

ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PENNSBURG, PA

July 4, 2021

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor K. Russell Crouthamel

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Asst.Minister: Peg Pennepacker

Lay Reader: Kathy Romich

Acolyte: Kali Theoret

Please take time during the prelude to prepare your heart and mind for worship

**Indicates Congregational Standing*

PRELUDE

This Is My Song

L. Stone / G. Harkness

WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

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 of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection

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**

***GATHERING HYMN**

How Firm a Foundation

796

***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.

***KYRIE (spoken)**

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

***HYMN OF PRAISE (spoken)**

Glory to God in the highest

And peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 5: 1-5, 9-10

Already king over Judah, the southern kingdom, David here is anointed king over Israel, the northern kingdom, as well. Captured by David, Jerusalem is chosen as the political and religious center for the new combined territory. It is known ever after as "the city of David."

¹All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. ²For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel."

³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. ⁴David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. ⁵At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

⁹David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. ¹⁰And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(please join in reading the psalm responsively)

PSALM: Psalm 48

¹Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised,
in the city of our God, on the LORD's holy mountain.

**²Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is Mount Zion,
the summit of the north and city of the great king.**

³God is in the citadels of Jerusalem;
revealed to be the sure refuge of the city.

**⁴Behold, the kings assembled
and marched forward together.**

⁵As they looked, they were astounded;
dismayed, they fled in terror.

**⁶Trembling seized them there;
they writhed like a woman in childbirth;**

⁷With an east wind you shattered them like the ships of Tarshish.

**⁸As we have heard, so have we seen, in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God—
may God establish it forever!**

⁹In the midst of your temple, O God, we meditate on your steadfast love.

**¹⁰Your praise, like your name, O God, reaches to the ends of the earth;
your right hand is full of righteousness.**

¹¹Let Mount Zion be glad and the towns of Judah rejoice,
because of your judgments.

**¹²Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about it;
count the number of the city's towers.**

¹³Consider well its ramparts; examine its strongholds;
that you may tell those who come after.

**¹⁴Mark this—God is our God forever and ever,
guiding us even to the end.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12: 2-10

Christians do not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat.

⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated.

⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL: Mark 6: 1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?"

And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Russ Crouthamel

SPECIAL MUSIC:

American Heroes

arr. Carl Strommen

Duet by Joan Brunner and Joyce Wood, piano

***APOSTLE'S 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**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need and all of God's creation.

God of all, through the waters of baptism you claim people of all races, ethnicities, and languages as your beloved children. Sustain the baptized and increase their faith, that your gospel may be proclaimed throughout the earth. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of the heavens, your creating Spirit animates the universe. We give you thanks for the moon and stars, for the planets and the Milky Way Galaxy, and for all of the mysteries of the cosmos that remain unknown to us. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of freedom, you have liberated us from sin and death and rescue us from all forms of spiritual, social, and political oppression. Defend us from tyrants in our midst and deliver us from all forms of slavery or corruption. Direct our freedom for works of liberation and wholeness. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of compassion, you became vulnerable in the person of Jesus Christ in solidarity with the disempowered. Strengthen those who feel faint, give courage to those who fear, and bring wholeness to those in need (*especially* **Buddy, Elsie, Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Randy, Andrew, Charlie, Marie, John, David, Harold, Marie, Lisa, Dennis, Steve, Barbara, Pat, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara, Lenny, June, Mary Jane, Patsy and Charlene.** . Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of holiness, you send us out into the world to proclaim your love. We pray for our Outreach and Youth Outreach ministries . Equip us as we leave this place to witness and serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give you thanks that in every time and place you call forth prophets who move us towards freedom. Thank you for those who work for human rights, community organizers, and all who strive for liberty for all. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Nun Bitten Wir

Dietrich Buxtehude

OFFERING HYMN

Create In Me A Clean Heart

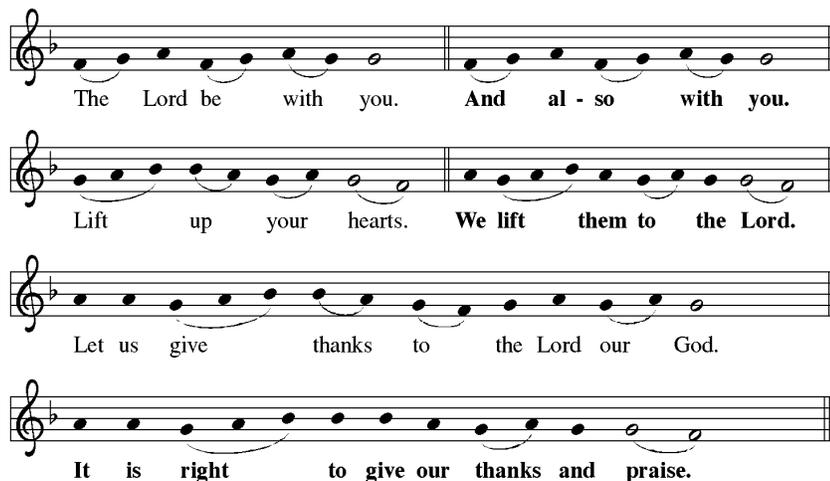
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OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

