

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428

stmarksconshy.org



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1st, 2017

Assisting with Worship Today:

Presiding Minister	<i>The Rev. Bryan Penman</i>
Director of Music Ministries	<i>Emily Ballentine Erb</i>
Pastoral Intern	<i>Vicar Lenny Duncan</i>

Assisting Minister	<i>Theodora Morley</i>
Communion Assistant	<i>Nate Ramsden</i>
Reader	<i>George Pokalo</i>
Nursery	<i>Fiore Family</i>
Acolyte	<i>Joanne Popowicz</i>
Altar Guild	<i>Sandy Portzer & Joanne Copestick</i>
Ushers	<i>Joanne Copestick & Terry Spence</i>
Counters	<i>Rhea Moore & Jen Schreiter</i>
Offering Recorder	<i>Jeanette Nazaryk</i>
Fellowship Hour	

Altar Flowers	<i>Given by Pam Keebler for the many blessings in my life.</i>
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The Rev. Bryan Penman, Pastor
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Dr. Joseph Jacovino, Council President
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Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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www.stmarksconshy.org

Welcome to St. Mark's, we are so glad you are with us today!

No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you have a place here. ***This is Christ's Church. There is a place for you here.*** We are a church that shares a living and daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person - questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Children are always welcome to participate in worship. We invite all children to try to be in worship through the children's sermon (about 20 minutes) and then invite the children, if they want, to head to the nursery, but we love to have the children with us through the whole worship service! To help our youngest worshipers, "Little Lutheran Activity Bags" are located in the rear of the sanctuary which have crayons and worship appropriate coloring pages. We offer a children's bulletin that has puzzles and activities for little worshipers to work on during the service, and we offer a "Soft Space" for infants and toddlers to spread out a bit in during worship. Worshiping with children is important to us, and so we hope you find these things helpful so that you may worship together as a family.

Restrooms are located through the back left – exit the sanctuary, go up the stairs, through the first room to the end of the hallway. If you need assistance, please see the attendants (ushers) at the back of the sanctuary.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are welcome to be used to Post, Tweet and Instagram the Good News you hear today, but we kindly ask you to turn the sound off on them so that they do not cause a distraction to other worshipers.

Our team of ushers is available throughout the service to be of any assistance you might need. Assistive Listening devices are available. Please see an usher.

Are you new or visiting St. Mark's? If you would like to receive more information about St. Mark's, we have several methods where you can leave your information with us. At the entry ways to the sanctuary, you will find our guest books in which you can leave your name and contact information, or in the pews we have blue cards that you can fill and place in the offering plate, or if you like, you can sign our electronic guest book. We'd be delighted to keep you informed about the many events and opportunities here at St. Mark's and hope you will join us again. For the electronic book, open your mobile device to the bar code scanner and take a picture of this square QR code; it will take you to our electronic guest book.



Instructions

Leader says

We all say together

+ Gathering +

The Holy Spirit gathers us together for worship

Introduction *Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God, such as prostitutes and tax collectors going before others into God's kingdom. In the reading from Ezekiel the people question whether the ways of the Lord are unfair; instead they are to repent and turn to the Lord. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, looking to the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.*

Prelude *Prelude and Fugue in G Major BWV 557* J. S. Bach

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

Blessed be the ✠ holy Trinity,
the one who fashions us,
the one who heals us,
the one who reforms us again and again.
Amen.

Confession of forgiveness Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Source of all life,
**we confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.
We fear that we are not good enough.
We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.
We turn the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.
Forgive us. Stir us.
Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right,
act for what is just,
and seek the healing of your whole creation.
Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven,
 † God's love is unconditional,
 and we are raised up as God's people
 who will always be made new,
 in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

**Opening
 Hymn**
ELW 526

God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
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peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

Text: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen
 Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Canticle of Praise

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Refrain



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
 peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

**Prayer of
the Day**

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Assembly may be seated

+ Word +

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, song and prayer

First Lesson

*Ezekiel 18:1-4,
25-32*

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot turn from their wicked ways. God insistently invites people to turn and live

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel,

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmsody

Psalm 25:1-9



¹To | you, O Lord,
I lift | up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your | ways, O Lord,
and teach | me your paths. R**

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the
day long.

⁶**Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of
your good- | ness, O Lord.

⁸**You are gracious and up- | right, O Lord;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way. **R**

Second Lesson

Philippians 2:1-
13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

A reading from the letter to the Philippians,

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you

look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both .

