

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428
stmarksconshy.org

Fifth Sunday in Lent
April 7, 2019

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Herzliebster Jesu

setting by J.S.Bach

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us,
anoint us,
and make us new.

Amen.

In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin,
and receive God's promise of mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God at the margins,

**We have wandered far from your home;
again and again, we lose our way.**

We turn inward, afraid of the world around us.

**We forget that you have saved your people before
and promise to do so again.**

**Do not remember the deeds of our past,
but turn our faces toward the future,
where your forgiveness is sure,
your welcome is clear,
and your love overflows. Amen.**

Like a hen who gathers her chicks,
God embraces you in tender care.
Like manna in the desert,
God feeds you with surprising mercy.
Like a loving parent,
God runs to meet you again this day,
forgiving your sins for the sake of † Christ,
leading you from death into life.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW 339

Christ the Life of All the Living

JESU, MEINES LEBENS LEBEN

Greeting

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Litany for Lent

Leader

O Christ, out of your fullness we have all received grace upon grace.
You are our eternal hope; You are patient and full of mercy;
You are generous to all who call upon you.

Assembly

Save us, Lord. Save us, Lord.

O Christ, fountain of life and holiness,
You have taken away our sins.
On the cross you were wounded for our transgressions
And were bruised for our iniquities. **Refrain**

O Christ, obedient unto death,
Source of all comfort, our life and resurrection,
Our peace and reconciliation. **Refrain**

O Christ, Savior of all who trust you,
Hope of all who die in your and joy of all the saints: **Refrain**

Leader Assembly Leader

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us. Je - sus,

Assembly

bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Leader

Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world,

Assembly

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: Taizé Community, alt. *Book of Common Worship*, © 1975, 1993 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.
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Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister prays the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading:

Isaiah 43:16-21

The prophet declares that long ago the Lord performed mighty deeds and delivered Israel from Egyptian bondage through the waters of the sea. Now, the Lord is about to do a new thing, bringing the exiles out of Babylon and through the wilderness in a new exodus.

The First Reading is from 43rd chapter of Isaiah:

¹⁶ Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,

¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

¹⁹ I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,

²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalmody

Psalm 126

We will read the Psalm responsively by whole verse:

¹ When the Lord restored the for- | tunes of Zion, then were we like | those who dream.

² Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, “The Lord has

done great | things for them.”

³ The Lord has done great | things for us, and we are | glad indeed.

⁴ **Restore our for- | tunes, O Lord, like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**

⁵ Those who | sowed with tears will reap with | songs of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed, will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

Second Reading:

Philippians 3:4b-14

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

The Second Reading is from the 3rd chapter of Philippians:

^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize

of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel. We sing following the direction of the Music Director.

Open my heart, Open my heart. Open my heart, Open my heart.

Text and music: Ana Hernandez, adapted from a traditional Chinese mantra.

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Gospel:

John 12:1-8

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter

Glory to you, O Lord

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for Jesus. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon

We invite our children forward for a lesson before either returning to their seats or heading off to the nursery.

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day

Seed That in Earth is Dying

ELW 330

SAKORN SOM DOR I JORDEN

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

Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

A brief silence is kept. Each petition ends:

God of Mercy, **Hold us in love.**

The prayers are concluded:

Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Announcements

Announcements are made on behalf of the community

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. You can also contribute electronically via our "Give+" giving app on your phone, available in the Apple Store and Google Play. If you give electronically we invite you to take one of the green slips and place it in the offering plate as a way to include your electronic gifts in the offering time.

Offertory

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

arr. by Lloyd Larsen

Bell Choir

Musical selections are offered to the glory of God.

At the conclusion of the Offertory music, the gifts of bread, wine, money and other gifts are brought forward, the congregation sings "Let the Vineyards be fruitful" on the following page.

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.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
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Offering Prayer

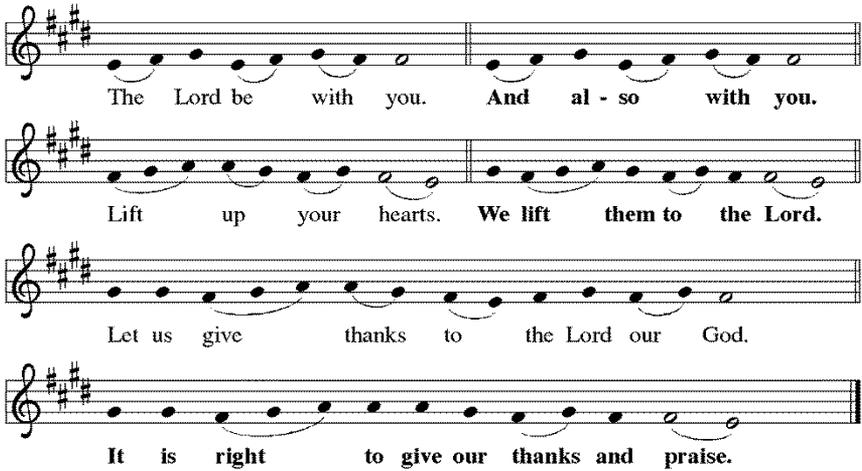
Generous God,
 you feed us with the harvest of the land,
 and you provide for our every need.
 Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor,
 and transform them into a feast that welcomes all,
 in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW p. 152

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks



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.

