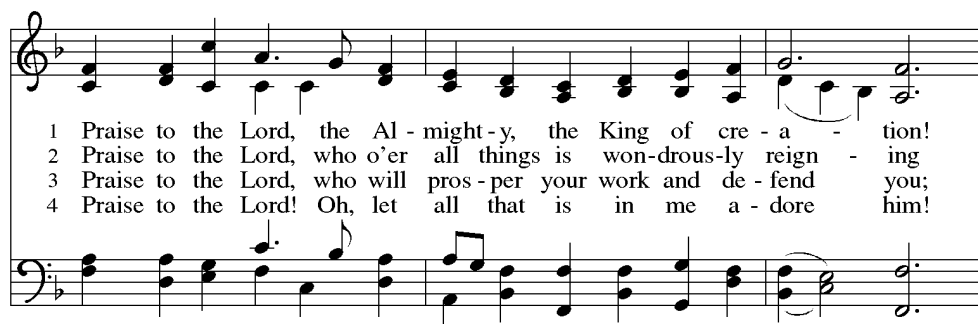
C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

***BLESSING**

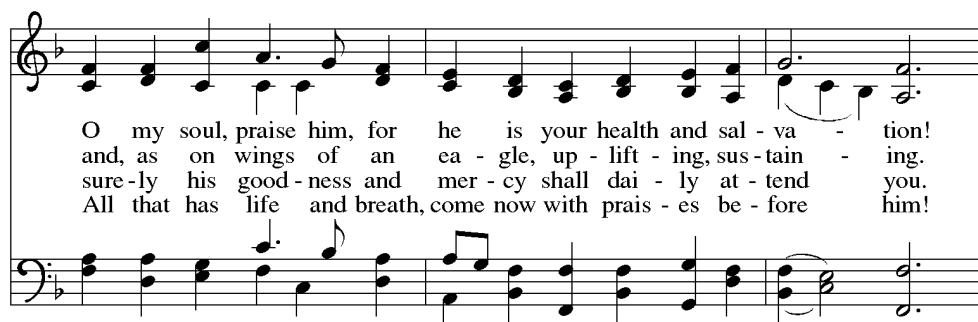
P The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus
Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and
give you peace.
C Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



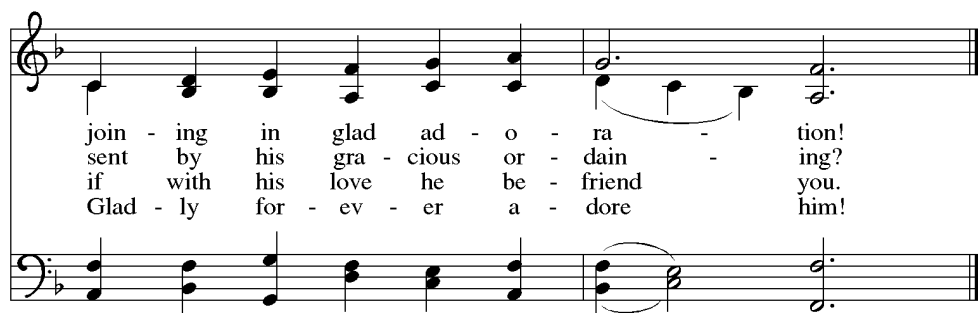
1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing
 3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



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



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



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

"This is My Father's World"

arr Whitworth

ALTAR FLOWERS



In honor of my dad, Gary Reihart, on his 86th birthday
by Dee Bernatos.

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS

We need flower sponsors for **September 21 and 28**. If you would like to sponsor one or both vases, please complete one of the forms located in the newsletter, bulletins, or entrances to St. Mark or contact Connie Kuntz at 717-503-5244.

TODAY'S ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister:	Matt Yost
Lay Reader:	Scott Kreiger
Acolyte:	Caroline Stull
Ushers:	Scott Kreiger, Deb Kreiger
Altar Guild:	Connie Kuntz, Sandy Brown
Money Duty:	Terry Shaner, Amy Gimbel

-THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK-

Sunday, August 24

8:30 am

9:45 am

12:00 pm

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Worship Service

Fellowship Hour

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Monday, August 25

3:45 pm

7:00 pm

Violin Lessons

German Group

Tuesday, August 26

1:00 pm

Social Ministry

Wednesday, August 27

Thursday, August 28

1:00 pm

6:15 pm

7:00 pm

Book Study

Ladies Night Out - T.J. Rockwells

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Friday, August 29

3:45 pm

Violin Lessons

Saturday, August 30

Sunday, August 31

8:30 am

9:45 am

9:45 am

12:00 pm

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ANNUAL PEACHES & ICE CREAM EVENT

Worship Service

Peaches and Ice Cream

Fellowship Hour

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

LESSONS:

FIRST LESSON

PSALM

SECOND LESSON

GOSPEL

AUGUST 31, 2025

Proverbs 25:6-7

Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1—8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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.

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

PEACHES AND (ICE) CREAM

On **August 31**, please join us following the 8:30 am service (about 9:45 am). We will meet in Fellowship Hall to enjoy peach treats and kick off Sunday School for the Fall.