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Gospel
Acclamation**

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel

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, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Gospel
Reading**

*Matthew 21:23-
32*

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew
Glory to you O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax

collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly may be seated.

**Children's
Sermon**

Children are invited forward for a short lesson before the sermon. After the children's sermon, the children are invited to return to their seats with their parents or leave to spend time in the nursery.

Sermon

Rev. Bryan Penman

**Hymn of
the Day**

ELW 806



O God, My Faithful God



1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,
2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing
3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;
4 When dan-gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—
guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in
to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless
but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.
what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.
then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.
and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

The Apostles Creed

Together 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, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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

*Prayers reflect the
wideness of God's
mercy for the
whole world.*

The Assisting Minister invites us into prayer

Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we
pray for the church, the world, and all of
God's creation. *Each portion of the prayers
ends with:*

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers with
these words:* Into your hands, gracious God,
we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting the power of Christ and the gifts
of the Spirit. **Amen.**

For our friends and family:

*Tara, Mike, Joanne, Nancy, Tony
and Camille, Bill and Patrica,
Don Dunn, Katie Gresh, Linda
Jara, Dawn W., Jenny, Donnie,
Dottie Woodring, John, Lynn
Kime, Amelia, Sandra, Nicole,
Nicolas, Ann Beatty, John I.
Holdsworth*

We give thanks for:

*The Myers family -Christopher &
Krystle, Peyton, Christopher and
the Myers family-Donna, Jamie,
Michael Jr.*

We pray for those in grief:

*For the people of Puerto Rico as
they continue to recover from
Hurricane Maria.*

Sharing of the Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

+ Meal +

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

An offering is gathered to support the mission of the church. Funds gathered today will help sustain our ministry efforts at St. Mark's, support the wider national church and help those in need.

*During the month of October, we will be collecting for **Colonial Neighborhood Council** who works with those in need in Conshohocken, Plymouth Meeting, Whitmarsh and Lafayette Hill. In addition to the food pantry, CNC also sponsors the Well (a clothing store for low income families), runs our local "Meals on Wheels" program and provides special meals at the holidays for families in need.*

Offertory

Teach Me Your Way
Adult Choir

Timothy Shaw

Offertory Canticle

The assembly stands as the gifts and offerings are brought forward

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

**Offertory
Prayer**

God of life,
you give us these gifts of the earth,
these resources of our life and our labor.
Take them, offered in great thanksgiving,
and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.
Amen.

**Great
Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

Dialogue

We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise

Proper Preface

The Presiding Minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at
all times and in all places offer thanks . . . We praise your
name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Words of
Institution*

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.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit we are bold to pray in the words
our Savior 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.**

The Assembly may be seated.

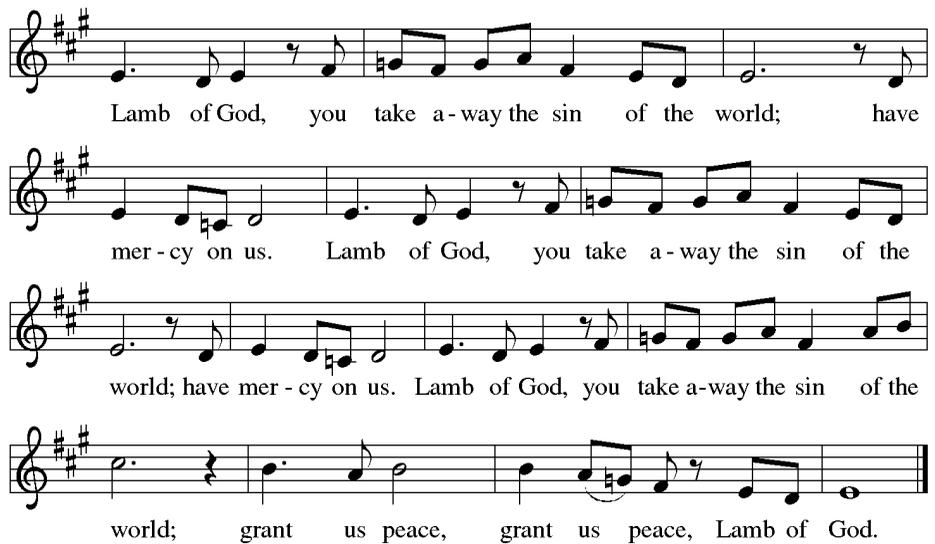
**Invitation to
Communion**

*Here at St. Mark's we invite all people to the Lord's Table no matter where you are
on your faith journey. This is Christ present for you – freely offered in bread and
wine – all are welcome to commune. Children and their families going to Faith
Formation are invited to the altar rail first.*

Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
and make us one with you.

