

**ST. MARK EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF MECHANICSBURG
NOVEMBER 1, 2026
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - HOLY COMMUNION**



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am - Sanctuary & Zoom Worship Service

9:45 am - Sunday Church School

9:45 am - Children & Youth Sunday School

10:20 am - Youth Ensemble

Rev. Marleen Griffith-Stull, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: 878-295-2173

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Karen Fisher, Office Manager

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Office Email: kfisher@stmarkmburg.com

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

Denise Hirn, Director of Youth Ensemble

Denise's Cell Phone: 717-802-1064

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Brad Hull, Director of Music

Brad's Cell Phone: 202-738-2795

Email: bradleyjhull@gmail.com

www.stmarkmburg.com

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St Mark Lutheran Church Mechanicsburg

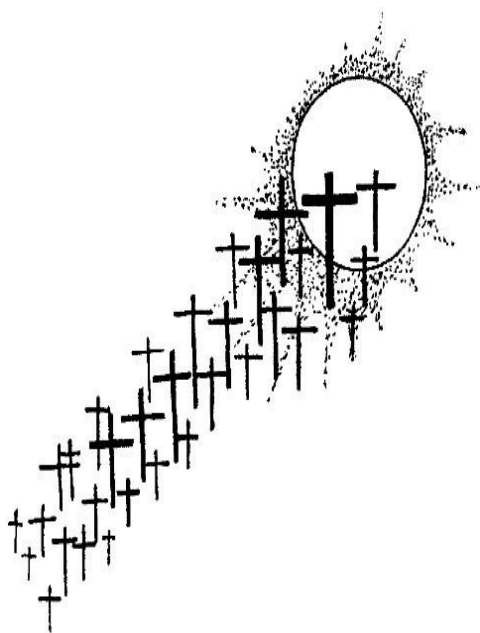
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

ST. MARK MEMBERS

Bob Curll
Jimmy Dobbs
Mary Jane Erby
Judy Kuebler
Pearl Lehmer
Mary Alice Mumma

REMEMBERING OTHERS

Rachel Nickle
Rev. Gale Gregor
Decie Dorty
Bill Griffie
Linda Wrightstone Minnich
Gina Heckard Stirling



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GUESTS:

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

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord’s table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

All Saints Day

Sunday, November 1, 2026

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.

John Christian Frederick Heyer, died 1873; Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, died 1719; Ludwig Nommensen, died 1918; missionaries Saturday, November 7, 2026

Heyer was the first missionary sent out by American Lutherans. After teaching at Gettysburg College and Seminary he was assigned to the Andhra region of India. A worker among the Tamil people on the southeast coast of India, Ziegenbalg was opposed both by local Hindus and by Danish authorities who favored a different missionary style. He was known for caring about the welfare of the whole person. Nommensen was born in northern Germany and was sent to Sumatra as a Lutheran missionary. Working among the Batak people, he translated the scriptures into their language and honored their native culture.

PRELUDE

For All the Saints

A. Hutchings

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 Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom
no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the
inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our
Lord.
C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is
not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P Most merciful God,
C we confess that we are in bondage 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. Amen.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and,
for his sake, 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.

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

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

For All the Saints



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for-tress, and their might; thou,
Stanzas 3-5 below.
 6 But then there breaks a yet more glo-rious day: the
 7 From earth's wide bounds, from o-cean's far-thest coast, through



thee by faith be-fore the world con-fessed, thy
 Lord, their cap-tain in the well-fought fight; . .
 saints tri-um-phant rise in bright ar-ray; the
 gates of pearl streams in the count-less host, . .



name, O Je-sus, be for-ev-er blest.
 thou, in the dark-ness drear, their one true light.
 King of glo-ry pass-es on his way.
 sing-ing to Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost:



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!



