

**ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**PENNSBURG, PA**

**January 17, 2021**

**Pastor David Penman**

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

**Soloist**

**Jill Haldeman**

**Lay Reader**

**Bonnie Gillespie**

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose voice is upon the waters,  
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,  
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God

Holy God,

**you search us and know us.**

**You are acquainted with all our ways.**

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—  
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow  
your outward way of love.**

**We distrust those who are not like us.**

**We exploit the earth and its resources  
and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God,  
for all we have done and left undone.**

**Even before the words are on our tongues,  
you know them;**

**receive them in your divine mercy.**

**Amen.**

How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus,  
our sins are washed away  
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven.  
In the wake of God's forgiveness,  
we are called to be the beloved community  
living out Christ's justice  
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.  
**Amen.**

## **OPENING HYMN**

*O Zion, Haste*

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v.1: O Zion haste, your mission high fulfilling, to tell to all the world that God is light; that he who made all nations is not willing one soul should perish, lost in shades of night. Refrain.

Refrain: Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption and release

v.2: Publish to every people, tongue and nation that God, in whom they live and move, is love; tell how he stooped to save his lost creation and died on earth that we might live above. Refrain.

v.3: He comes again! O Zion, ere you must meet him, make known to every heart his saving grace; let none whom he has ransomed fail to greet him, through your neglect, unfit to see his face. Refrain.

## **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**

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]**

*At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the LORD comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.*

<sup>1</sup>Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

<sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup>The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I

am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.” [<sup>11</sup>Then the LORD said to Samuel, “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever.”

<sup>15</sup>Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” He said, “Here I am.” <sup>17</sup>Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” <sup>18</sup>So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, “It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him.”

<sup>19</sup>As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

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

*(Please join in reading the Psalm)*

**PSALM: Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18**

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you have searched me out;  
O LORD, you have known me.

<sup>2</sup>**You know my sitting down and my rising up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

<sup>3</sup>You trace my journeys and my resting-places  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>**Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,  
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

<sup>5</sup>You encompass me, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

<sup>13</sup>For you yourself created my inmost parts;  
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.

<sup>14</sup>**I will thank you because I am marvelously made;  
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

<sup>15</sup>My body was not hidden from you,  
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup>**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of them were written in your book; my days were fashioned before they came to be.**

<sup>17</sup>How deep I find your thoughts, O God!  
How great is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;  
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20**

*Paul helps the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.*

<sup>12</sup>"All things are lawful for me," but not all things are beneficial. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be dominated by anything. <sup>13</sup>"Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food," and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, "The two shall be one flesh." <sup>17</sup>But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

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

## **GOSPEL: John 1:43-51**

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

*In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."*

<sup>43</sup>The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." <sup>44</sup>Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. <sup>45</sup>Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." <sup>46</sup>Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." <sup>47</sup>When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" <sup>48</sup>Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." <sup>49</sup>Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" <sup>50</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." <sup>51</sup>And he said to

him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

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

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Heather Schmitt

## **SERMON**

Pastor Dave

**SPECIAL MUSIC**     *This Little Light of Mine*     Improvisation on Lattimer     arr. Charles Callahan  
Judy Love, organ

## **INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following people will be serving on Church Council for the upcoming term:

Mike Erb	Becky Folk	Barry Fox	Bonnie Gillespie
Amy Hagenbuch	Karen Keller	Diane Mohr	Peg Pennepacker
Tom Putera	Don Pyne	Pete Reigner	Heather Schmitt
Al Schultz	Connie Taglieber		

## **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**

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of Earth, our home, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving especially **Florence, Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Randy, Andrew, Renae, Charlie, Marie, David, Paul, Harold, Marie, Dennis, Steve, Barbara, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara, Lenny, and June.** For those who are imprisoned or homebound that God console all who suffer, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

For our neighborhood, for our Upper Perkiomen Valley community, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

O God,  
receive these gifts as you receive us:  
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.  
Nourish us anew in your tender care,  
and empower us in faithful service  
to tend to others with this same love,  
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

**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, forever and ever. Amen**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus.  
Come and be fed.

## **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**

Christ Jesus,  
at this table we have feasted on your very life  
and are strengthened for our journey.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
nourished in body and in spirit  
to proclaim your good news  
and serve others in your name.  
**Amen.**

## BLESSING

God the creator strengthen you;  
Jesus the beloved fill you;  
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ☩ keep you in peace.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

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v.1: Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known, will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

v.4: Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name? Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same? Will you use the faith you found to reshape the world around, through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

v.5: Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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I hope you have all received the letter that was sent to all of our church members. It is so important that you be a part of the calling of our new pastor. As stated in the letter, if you are not receiving the weekly Remarks & Reminders, please send your email address to the church. I will include you on our email listing. It's a great way to keep connected!

If we were worshipping in person, flowers would have been presented by Betty Schuler in memory of Lester and Dean. The bulletins would have been presented in memory of Wilson Nester, Jr. by brother William and Carole Nester.

We do have some copies of The Word In Season for January/February/March 2021 available. Please call the church office if you need one mailed to you. The large print ones have not yet been received.

Some of you have called regarding your offering envelopes for this first quarter. They were sent out, I called the envelope company to confirm this. The delay is being caused by issues within the postal system, the holidays, and that the envelope packs need to be hand sorted because of the thickness of the envelope pack. Please know that you can send in your offering in a plain envelope. I have your account numbers and all offerings will be recorded for you.

## Preparing for next week:

**Monday:** Matthew 16:13-19; Psalm 18:1-6, 16-19; Acts 4:8-13; 1 Corinthians 10:1-5

**Tuesday:** Acts 5:1-11; Psalm 86; 1 Samuel 15:10-31

**Wednesday:** Luke 18:15-17; Genesis 16:1-14

**Thursday:** Psalm 62: 5-12; Jeremiah 19:1-15; Revelation 18:11-20

**Friday:** 2 Peter 3:1-7; Jeremiah 20: 7-13

**Saturday:** Luke 10: 13-16; Jeremiah 20: 14-18

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