The bread may be broken for the communion

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution of Communion

The assembly will be guided up to the Altar Rail by the Usbers where you may stand or kneel. Bread and Wine are used for our communion, but gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available so that all may commune.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond -- Amen.

When you have finished communing you are invited to return to your seat by the side aisle and join in singing the communion hymns printed in the bulletin.

**Communion
Hymn**

ELW 818

O Master, Let Me Walk with You



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

Communion Hymn

ELW 517



Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Communion Blessing

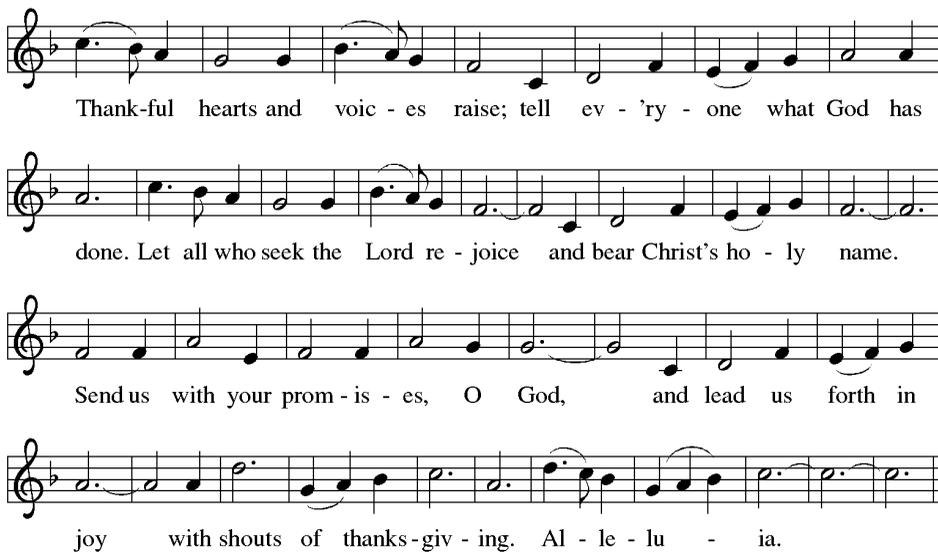
The assembly stands

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.



Post Communion Canticle



Thank-ful hearts and voices raise; tell every one what God has
done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises, O God, and lead us forth in
joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
Text © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress and music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Post Communion Prayer

Holy and compassionate God,
in bread and wine you give us gifts
that form us to be humble and courageous.
May your words come to life
in our serving and in our witness,
that we might speak a living voice
of healing and justice to all the world,
through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.
Amen.

+ Sending +

The Spirit sends us into the world to serve

Announcements *Ways for you to be sent to do God's work this week with your hands.
Announcements are made behalf of the community.*

Blessing May the peace of Christ go with you wherever he may send you, may he guide you through the wilderness and protect you in the storms of life, may he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you, may he bring you home rejoicing once again to our doors. In the name of the +Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord Now Sends Us Forth
Enviado soy de Dios



En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;
me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

Text: Anonymous, Central America; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923
Music: ENVIADO, anonymous, Central America
English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress.

Dismissal Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Er ist das heil*

setting by Mark Sedio

Faith Formation Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can develop your faith life, learn about God and develop as disciples

Faith Formation on Sunday

Faith formation activities have resumed following worship each Sunday. Each Sunday we offer two experiences to nurture our lives of faith; one class for young disciples and one class for older disciples. Our younger class meets upstairs for age level appropriate reflections on our readings from worship, prayer, and songs. Our older class meets in the Choir Room (note location change this year) for reflection on the readings as well as a once a month special topic.

Confirmation Classes start this week!

Our new confirmation class will meet for the first time this coming Thursday October 5th @ 7pm following Dinner Church. This first class will also be a time for a bit of logistical planning for the year, so parents are encouraged to attend as well.

Teachers for young people Faith Formation

This year we are utilizing SignUpGenius to facilitate teacher signups for our young person class. Each week we would love to have a leader for the older kids, younger kids and a helping hand. Leading a class means that you have read the curriculum and help guide the students in discussing the video and bible story and possibly an activity if time allows. The curriculum is provided for you by email in advance of the lesson. To access the SignUpGenius see the weekly pastor's email or visit our website under faith formation tab.