LADIES AND FRIENDS NIGHT OUT—ALL WELCOME

The Ladies and Friends Night Out will be held at **6:15 pm on Thursday, August 28**. We will be dining at T.J. Rockwells.

<https://www.tjrockwells.com/>

Please **RSVP to Karen Fisher no later than Tuesday, August 26**. Hope to see you there!

THANKSGIVING DINNER LEADER NEEDED

At this point in time, we do not know if we will be able to have the people power to prepare Thanksgiving meals in the future. While our Committee Chair, Phyllis Mihalich, coordinates a wonderful group of volunteers serving in the kitchen, the Fellowship Committee does not have people power to continue the Thanksgiving meals unless someone steps up and takes the lead. And we need all kinds of added help.

We know there are other churches locally who offer traditional Thanksgiving meals. We will be sharing that information with you as an option if needed. **If we do not have a volunteer by August 31 to coordinate and make preparations for the Thanksgiving meal, we will notify you accordingly so that you have time to make other Thanksgiving plans.**

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF—SCHOOL KITS

The Social Ministry Outreach Committee is collecting items listed below for Lutheran World Relief to fulfill their urgent need of School Kit requests. We will be collecting items **through September 21**. Gross's is again donating their truck to take our items to Maryland. We will be holding our in-gathering and blessing of school kits and quilts on **Sunday, September 28**. **St. Mark will serve as the collection point for designated churches on Saturday, October 4**. Please place items in the containers marked "School Kits." Thank you so much for helping individuals who are in need.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- 2½” erasers

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

ALL CALL FOR BELL CHOIR

The Bell Choir enjoyed a very successful season last year and the congregation overtly shared their appreciation for its addition to St. Mark's worship. Bell choir is a unique form of music which is accessible to all levels of musical ability (including no musical ability). To select music for the bell choir, exact numbers of ringers are necessary. So, for this coming season, we are issuing an “all call.” **If you are interested in being a part of St. Mark's bell choir, whether a former or new member, please email or talk to Brad (bradleyjhull@gmail.com) by Sunday, August 31.** Based on how many people express interest in being a part of a 2025-2026 bell choir, we will determine our plan for the year.

MONTHLY NEW HOPE MINISTRIES FOOD COLLECTION:

September 21	Toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo)
October 19	Peanut Butter and Jelly
November 2	Thanksgiving Food Items (Including Turkeys)

VOCAL CHOIR AUTUMN STARTUP

The St. Mark Vocal Choir will start rehearsals for the 2025-2026 season on **Wednesday, September 3, at 7:00 pm**. If you are interested in being a part of this important ministry of the church in leading worship and providing music to facilitate our interaction with God, please come to the first rehearsal. We would love for you to sing with us. Questions should be directed to Brad Hull (Cell: 202-738-2795 or Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com).

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The start of Children's Choir for the fall is right around the corner. Children ages 3 ½ - 12 are invited to join us! Our first rehearsal will be **Sunday, September 7**. We'll meet downstairs in the first classroom on the left immediately after the church service. During each rehearsal, we praise God through music, practice our songs for the service, and play fun games. We sing or play bells at one service per month and at special events throughout the year. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. My email is denisehirn@hotmail.com and my phone number is 717-802-1064. *Miss Denise*

"GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS." SUNDAY

On **Sunday, September 7**, the nearly 10,000 congregations of the ELCA will gather to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people. The Social Ministry Committee is repeating the project of preparing a spaghetti dinner, salad, bread, and dessert to take to our shut-ins and residents of group homes in the Mechanicsburg area. **We are requesting donations of spaghetti, desserts, as well as monetary donations to help defray the cost of the meatballs, salad, and bread.** Please use the sign-up sheets at entrances to the church to volunteer. Service projects include:



- Assembling school kits
- Assembling kits for Caitlin's Smiles
- Making cards for the Cards for Kindness Program
- Clean up at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Park
- Deliver meals to shut ins at 4:00 pm

WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE (WinGS)

WinGS are holding their annual Potluck Dinner and first meeting of the 2025-2026 season. We invite ALL WOMEN to join us on **Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 6:00 pm** in Fellowship Hall. **The ROASTED TURKEY, GRAVY, MASHED POTATOES, and ROLLS will be provided by WinGS officers.** Everyone is requested to bring a dish to share. A special guest from the Joys of Life Scrapbooking will be there and will provide a special presentation. If you plan on attending, please contact Sandy Brown at 717-991-1121 (Sbrown8186@verizon.net) or Sara Jane Miller at 717-448-4777 (usersj42@yahoo.com). Our regular meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. You do not have to be a member of St. Mark to join the Women in God's Service.

HOSS'S CROP WALK RECRUITER'S RALLY COMMUNITY DAY FUND RAISER

Please save the date and plan ahead to eat at the Mechanicsburg HOSS'S (located on Old Gettysburg Pike) anytime during the day on **Thursday, September 25, 2025**. Coupons, which must be presented at HOSS'S when you order your meals, will be available at all entrances of our church as soon as they are received.