3 Oh, blest com-mu-nion, fel-low-ship di-vine, we fee-bly strug-gle,
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war-fare long, steals on the ear the
 5 The gold-en eve-ning bright-ens in the west; soon, soon to faith-ful



they in glo-ry shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are
 dis-tant tri-umph song, and hearts are brave a-gain and arms are
 ser-vants com-eth rest; . . . sweet is the calm of par-a-dise the



thine. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
 strong.
 blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

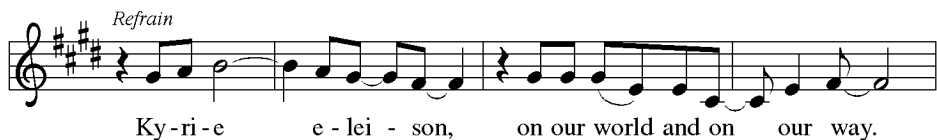
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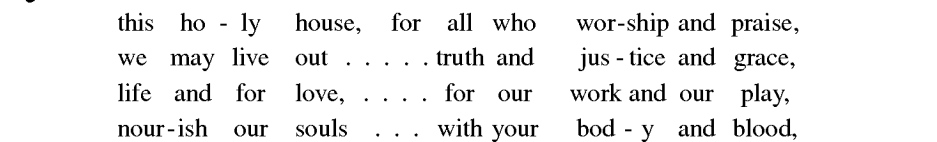
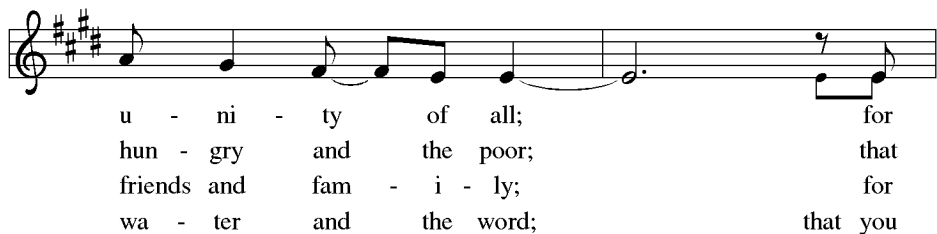
*GREETING

- 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 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



*HYMN OF PRAISE

Listen! You Nations

Refrain



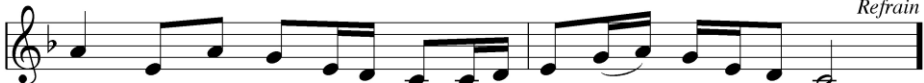
Lis - ten! you na-tions of the world: lis-ten to the Word of the Lord. An -



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



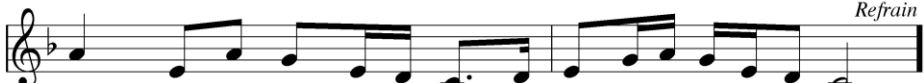
1 The Lord who scat-tered Is - ra - el will gath - er his peo - ple a - gain; and



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.

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

C Amen.

ANTHEM

Death Be Never Last

R. Makeever/arr. D. Sims

FIRST LESSON: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

R A reading from Revelation.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"

¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

¹⁶They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,

¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

(Please sing the Psalm in unison.)



**¹ I will bless the LORD ¹ at all times;
his praise shall ever be ¹ in my mouth.**

² I will glory ¹ in the LORD;
let the humble hear ¹ and rejoice.

³ Proclaim with me the greatness ¹ of the LORD;
let us exalt his ¹ name together.

**⁴ I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.**

**⁵ Look upon him ¹ and be radiant,
and let not your faces ¹ be ashamed.**

6 I called in my affliction, and **1** the LORD heard me
and saved me from **1** all my troubles. **R**

⁷The angel of the LORD encompasses ¹ those who fear him,
and he will de- ¹ liver them.

**⁸ Taste and see that the ¹ LORD is good;
happy are they who ¹ trust in him!**

(Continued next page)

⁹ Fear the LORD, you that ¹ are his saints,
for those who fear ¹ him lack nothing.

¹⁰ The young lions lack and ¹ suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing ¹ that is good.