Worship Ministry Announcements:

Learn about worship opportunities here at St. Mark's

St. Francis of Assisi Day – Blessing of the Animals

Wednesday October 4th from 5:00 – 7pm we will be blessing our animal companions outside the front of the church. Saint Francis was known for his care and compassion for creation and so to honor his feast day we bless and give thanks for the animal companions in our own lives. Animals of all kinds are welcome at the blessing and if you would like to help out with the blessing service – speak with Pastor. It's a great service for kids to participate in!!

Altar Flower Openings

We have openings for Altar Flowers on October 22nd and October 29th if you are interested in signing up for these dates, please call the office 610.828.0581 or email Vicar Lenny – vicar@stmarksconshy.org. Cost is \$40.00 for the week and please indicate if you would like to keep this a yearly memorial, or just a memorial for this year.

ALSO – please note that the **Altar Flower list is up on the bulletin board in the hallway** for the rest of the fall, if you have given flowers in previous years – please indicate memorial language for this years altar flowers by writing them in the box. If you would like to sign up for Altar Flowers for any of the other openings this fall, please just write your name in the “given by” box.

Dinner Church @ 6PM on Thursdays

“Dinner Church” has great roots in the Christian tradition. Meals feature prominently in our great tradition of faith, from pot lucks, to picnics, to the Holy Supper we share in communion – food plays a central role in who we are as Christians. We like to say that we are also “fed” by the experience of worship, so Dinner Church seeks to feed you both spiritually and physically Dinner Church is a very relaxed worship experience, some come right from work, some right from the gym, some from just picking the kids up. No matter where you are on your faith journey you are welcome here at Dinner Church.

Service Ministry Announcements:

Learn about ways you can do God's work with our hands

Hurricane Relief

With two devastating hurricanes hitting both Florida and the Gulf Coast, Lutheran Disaster Response needs our help now more than ever.

Lutheran Disaster Response is a highly reputable ELCA organization that supports case management primarily, through local providers like Lutheran Social Services. They give by need and not by creed. Learn more about giving to LDR at <http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response/>

Or give to St. Mark's by designating Harvey // LDR on your check we will send the donation for you.

Special Collection Envelope: Colonial Neighborhood Council

Each week we support the collection of food for families in need in our local community, but this month we take up a special cash collection to support the ongoing work of Colonial Neighborhood Council. In addition to food, resources gathered go to support those in need in our community.

Special Social Ministry Meeting

Do you have a heart for feeding the hungry? Do you feel passionate about the church standing in the breach and bridging the gaps that our most vulnerable fall into? How about restorative justice? Do you see all the great work St. Mark's does for those on the margins and think of ways we could do even more? Well this meeting is for you! The Social Ministry team is gathering to discuss our next big project like our accompaniment of Dylan our

college student! We need your voice, your vision, and your passion. Oct 25th at 7pm here at the church. Please consider joining us for this important kingdom work!

Give online via stmarksconshy.org

Now you can give electronically through our website! In the menu bar click on Give+Online to be taken to our donation page. Once there you can give a onetime donation, or create a login to set up recurring donations to the church via Credit Card or via your checking account. Signing up via your checking account gets away from the fees that Visa, Mastercard Am Ex charge for each transaction. Also please note that the log-in for Give+App and the Give+Online are the same – no need to sign up twice!

Special Collection item of the month for CNC

This month we will be collecting toiletries for the food pantry shelves at CNC. Often food assistance helps provide needed staples for families but the personal care items like shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and toilet paper are often items that are also expensive and needed by families trying to make ends meet. Let's stock up the shelves at CNC by helping to collect these items this month.

A House for Worship: Capital Appeal

As we find ourselves getting back into the routine for fall, a reminder of our ongoing Capital Appeal is still underway. At this point we have raised over \$9,600 and are well on our way to our \$70,000 goal. At the congregational meeting in June we voted to begin a process to collect funds for repairs and improvements to our sanctuary space; masonry work on our stained glass windows, plaster repair, painting the interior of the sanctuary, exterior trim painting, and replacing the carpet in the sanctuary. *With the support of our whole community we can make this first phase a reality this year. As always, thank you for all you do to support the ministries of St. Mark's.*

Fall Stewardship Drive: Discovering your unique S.H.A.P.E.

