

**ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**PENNSBURG, PA**

**August 15, 2021**

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Pastor K. Russell Crouthamel**

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**Web site: www.stmarkspennsburg.com**

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

**Asst.Minister: Jill Haldeman**

**Lay Reader: Jennifer Pyne**

**Acolyte:**

*Please take time during the prelude to prepare your heart and mind for worship  
\*Indicates Congregational Standing*

**PRELUDE**

*I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ*

J. S. Bach

**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**

*Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

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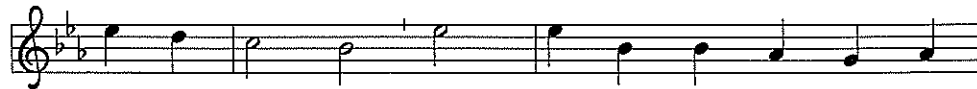
**Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones**



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright  
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more  
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye  
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su -



ser - apts, cher - u - bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain:  
 glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es:  
 pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia!  
 per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia!



"Al - le - lu - ia!" Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,  
 "Al - le - lu - ia!" Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal  
 Al - le - lu - ia!" Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs  
 Al - le - lu - ia!" To God the Fa - ther, God the



pow'rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:  
 Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord:  
 strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the song:  
 Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:



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



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858-1945  
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623  
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## **\*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**

Lord, have mercy  
**Lord, have mercy**

Christ, have mercy  
**Christ, have mercy**

Lord, have mercy  
**Lord, have mercy**

## **\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

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**

Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 61: 7-11**

*The prophet proclaims a hopeful message: God loves justice and will make an everlasting covenant with Israel and her descendants. In response, the prophet sings a joyful song, like Mary many generations later, about God's mercy and salvation.*

<sup>7</sup>Because [the] shame [of God's people] was double, and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

(please join in reading the psalm responsively)

#### **PSALM: Psalm 34: 1-9**

<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.

#### **SECOND READING: Galatians 4: 4-7**

*In the promise of the Incarnation, Jesus Christ embodies God's mother-father heart, in love claiming people as adopted children.*

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

<sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL: Luke 1: 46-55**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Mary's song, the Magnificat, serves as a thematic anthem for God's work in the world and therefore for the ministry of her son, Jesus. In Mary's praise we hear of a saving God who remembers the humble, scatters the proud, lifts up the lowly, and fulfills all things.*

<sup>46</sup>Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
<sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
<sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup>His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

<sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

<sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup>according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Russ Crouthamel

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Unexpected and Mysterious (Hymn 258)*

Ethan Harris, soloist

**\*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.

You have revealed your love for people overlooked and cast aside, sending your son to be born among the humble and poor. Send your church to proclaim good news to those who feel abandoned, despised, or rejected and make our congregations places of genuine welcome and hospitality. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

All creation longs for healing and restoration. Thwart the destruction of plant and animal habitats and amplify the voices of those who advocate for wise stewardship of the earth's resources. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We remember your promise to our ancestors and look to you for justice. Expose pride, greed, and exploitation wherever it is found and raise up humble leaders who act on behalf of those who are poor, oppressed, or in other need. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your Spirit lives in our hearts and makes us heirs of salvation. Rescue us from shame and dishonor. Lift up the lowly, fill the hungry with good things, and have mercy on those who turn to you for help *especially* **Elsie, Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Andrew, Marie, John, David, Barbara, Harold, Marie, Lisa, Dennis, Barbara, Pat, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara, Lenny, June, Mary Jane, Patsy and Charlene.** God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Mary's song of praise and amazement echoes through this assembly. Attend to those in this congregation expecting a child and console those struggling to conceive. Come to the aid of those enduring a difficult pregnancy and those who have experienced a miscarriage. God, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the saints who have found refuge in you, O God (*especially Mary, mother of Jesus*). As you have delivered them from all their afflictions, so save us from all our earthly troubles until that day when we sing your praise together in heaven. God, 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 always.

**And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY**

*Gabriel's Message*

Paul Manz

### **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 also 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.

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.

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest**

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,  
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,  
in the harmonious world of your creation,  
the plants and animals,  
the seas and stars  
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,  
you sent your Son to heal our ills  
and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his acts of healing,  
his body given up,  
and his victory over death,  
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth  
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:  
as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,  
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,  
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both 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 is received by coming forward in the center aisle at the direction of the usher. We begin with all those on the pulpit side. Please pick up a disposable cup from the tray on your way forward. The pastor places the wafer in your hand, and then you move to one of the assistants, who will pour either wine or white grape juice. Return via the side aisle, placing your used cup in the container at the end of the front pew.)*

## **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.**

Arise, Your Light Has Come!