Sanctus

ELW p. 153

“Holy Holy Holy”

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.

The Great Thanksgiving concludes:

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:



Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name,
 your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav-en.
 Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al
 and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

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.

Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

The bread may be broken for the communion

Agnus Dei

MMC 36

We sing following the Director of Music

Lay me low, where the Lord can find me.

Lay me low, where the Lord can hold me.

Lay me low, where the Lord can bless me.

Lay me low Lord, lay me low.

Distribution of Communion

Today we will receive communion around the altar rail. At the direction of the usher you are invited forward to receive communion. To focus our attention on the distribution of communion during Lent, there will be no communion hymns and we are invited into a time of silent reflection and prayer as focus on the meaning of Holy Communion.

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.

Post Communion Blessing

When all have communed, the Assembly stands.

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

Prayer after Communion

Tender and merciful one,
at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing,
turning our emptiness into joy.
Filled with your abundant grace,
send us now to be ministers of reconciliation,
mending broken hearts, working for justice,
and striving for peace among all people,
in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and send us in mission to the world

Blessing

God, who fills the creation with abundance,
Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness,
Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us,
✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.
Amen.

Sending Song

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

ELW335

NEAR THE CROSS

Dismissal

Go in peace, remember the poor.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Ebenezer

setting by Edwin Childs

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Leading us in Worship

Presiding Minister
Director of Music

The Rev. Bryan Penman
Emily Ballentine Erb

	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
Assisting Minister	Joe Jacovino	Ava Ruggiero
Communion Asst.	Karly Sloan	Karen Hanna
Reader	Erich Schauer	Bill Portzer
Nursery	The Powells	The Holsts
Acolyte	Brigette Schreiner	Stella Ruggiero
Altar Guild	Joanne Copestick, Sandy Portzer	Jen Schreiter
Ushers	George Pokalo, Erin Orekar	Joe Dryburgh
Counters	Rhea Moore, Pam Keebler	Susan Dryburgh, Deb Eskate
Offering Recorder	Kathy Pokalo	Nate Ramsden
Fellowship Hour	Donna Kobi	The Penmans
Faith Formation	Allison Fike & Becca Casey	Stef Conklin & Joe Ruggiero

Altar Flower today: Given by Keri & Erich Schauer in celebration of their 3rd wedding anniversary on April 9th.

Worship Ministry Announcements:

Ways we gather in praise of God

Holy Week Schedule

Join us as we tell the story of Christ's passage from life, to death and resurrection dawn:

- **Palm Sunday, April 14th** with worship at 9:30am
- **Maundy Thursday, April 18th** – Potluck dinner at 6 pm and worship in the sanctuary at 7 pm
- **Good Friday evening, April 19th** with worship at 7 pm
- **Easter Sunday, April 21st**, with worship at 9:30am

Dinner Church 4/18

Please note there will be no “normal” Dinner Church worship service on Maundy Thursday. We will gather for a potluck meal at 6pm, but our worship service will be held in the sanctuary at 7pm in observance of Maundy Thursday.

Help us purchase more hymnals for the sanctuary

We need some more hymnals to fill the pew racks, and we're inviting members of the congregation to purchase a hymnal to place for use in worship. You're invited to include your dedication (for example, in memory of a loved one, to the Glory of God, for blessings received)--a book plate will be set in the hymnal identifying the giver and dedication. The cost is \$25 per book. Place your check or cash in one of the white pew envelopes and label it HYMNAL. On the back of the envelope, write your name and what you'd like to have included in the dedication.

Easter Flower Orders

Please help us create a joyful sanctuary for our Festival Easter worship service! Purple order forms are in the back of the sanctuary by the bulletins to purchase either lilies or tulips to decorate the sanctuary for Easter. Plants are \$10 each. Due by April 8th.

Altar Flower Sponsorship

We have openings for Altar Flowers in April. Cost is \$40.00 for the week and please indicate if you would like to keep this as an annual memorial, or just a memorial for this year.

Faith Formation Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can deep your faith life

Faith Formation Classes after worship

We offer two faith formation opportunities after worship today, a class for young disciples and their families (for disciples young at heart!) Today, classes meet following worship downstairs in the auditorium. ***Please note there will not be faith formation on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday (4/14 & 4/21)***

Vacation Bible School

Save the dates for Vacation Bible School. Kick off Sunday on July 7th during and directly after worship on that day, continuing Mon., July 8- Thurs., July 11 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. This year's theme is, "Who is My Neighbor?" exploring how we can care for our neighbors near and far.

Pastor's weekly email

Pastor sends out a weekly message with reflections on the coming Sunday's readings as well as announcements upcoming during the week at church. To sign up for this email check out our homepage www.stmarksconshy.org to enter your email address or let Pastor know to add you to the list.

