

**ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**PENNSBURG, PA**

November 1, 2020

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**Director of Music: Judith A. Love**

**Soloist**

**Layreader**

**Ushers:**

**Jill Haldeman**

**Amy Hagenbuch**

**Church Council**

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

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.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Most merciful God,  
**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.  
Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been  
saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.  
**Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN

*For All The Saints*

422 v. 1,2,3,4

v.1: For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith to all the world confessed thy name, O Jesus be forever blest. Alleluia. Alleluia.

v.2: Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might; thou Lord, their captain in the well fought fight; thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia. Alleluia.

v.3: Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia. Alleluia.

v.4: And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## GREETING

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

**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

## SCRIPTURES

### **FIRST READING: 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.*

<sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

<sup>11</sup>And 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, <sup>12</sup>singing,

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

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that 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.

<sup>15</sup>For 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.

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

<sup>17</sup>for 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.”

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22**

<sup>1</sup>I will bless the LORD at all times;  
the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>**I will glory in the LORD;  
let the lowly hear and rejoice.**

<sup>3</sup>Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD;  
let us exalt God's name together.

<sup>4</sup>**I sought the LORD, who answered me  
and delivered me from all my terrors.**

<sup>5</sup>Look upon the LORD and be radiant,  
and let not your faces be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup>**I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me  
and saved me from all my troubles.**

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD and delivers them.

<sup>8</sup>**Taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are they who take refuge in God!**

<sup>9</sup>Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,  
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

<sup>10</sup>**The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

<sup>22</sup>O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

### **SECOND READING: 1 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.*

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.*

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

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

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

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

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

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

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

Pastor David

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Blest Are They*

D. Haas

## **\*APOSTLES' CREED**

Together, with the whole church, let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;**

he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 THE PEOPLE

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Lord of all the saints, we praise you for evangelists and martyrs whose sacrifices witness to your gospel across time and space. Inspire us by their courage to carry our faith to new people and places around us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every place, the universe proclaims your greatness from generation to generation. Bless the work of naturalists, conservationists, and park rangers who train our attention to the wonders of the world you have made. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every nation, guide this country—red states and blue states, rural voters and urban voters, young and old—as we share in another national election. Kindle hearts eager to understand our common needs and seek our common good. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of great compassion, your Son's blessing came to those living with poverty, grief, hunger, thirst, and persecution. Awaken in us your call to serve all who suffer. Comfort those who are in need of your care, especially Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Randy, Andrew, Renae, Marie, Catherine, David, Paul, Harold, Marie, Dennis, Merle, Barbara, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara and Lenny. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every blessing, you redeem your people and seal us with the promise of your Holy Spirit. Guide Finn Padraic Mackie and all the newly baptized as they embrace their new identity as holy children of God. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Lord of every time, countless are the multitudes you have called by name and gathered to yourself. Comfort us as we grieve those who have died since last year:

Vera Wallace  
Richard H. Erb  
George Novotny, Jr.  
William Gugger  
Eileen C. Grier

Stanley M. Brunner  
David M. Heise  
Marie Heimbach  
Akiko Kuhns  
Mary Jane Janes  
Richard H. Freed  
Dolores E. Pennypacker  
Doris N. Hieter  
Eleanor Fegley  
Eilen C. Saylor  
Dorothy M. Hagenbuch

In faith, may we join with them in ceaseless praise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

**Amen.**

### **\*SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

### **OFFERING**

#### **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

God of all goodness,  
generations have turned to you,  
gathered around your table,  
and shared your abundant blessings.  
Number us among them  
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,  
and give thanks for your rich blessings,  
we may feast upon your very self  
and care for all that you have made,  
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

**Amen**

#### **\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread 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.

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, now and forever. Amen**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Prepare the banquet table  
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

### **COMMUNION**

Gathered together in your homes, you may now offer communion to each other saying: "This is my body which is given for you" when you offer the wafer/bread. Then hold up the juice/wine, give thanks, and offer the juice/wine saying "this is my blood which is shed for you".

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Lord Jesus,  
in this simple meal you have set a banquet.  
Sustain us on the journey,  
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,  
and give us glad and generous hearts  
as we meet you on the way.  
**Amen.**

### **\*BLESSING**

**HYMN**                      *For All the Saints*                      422 v. 5,6,7

v.5: The golden evening brightens in the west, soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest; sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia. Alleluia.

v.6: But then there breaks a yet more glorious day; the saints triumphant rise in bright array; the King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia. Alleluia.

v.7: From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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We welcome everyone to worship today. .

Due to concerns regarding Covid-19 (coronavirus), we are taking steps to be pro-active in helping you maintain proper precautions:

- There are filled hand sanitizer dispensers at the back entrance and in the narthex. They are there for you.
- We are also asking that you wave at your neighbor during the sharing of the peace.
- You will notice that we are adhering to distance guidelines. Masks are required. We have disposable masks if you need one.
- Please refrain from chatting and socializing with friends until you are outside..

These changes are in place for everyone's safety.

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### Message from Church Council

Church Council wishes to thank the members who have continued their weekly donations. Our church's vitality depends on our fellowship strength and our financial strength. Thank you to all who make this possible!

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Thank You! to Dawn Harris, our Director of Family Ministry. Dawn has been coordinating Sunday School, CAT Class, Vacation Bible School, Youth programs for 20 years! During these years, we have learned Dawn is a great organizer and a great cook! Church Council, along with our entire St. Mark's Church family, thanks you for your dedication.

### Happenings This Week:

The Adult Bible Study invites you to join a Zoom meeting at 8:30AM Sundays. Please contact Deb Long for more information at [debra.reed588@comcast.net](mailto:debra.reed588@comcast.net) A Zoom link will be sent to you. They are doing a unit entitled "the Many Faces of Wisdom". Each week's lesson is a separate, stand-alone unit. No Bible knowledge is needed – just a willingness to listen, learn and share. Added bonus: you get to see the others without a mask!

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Let your voice be heard on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any questions about where to vote, or need general information please go to [www.VotesPa.com](http://www.VotesPa.com)

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The Open Link's food pantry served almost 40% more people this year and they fully expect this need to continue, especially during the holiday season. They have a Thanksgiving Meal Program which provides families in need in our community with a turkey (or a \$10 gift card for a meat/alternative of their choice) as well as all the traditional sides of a Thanksgiving dinner. You can help The Open Link meet this increased need by donating non-perishable food items at their Pennsburg office or by going to their website to make an on-line donation.

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The Cemetery Committee asks that all Fall flowers be removed from the cemetery. Thank you!

Preparing for next week:

- Mon:** Matthew 5: 1-12; Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3;  
Revelation 7:9-17
- Tues:** Lamentations 2:13-17; Psalm 5; Acts 13:1-12
- Wed:** Proverbs 16:21-33; Matthew 15:1-9
- Thur:** Psalm 70; Amos 1:1—2:5; Revelation 8:6—9:12
- Fri:** Amos 3:1-12; Revelation 9:13-21
- Sat:** Matthew 24:1-14; Amos 4:6-13

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