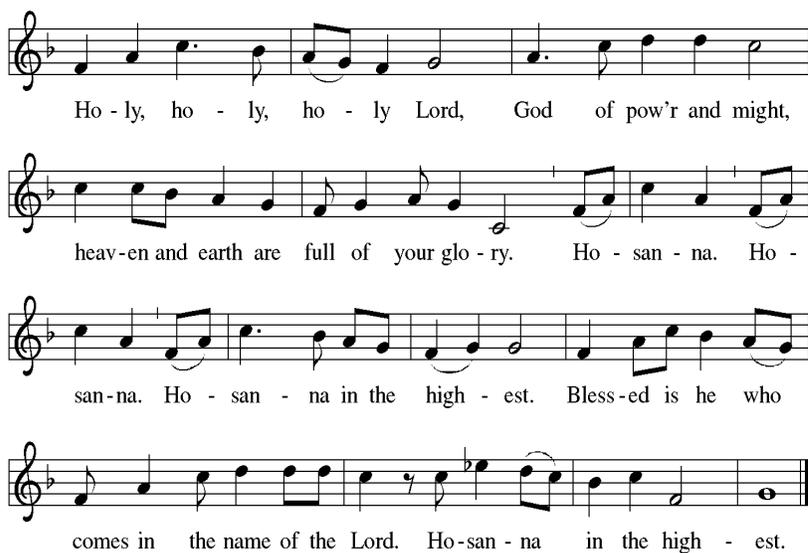
*DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are 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 in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

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

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Music during distribution: Various Communion Hymns

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

Lord, You Give The Great Commission

579

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We welcome everyone to worship on this sixth Sunday after Pentecost.. Holy Communion is offered to all baptized Christians. If you would like more information on baptism, Pastor Russ would love to speak with you!

Blessed Independence Day!

Our prelude today is taken from the hymn "This is My Song," #887 in our hymnal. As many Americans celebrate our nation's founding today, it's good to celebrate and give thanks to God for all the blessings that God has given to us. The hymn celebrates God's blessings, but also asks God to bring peace and safety to all nations, not just this one. The hymn is in our hymnal, but the text is also printed here:

This is my song, O God of all the nations, A song of peace for lands afar and mine. This is my home, the country where my heart is, Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine. But other hearts in other lands are beating, With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean, And sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine. But other lands have sunlight too, and clover, And skies are everywhere as blue as mine. So hear my song, O God of all the nations, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms, Your kingdom come, on earth your will be done. O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you, and hearts united learn to live as one. So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations, myself I give you, let your will be done

THANK YOU

The altar flowers are presented in loving memory of Dr. & Mrs. William Kistler by daughter Dr. Priscilla Kistler

The bulletins are presented in loving memory of Anna M. Heffentrager by daughter and husband, Carol and William Nester.

CALENDAR NOTES

Monday, July 5 Holiday – Church Office Closed

Tuesday, July 6 Courtyard Hours – 1 to 3PM

Wed., July 7 Al-Anon (multi-purpose room) 1:00 PM
Youth Outreach Group – 6:30PM

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship applications are available for eligible St. Mark's members who have graduated and are continuing higher education. The Scholarship Committee will only consider "active" members. **Active means having a record of contribution to St. Mark's and a record of communing.**

Please stop by the office to pick up an application or call/email to have one sent to you. Applications need to be submitted by July 18th.

OTHER NEWS

The link for viewing our live service over the internet is on our website.

Life Line Screening is returning to St. Mark's. **On Wednesday, July 21st** Life Line will be here offering five preventive health screening. You can choose just one or all of them. Registration is required. Please go to www.lifelinescreening.com/communitypartners for more information or call to register: 1-888-653-6450 Be sure to mention you are a St. Mark's member. Life Line has been here several times. They adhere to all safety and well-being guidelines.

The Thursday Evening Al-Anon Group will continue to meet at 80 Main Street (it's across the street from St. Mark's) The meeting begins at 7PM.

GRAB & GO SUMMER MEALS

The Open Link is again providing Grab & Go Meals this summer. The program runs from June 14 to August 20. It's for all kids 18 and under – the meals are **free**, no registration or ID required. The food will be available at 5 locations:

Mondays & Thursdays: Treichler's Mill Park, Hereford @ 11:30 – 12 Noon
Bieler Park, East Greenville @ 12:15 – 12:45 PM

Tuesdays & Fridays: Pennsburg Commons, Pennsburg @ 11:30 – 11:55AM
Hope Valley Church, Red Hill @ 12 Noon – 12:25 PM
Isaac Smith Park, Green Lane @ 12:30 – 1 PM

Each meal bag will contain two breakfasts and two lunches.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Buddy Allen, Elsie Antonio, Lillie Bosler, Lisa Clark, Jack Cross, Marilyn Donis, Randy Dotter, Andrew Erb, Charlie Greulich, Marie Grubb, John Gruver, David Haines, Harold Hieter, Marie Jones, Lisa Krause, Dennis Laubach, Steve Law, Barbara Lehmann, Pat Matthews, Kenneth Miller, Deb Mullen, Barbara Opachinski, Lenny Rafalko, June Reigner, Mary Jane Schaeffer, Patsy Wampole and Charlene Wilson.

Please contact the church office with changes. Thank you.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK:

Mon: Psalm 119: 81-88

Tues: James 5: 7-12

Wed: John 7: 1-9

Thur: Psalm 85: 8-13

Fri: Colossians 4: 2-18

Sat: Luke 1: 57-80

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