First Communion Class

We will be starting a new group of students preparing for their First Holy Communion this Spring. Our first kick off class will be held on Maundy Thursday 4/18 at 4:30 here at the church. Families are welcome to stay for our potluck dinner and then worship at 7pm as we celebrate the night that started our observance of Holy Communion – Maundy Thursday.

Service Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can do God's work with your hands

Pipe Organ Appeal

Our congregation continues to raise funds to repair and rebuild our Pipe Organ. The instrument is in major need of refurbishment and new parts, the cost of which is \$53,000. To date we have raised a little over \$24,000 for this work with more to go. Please consider making a donation to the Capital Appeal to support this work; we have until June to raise the rest of the funds for this work.

Upcoming Fundraisers Supporting the Capital Appeal

Mark your calendars now! Join us for fun, fellowship and fundraising!

Friday, May 17th for a Trivia Event

\$45 ticket or table of 10 for \$400

Doors open at 6:30pm with trivia to begin at 7:30pm

Dinner provided by Cantina Feliz, BYOB, Margarita Machine available

Sunday, June 2nd for a Hand Bag Bingo event

Coach, Dooney & Bourke, Kate Spade, Michael Kors, and Tory Burch

\$30 a ticket for 15 games

BYOB permitted, Food Permitted and Snacks for purchase

Raffle Baskets, Door Prizes, 50/50

Bring a food donation for CNC and get 3 free raffle tickets

**Raffle Basket items are needed for both events and sign ups for that are in the back of the sanctuary

Habitat for Humanity Build Volunteers Needed

We're looking to see if there are folks who are interested in signing up for a day of working on a local Habitat for Humanity build, Wednesday through Saturdays. You must be 18 for this particular build. If you'd like to participate, email Pastor (pastor@stmarksconshy.org). There'll be other more 'family friendly' opportunities to help in the coming weeks!

Knitters & Crocheters

We're still collecting 12" knitted or crocheted squares to be assembled into blankets that we'll take to the Coordinated Homeless Outreach Center (CHOC) in Norristown. If you have any questions, please speak to Kathy Pokalo or Karen Hanna.

Sharing God's Love with Blessing Bags

"Blessing Bags" are bags filled with energy & granola bars and other items that can be eaten right away. The bags can be placed in your car, tote or briefcase to distribute to those experiencing homelessness.

Special Collection This Month: Augusta Victoria Hospital

Lutheran World Relief helps to run Augusta Victoria Hospital in Israel / Palestine. This hospital serves primarily Palestinian people as their primary hospital for life saving care in the region. As we celebrate the resurrection this month, we give thanks for the life-giving ministry of healing Augusta Victoria is able to do in a part of the world that was the first to hear “the Good News” of Christ’s resurrection. Through our support, the power of new life continues to unfold for those struggling with illness and long for healing.

Evangelism Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can share your faith with others

Easter Egg Banquet – Friday, April 26th at 6:00 pm

Let’s celebrate another successful year of our Easter Egg Industry. The main dish, desserts and beverages will be provided. Folks are asked to bring a side dish to share. There’s an RSVP and Sign Up sheet downstairs in the Easter Egg Room.

Invite a friend to experience Easter with us

Don’t forget to invite friends and family to enjoy the wonder of Easter with us – Christ’s resurrection changes everything, perhaps you know someone who could use a little change in their life and why wouldn’t you want to share how great our congregation is with them?

This Week at St. Mark's

Monday <i>Office Closed</i>	<i>6-8pm Easter Egg Pick up</i>	<i>6am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>7pm: Boy Scouts</i>
Tuesday <i>3pm – 7pm</i>		<i>6am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>7 pm: Cub Scouts</i>
Wednesday <i>10am – 12N</i>	<i>6-8pm Easter Egg Pick up</i> <i>6pm Confirmation</i>	<i>6 am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>8:00pm: AA Group</i>
Thursday <i>3 – 7pm</i>	<i>6- pm Dinner Church</i> <i>7pm Choir</i> <i>7:45pm Bell Choir</i>	<i>6am: Meals on Wheels</i>
Friday <i>10am – 12N</i>	<i>9-11am Easter Egg Final Pick up day</i>	<i>6am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>7 pm: AA / Al-Anon</i> <i>8:30 AA Group</i>
Saturday		<i>7 pm: AA Group</i>
Sunday	<i>PALM SUNDAY</i> <i>9:30 am – Worship Service</i>	<i>7 pm: AA Group</i>

Welcome to St. Mark's, We're 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. To help our youngest worshippers, "Little Lutheran Activity Bags" are located in the rear of the sanctuary which have crayons and worship appropriate coloring pages. 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 worshippers.

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: Visitor books at the entrance to the sanctuary Yellow Visitor Cards in the pew backs, just drop them in the offering plate We would be delighted to keep you informed about the many events and opportunities here at St. Mark's and hope you will join us again.