²² The LORD ransoms the life ¹ of his servants,
and none will be punished who ¹ trust in him.

SECOND LESSON: 1st John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

R A reading from 1st John.

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

R The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

(Continued next page)

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

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.

MESSAGE FOR YOUTH

SERMON

***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 United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers
for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A God, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom
we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
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

Who Is This Host Arrayed in White

J. Ferguson

*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 music concludes with a double bar line on the fifth staff.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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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 him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the witness of your saints, you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.

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

And so, with

Bob Curl

Jimmy Dobbs

Mary Jane Erby

Judy Kuebler

Pearl Lehmer

Mary Alice Mumma

Rachel Nickle

Rev. Gale Gregor

Decie Dorty

Bill Griffie

Linda Wrightstone Minnich

Gina Heckard Stirling

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

*SANCTUS

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

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

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.

You rescued Israel, your chosen people.

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

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

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

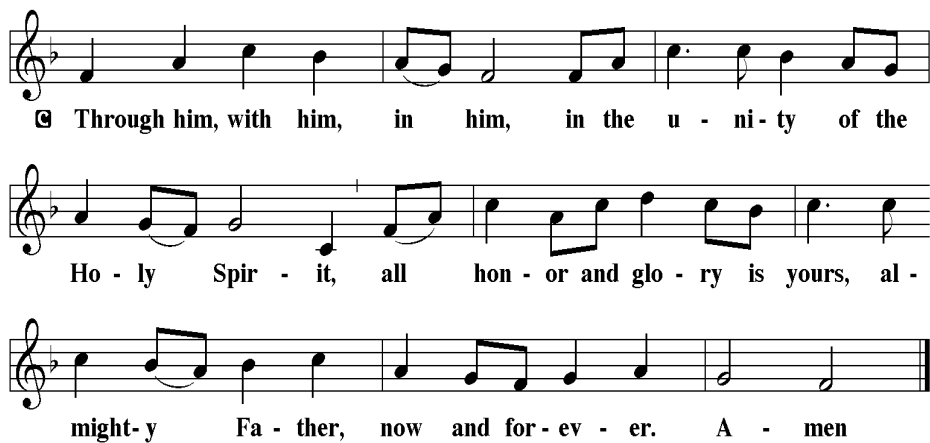
P Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his
coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,
that we who receive the Lord's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and
every place and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our
great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.



*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*COMMUNION

P 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.

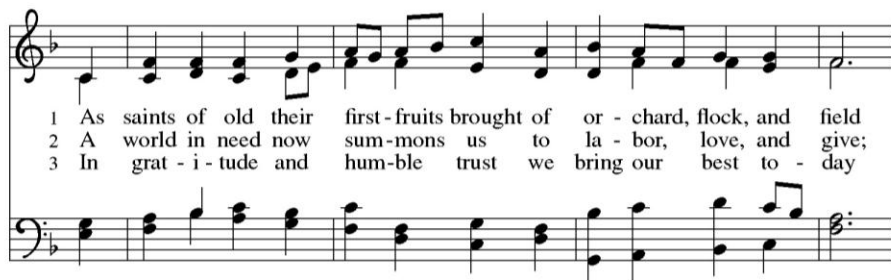
C Amen.

A The blood of Christ, shed for you.

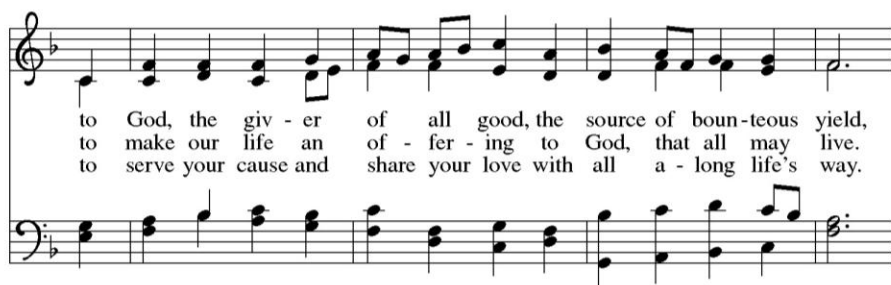
C Amen.