In the coming weeks you will be hearing more about our upcoming fall stewardship drive, "Discovering your unique S.H.A.P.E.: serve where you fit." In the coming weeks we will be asking our membership to participate in a several week process of discovering how God has gifted us all uniquely for the work of ministry. All of this will lead up to a series of cottage meeting in November and December as we spend time in fellowship and discernment as we "shape" the future of ministry at St. Mark's and explore ways that you can "serve where you fit" in the ministry of St. Mark's.

Evangelism / Fellowship Ministry Announcements:

Learn about ways that you can help spread the “Good News”

Octoberfest Fundraiser Dinner

Mark your calendars – Saturday October 14th for our annual fundraiser dinner! It’s delicious Pork, Sauerkraut and all the fixings (to include homemade applesauce!). Cost is \$10 for adults (all you can eat) with kids (2-10) \$4.00 with a special kid-friendly menu of hotdogs, chicken nuggets, and mac and cheese. Take out is available as well as delicious treats on our bake sale table!

Volunteers are needed Saturday to help with the dinner, but we are also looking for volunteers the week leading up to the event to assist with food prep. A sign-up sheet is in the McCarney Fellowship room as well as a link to Sign-Up Genius in the weekly pastor’s email.

Tell your family, tell your friends, join us for our Annual Fundraiser Dinner!

Conshy Beer Fest Evangelism Table

St. Mark's will again have a free water stand at this year's Conshohocken Beerfest on Sat. October 14th. Looking for folks to help set up, or man the table during the event. Great opportunity to socialize with members of our community and get ourselves out there. If you are interested in helping – please contact Joe Ruggiero (josephmuggiero@yahoo.com) he is looking for help to set up in the morning (going to BJ's with me to buy water and bring to A field in Conshohocken) or staff the table passing out water (12:30PM - 5PM) and talking to folks.

From Conflict to Communion: Together in Hope:

October 21st from 9:30 am – 2 pm | Trinity Lutheran Church, Lansdale

Lutherans and Catholics will mark the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with an ecumenical seminar and worship. Speakers: The Rev. Donald McCoid and Dr. John Borelli, highlighting theological progress toward unity. Worship led by The Rev. Peter Donahue, president of Villanova University, and Bishop Claire Burkat. 1000 W. Main St., Lansdale, PA 19446. Map. Register via the synod website ministrylink.org

This Week @ St. Mark's:

<p><i>Monday</i> 2-8pm-Office Hours</p>		<p>6am - Meals on Wheels 7pm – Boy Scouts</p>
<p><i>Tuesday</i> 10am-2pm- Office Hours</p>	<p>7pm – Worship and Music</p>	<p>6am – Meals on Wheels 7pm – Cub Scouts</p>
<p><i>Wednesday</i> Office Closed</p>	<p>5:30 – 7pm Blessing of the Animals</p>	<p>6am – Meals on Wheels</p>
<p><i>Thursday</i> 2-8pm-Office Hours</p>	<p>6pm – Dinner Church 7pm-Confirmation Class 7pm-Adult Choir 7:45pm-Bell Choir</p>	<p>6am – Meals on Wheels</p>
<p><i>Friday</i> 10am-2pm-Office Hours</p>		<p>6am – Meals on Wheels 6:30pm – AA / Al-Anon</p>
<p><i>Saturday</i></p>		<p>7pm – AA Group</p>
<p><i>Sunday</i></p>	<p>9:30am – Worship Service 10:15am- Faith Formation 10:30am – Fellowship Hour</p>	<p>7pm – Venture Crew</p>

Assisting with Worship Next Sunday:

Assisting Minister	<i>Kathy Pokalo</i>
Communion	<i>Joanne Copestick</i>
Assistant	
Reader	<i>Matt Hoffman</i>
Nursery	<i>Inderbitzen Family</i>
Acolyte	<i>Gavin Kriebel</i>
Altar Guild	<i>Joe & Susan Dryburgh</i>
Ushers	<i>Aaron & Meaghan Moul</i>
Counters	<i>Susan Jacovino & Lara Hoffman</i>
Offering Recorder	<i>Jen Schreiter</i>
Fellowship Hour	<i>Holst Family</i>

Readings for next week:

[Isaiah 5:1-7](#)

The song of the vineyard

[Psalm 80:7-15](#)

Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine. (Ps. 80:14, 15)

[Philippians 3:4b-14](#)

Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ

[Matthew 21:33-46](#)

The parable of the vineyard owner's son