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;  
 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;  
 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,  
 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.  
 pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.  
 bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.  
 Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947  
 Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893  
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**DISMISSAL:**

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

**POSTLUDE**

*Sent Forth By God's Blessings*

setting by John A. Behnke

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We welcome everyone to worship on this twelfth Sunday after Pentecost as we celebrate Mary, Mother of our Lord. Holy Communion is offered to all baptized Christians. If you would like more information on baptism, Pastor Russ would love to speak with you!

**THANK YOU**

The altar flowers are presented by Joan Brunner in memory of loved ones.

The bulletins are presented in loving memory of Bill Sloyer by Catherine Sloyer and family.

## **CALENDAR NOTES**

- Monday, Aug. 16     Courtyard Office Hours 9-11AM  
                             Church Council Mid-Summer Meeting 7PM
- Tuesday, Aug.17    Courtyard Office Hours 1-3PM
- Wed, Aug.18        Al-Anon Meeting 1PM  
                             Youth Outreach 6:30PM
- Thurs, Aug 19       Hoagie Order Pick Up – 6-6:30PM (social room)

### **HELP US RAISE MONEY TO FIND A CURE FOR ALS!**

#### **Hey St. Marks Congregation!**

The Youth Outreach Committee at our church has a new project, and we need your help! A member of our congregation, named Lenny, has been diagnosed with ALS, sometimes called Lou Gehrig's Disease.

"ALS is an always fatal neuro-degenerative disease in which a person's brain loses connection with the muscles. People with ALS lose their ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually breathe." In honor of Lenny, the youth decided to participate in an ALS walk to raise money to find treatments for ALS. This walk will take place on October 9 in Allentown. Our team has registered under the name Team Lenny's Light. We will have various upcoming events to raise money for the walk, such as a bake sale on August 8. **If you would like to sponsor our team** you can visit: [web.alsa.org/goto/SMLCYO](http://web.alsa.org/goto/SMLCYO) or complete the form at the bottom, put it in a pew envelope with your donation and place it in the offering plate. **Want to walk with us? Use the same link!**

If you have any questions email: [youthoutreach@stmarkspennsburg.com](mailto:youthoutreach@stmarkspennsburg.com) **Thank you** for your time and consideration!

#### **St. Mark's Youth Outreach**

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#### **Yes! I would like to donate to Team Lenny's Light for ALS!**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_. Env No\_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount: (Include in pew envelope) \$\_\_\_\_\_

Donations are due by October 3, 2021

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## ST. MARK'S NEWS

Beginning Sunday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, wearing a mask will be required for all in-person worshippers and worship leaders. This is in accordance with current CDC and Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod guidelines due to the increased rate of covid infections occurring in Montgomery County.

There are some open dates in October and November for sponsoring altar flowers. The flower chart is on the board in the narthex. You can write in your name and message or simply call Bonnie at 215-280-4861 or call the church office. The open dates are August 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

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. This is also the location for the 7PM Sunday AA meeting.

The Open Link is open! Their hours are 9 to 4PM Monday through Friday. If you wish to bring donations here, the shopping cart or a blue bin will be in the hallway. We are still the "cereal" church but all food types are gratefully accepted.

**The Annual Fall Red Cross Blood Drive** will return to St. Mark's on Tuesday, **September 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>**. Hours will be 2:00-7:00 pm on both days. The drive will span two days to allow for continued social distancing protocols. At this time, Red Cross protocol is that masks will be optional. Red Cross will send notification if there are masking protocol changes as we approach the blood drive days. It's never too early to schedule your donation time. New donors are welcome and needed! To schedule an appointment please contact Maribeth Reigner at 215-679-8563 or log on to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). **A few minutes from you can be worth a lifetime to a recipient. Thank you!**

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### PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK:

**Mon:** John 6: 51-58

**Tues:** Acts 7: 9-16

**Wed:** Genesis 47: 13-26

**Thur:** Psalm 34: 15-22

**Fri:** Romans 13: 11-14

**Sat:** Luke 11: 5-13

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