-HYMN OF THE DAY-

As Saints of Old



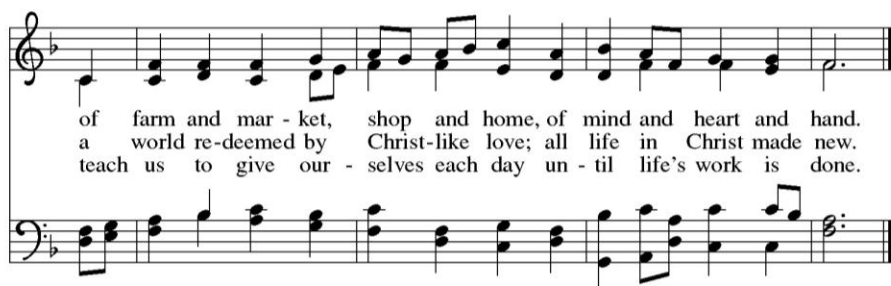
1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christieson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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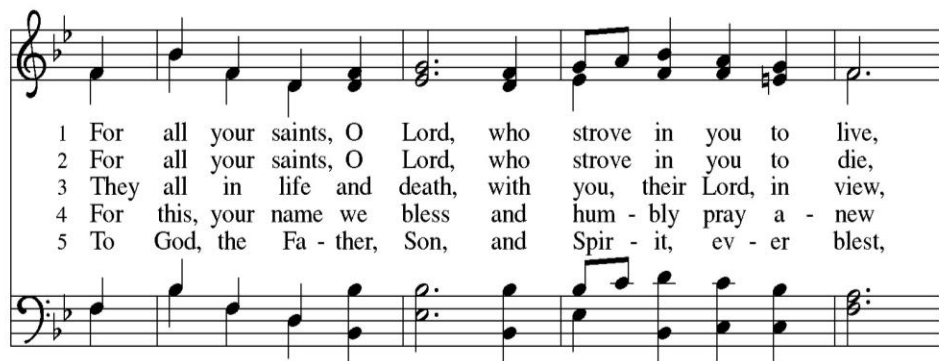
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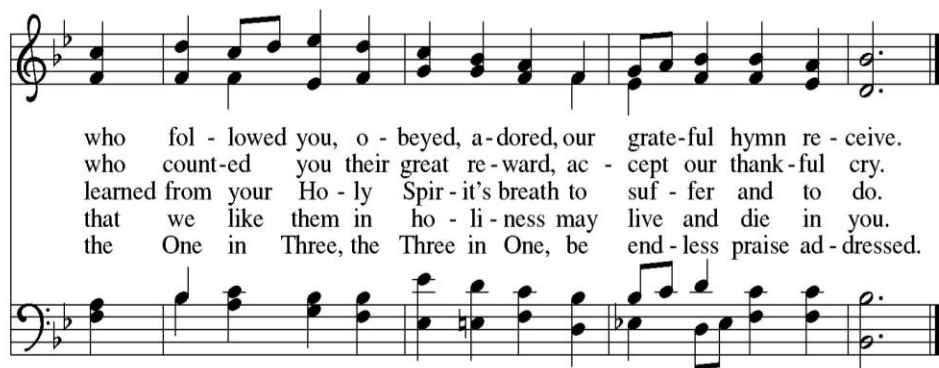
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-COMMUNION-

For All Your Saints, O Lord



1 For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to live,
2 For all your saints, O Lord, who strove in you to die,
3 They all in life and death, with you, their Lord, in view,
4 For this, your name we bless and hum - bly pray a - new
5 To God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, ev - er blest,



who fol - lowed you, o - beyed, a - dored, our grate - ful hymn re - ceive.
who count - ed you their great re - ward, ac - cept our thank - ful cry.
learned from your Ho - ly Spir - it's breath to suf - fer and to do.
that we like them in ho - li - ness may live and die in you.
the One in Three, the Three in One, be end - less praise ad - dressed.

