

ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PENNSBURG, PA

October 11, 2020

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

All Are Welcome

641 v. 1,3,5

***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

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

¹O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

²For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.

³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;

⁸he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over. (Ps. 23:5)

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and
my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of
the LORD forever.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

***GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and

burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor David

SPECIAL MUSIC

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

Walcha

***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**

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With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill (*especially* Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Randy, Andrew, Renae, Marie, Catherine, Dorothy, David, Paul, Harold, Marie, Dennis, Merle, Barbara, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara and Lenny). Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious host, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you
And also with you.

OFFERING

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,
nourish us with this rich food and drink,
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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; and 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; and then hold up
the juice/wine, give thanks, offer the juice/wine saying “this is my blood which is shed for you.”

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

***DISMISSAL**

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

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!

Church Council will have open positions to be filled for the upcoming year. We have members whose terms are up. If you are interested in serving your church, please see a current Council member or call the church office. Serving on Church Council is a truly rewarding experience.

Happenings This Week:

Today between 1PM to 4PM, Connie Taglieber's home will be the site of a drive-through drop and go donation for The Open Link. She did this back in May and was able to deliver over 700 lbs. of food to The Open Link! Her address is: 1280 Red Hill Road in Pennsburg. It's right off Knight Road. The items needed are: canned goods (tomatoes, beans, vegetables, fruit, soups, stews) cereal, pasta, pasta sides, rice, rice sides, pancake mix, pancake syrup and personal care products (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, body wash) and paper towels. If you can, please drop your items off this afternoon. There are many people in need.

WELCA will be meeting on Tuesday, October 13th, at 11:30AM. There will be pizza for lunch, followed by Pastor Bartlett's "Rome" Travelogue. After that, they will hold their regular meeting. Elaine says there is a lot to discuss! Masks are required.

The Outreach Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, October 13th at 6:30 PM. Their meetings are now scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month. Outreach plans family activities, ways to help those in need, and reaching out to our community. If you are interested in joining, please come to the meeting. This year requires a different approach to connect and reach out – your ideas are needed! Masks are required.

The Blanket Group will be meeting at 9:30 AM this Wednesday, October 14th. Masks are required.

The Forget-Me-Not Ministry will be meeting at 11 AM on Wednesday, October 14th. This ministry is all about keeping in touch with those who cannot get out as much. This is done by calling, writing, or in person. You can truly make a difference in someone's day by just saying hello! If you are interested in joining, please call the church office or just come to the meeting! Masks are required.

The Cemetery Committee has scheduled a meeting on October 14th at 6PM in the multi-purpose room. Masks are required.

The Adult Bible Study invites you to join a Zoom meeting at 8:30AM Sundays. Please contact the church office so a Zoom link can 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.

Preparing for next week:

- Monday - Psalm 34; Exodus 19:7-20; Jude 17-25
- Tuesday - Amos 9:5-15; Phillipians 3:13—4:1
- Wednesday- Song of Solomon 7:10—8:4; John 6:25-35
- Thursday - Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]; Judges 17:1-6; 3 John 9-12
- Friday - 1 Peter 5:1-5; Deuteronomy 17:14-20
- Saturday - Isaiah 14:3-11; Matthew 14:1-12