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP TIME

Fellowship time continues every Sunday in the Parlor following the **8:30 am worship service through the end of August**. We continue to share coffee, tea, and treats. If you would like to bring something to share, please do. It's never too late to join us!

MECHANICSBURG/WEST SHORE CROP HUNGER WALK

You are invited to join the 100% all-volunteer Mechanicsburg/West Shore CROP Hunger Walk on **Sunday, October 19, 2025, at Memorial Park** (Memorial Park Drive) in Mechanicsburg, PA. The 5K or 1.5-mile Fun Run/Walk will take place rain or shine to raise critical funds to serve the most vulnerable in our local and global community. There is no cost to participate. Walkers are invited to generously **sponsor themselves and to solicit sponsors. Make** checks payable to **CWS/CROP**. All proceeds benefit *New Hope Ministries, Mechanicsburg Area Meals on Wheels and the relief efforts of Church World Service*. Walk as an individual or register as part of a team. Last year, this walk raised over \$40,000 due to generous participants. Leashed dogs welcome! Refreshments and a live DJ add joy to this event which serves the needy. **T-Shirts are guaranteed to all who register online by Friday, September 26, 2025! Make sure to indicate your T-Shirt size when you register! If you need help registering, contact Karen Fisher.**

Sunday, October. 19, 2025 Schedule:

1:00PM - New Registrations

1:30PM - Team Pictures

1:50PM - Kick Off

2:00PM - Walk Begins

The Day Of The Lord

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

gloominess
zeophaniah
prophet
towers
wrath
baal

desolation
housetop
trumpet
clouds
alarm
hid

jerusalem
distress
baalism
cities
lord
day

chemarims
darkness
fenced
judah
meek
cry

wasteness
malcham
priest
voice
seek

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 28	Book Club - Somehow: Thoughts on Love
August 28	Ladies & Friends Night Out-T.J. Rockwells
August 31	Peaches & Ice Cream Sunday
September 7	God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday
September 9	WinGS Pot-Luck Dinner & Meeting
September 25	HOSS's Community Day-CROP Walk
September 28	Ingathering and Blessing of School Kits
October 4	Loading Truck-Cumberland Conference
October 5	Blessing of the Pets
October 12	Rain date-Blessing of the Pets
October 14	Soup on the Sidewalk at Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade
November 2	All Saints Sunday
October 19	CROP Walk at Memorial Park
December 24	Christmas Eve Services & Lighting of the Luminaries

The Prayer List is cleared every 4 months; therefore, will be cleared at the end of August 2025. If you would like an individual to remain on the list, please contact Karen either by email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com or by phone at 717-766-4482.

Altar Flower Sponsorship Form

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

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

Sponsor Name: _____

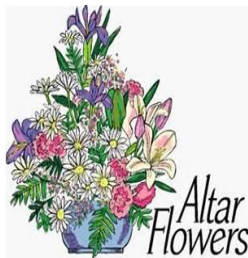
Sponsor Phone #: _____

Sponsor Email: _____

Date Requested: _____

- ☐ Willing to Share

Circle Payment Enclosed:



\$25.00 One Vase of Flowers

\$50.00 Both Vases of Flowers

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



Please check any that apply!

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

Please contact Connie Kuntz at 717-697-0436 with any questions.

THANK YOU



HOSS'S Community Day to benefit the CROP Hunger WALK:

Thursday, September 25, 2025

If you enjoy eating out, bring a copy of this notice with you to Hoss's (61 Gettysburg Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055) on Thursday, September 25, 2025, and give it to your server. **Up to 25% of your meal costs will be donated** by Hoss's to the Mechanicsburg/West Shore CROP Hunger Walk.

Our Group # is 132001. While at Hoss's, complete the CROP Walk Activity Page and spin to win a prize!

LECTIONARY 21

BREAK THE RULES

Have you ever encountered a rule or regulation that just didn't make any sense to you? What did you do? Did you follow the rule, or did you break it? And if you broke it, did you tell anyone that you did? Or did you quietly chafe against the norm?

In the reading from Luke for today, we find Jesus preaching in the temple on the day of rest and, seemingly on a whim, deciding to break the rules in front of everyone. The outrage of some people in the crowd might have come honestly, of course. Practicing their faith was a serious matter, and for many that meant carefully following the rules.

For many people today in our own communities of faith, following the rules is still a serious matter. But what if the rules prevent God's love from being shared or prevent grace from being shown? What if the rules effectively exclude rather than include?

God's loving grace is wild and free, overcoming obstacles and breaking through boundaries. Death cannot stop God's resurrecting love. Locked doors cannot stop the risen Christ. And today we see that not even religious rules can or should limit God's freeing grace.

Our gospel reading for today doesn't invite us to break the rules per se, but it does invite us to look at the rules, especially those related to our faith, and to think critically about them. How do the ways we organize ourselves and our communities extend God's grace and love, and in what ways might they prevent God's love from being shown and shared?

The God seen in Jesus intends to free humanity from the things that bind us. We see that clearly in Christ, who not only preaches God's grace but publicly reaches out with that same grace to heal and help and love. Even if it means breaking some rules.

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