Text: Richard Mant, 1776–1848, alt.

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

(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**

Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In



- | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|--------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| 1 | Oh, when the | saints | go march-ing | in, | oh, when the |
| 2 | Oh, when the | Lord | in glo - ry | comes, | oh, when the |
| 3 | Oh, when the | new | world is re - | vealed, | oh, when the |
| 4 | Oh, when they | gath - | er round the | throne, | oh, when they |



- | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|------|-------|---------|
| saints go | march-ing | in, | O Lord, I | want | to be | in that |
| Lord in | glo - ry | comes, | O Lord, I | want | to be | in that |
| new world | is re - | vealed, | O Lord, I | want | to be | in that |
| gath - er | round the | throne, | O Lord, I | want | to be | in that |



- | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|---------|
| num - ber | when the | saints | go march - ing | in. |
| num - ber | when the | Lord | in glo - ry | comes. |
| num - ber | when the | new | world is re - | vealed. |
| num - ber | when they | gath - er | round the | throne. |

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| 5 | Oh, when they crown him King of kings, | 6 | And on that hallelujah day, |
| | oh, when they crown him King of kings, | | and on that hallelujah day, |
| | O Lord, I want to be in that number | | O Lord, I want to be in that number |
| | when they crown him King of kings. | | on that hallelujah day. |

Text: African American spiritual

Music: WHEN THE SAINTS, African American spiritual

(Please be seated for announcements.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*DISMISSAL

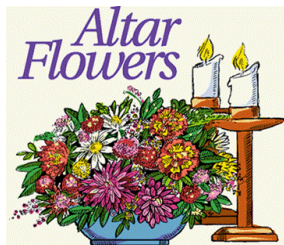
A Heaven has come near. Go share the good news!

C Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

R. Proulx



In memory of Naomi Kuntz by John and
Connie Kuntz

TODAY'S ASSISTANTS

Assisting Minister:

Barb Yost

Lay Reader:

Matt Yost

Acolyte:

Phyllis Mihalich

Ushers:

Keith Hensel, Frankie Hensel

Altar Guild:

Terry Shaner, Cindy Larkin, Susan Fissel

Zoom Operator:

Lori Clelan

Council Money Duty:

Barb Yost, Amy Gimbel

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Sunday, November 1

8:30 am

9:45 am

9:45 am

10:20 am

12:00 Noon

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Worship Service—Communion

Sunday Church School

Children & Youth Sunday School

Youth Ensemble

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Monday, November 2

2:45 pm

7:00 pm

Violin Lessons

German Group

Tuesday, November 3

Wednesday, November 4

11:00 am

3:00 pm

6:00 pm

7:00 pm

Bible Study

Worship Planning

Bell Choir

Vocal Choir

Thursday, November 5

8:00 am

2:45 pm

7:00 pm

Evangelism

Violin Lessons

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

Friday, November 6

2:45 pm

Violin Lessons

Saturday, November 7

Sunday, November 8

8:30 am

9:45 am

9:45 am

10:20 am

12:00 Noon

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Service—Communion

Congregation Meeting

Children & Youth Sunday School

Youth Ensemble

Iglesia Dios Con Nosotros

LESSONS:

FIRST READING

PSALM

SECOND READING

GOSPEL

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Amos 5:18-24

Psalms 70

1st Thessalonian 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 8, at 9:45 am following worship service in the Sanctuary. Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall after the meeting.** The agenda includes approval of the 2027 Budget and election of council members for 2027. Evangelism will lead a discussion on the church's future.

-ANNOUNCEMENTS-

BOOK CLUB READ

The Evangelism Committee is hosting a book club read on **Tuesday, November 10, at 1:00 pm in the parlor**. The book is entitled, "*Theo of Golden*," by Allen Levi. It is a "#1 New York Times Bestselling Phenomenon."

A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, *Theo of Golden* is an unforgettable novel about the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder. The book is available through the library, Thrift Books, or Amazon. Share and invite a friend. As always, we look forward to conversation and fellowship with you.

MONTHLY SUNDAYS TO BENEFIT NEW HOPE MINISTRIES

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

**November 15
December 13**

**Christmas Food to include Ham/Turkeys
To be announced**

BE A SANTA TO UNDERPRIVILEGED ADULTS—CONTRIBUTIONS AND SHOPPERS NEEDED

Over the past 15 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 or individuals who are disabled. The residents are on a limited income; many with no or estranged families, and most of the residents do not own or drive a car.

The Social Ministry Outreach Committee, along with help from many of our friends, will continue to provide Christmas to these individuals as well as a luncheon on the day of their party.

We are 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 15. If you would like to help with the shopping, please contact Karen Fisher at 717-580-7507 or email at kfisher@stmarkmburg.com.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

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 outside of your envelope with the amount of your contribution. 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.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS EXPRESS

Christmas will be here before we know it. It is hard to believe that it is the time of the year when we are starting to plan for the upcoming holiday season. Our Christmas Blessings Express tree is located at the back entrance of St. Mark. **We are collecting gifts (mostly for teenagers) through Sunday, November 29.** Copies of the New Hope Ministries Wish List are located at each entrance of St. Mark as well. Or pick an ornament(s) from the tree. Return your UNWRAPPED gift with the ornament attached and place in the containers or area around the tree. **THANK YOU!**

Upcoming Events

November 1	All Saints Sunday
November 8	Annual Meeting
November 10	Book Club
November 21	Video Gaming Night
November 26	Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Mark
December 2, 9, 16	Midweek Advent Svc. at St. Stephen
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	Seder Meal



MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP AT ST. STEPHEN

Advent is a busy time for everyone. We have many things to do to get ready for Christmas, but we never want to miss the more important preparation for the coming of Christ. **Join us on Wednesdays at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 30 W. Main St., News Kingstown, to prepare for Christ's coming. We will gather for worship at 6:00 pm with a light soup supper after worship.** This year we will continue our tradition of using Holden Evening Prayer as our liturgy. Our topic is Preparing in Christ's Presence. On December 2, we will ponder how we can "Do Less" as we prepare for Christmas. On December 9, we will "Experience Wonder" as we share some pictures of the wonder of God's works. On December 16, we will "Hold onto Hope" in the midst of the world's troubles.

We can use your help. Look for the wonder of God's works then take a picture of the wonder you find. Share your picture and one sentence about how this wonder inspires awe in God's works. Then send it to me via email so that we can all see your pictures when we worship together. Please email me at revmarleen@stmarkmburg.com by December 1 to have your picture included. See you as we prepare together for the Advent of our Lord!

Pastor Marleen Griffith-Stull

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, December 6. 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, 2026**



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 6.**

## ALL SAINTS DAY

### THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Today the church remembers those who are now in the realm of God, at rest from their earthly labors. Their baptism is complete, and they feast eternally at Jesus' welcome table.

As we speak or hear the names of deceased loved ones today, let us give thanks for the ways in which they shared the gospel with us. None of us would be following Jesus now without a faithful saint or two who told us their favorite Bible passages and stories, shared their favorite hymns with us, and exemplified faithful witness and service. Who was most instrumental in your faith development? Thank them today or, if they have died, offer a prayer of thanksgiving for their enduring legacy of faith.

Jesus prepares a place of inexpressible joy for us. Only good things await beyond the door we call death. Abundant blessings are in store for those who once were poor in spirit, mourning, or meek; for those who longed for justice and righteousness; and for the peacemakers and pure of heart. These saints are wrapped in the love of God for all eternity. They no longer experience hunger, thirst, tears, pain, suffering, or sorrow. The former things have passed away. All things have been made new!

While here we grieve the death of our beloved ones, we also take heart, knowing that one day we will join the church triumphant and unite our voices with the faithful of every time and place. Alleluia, thanks be to God!

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