

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428
stmarksconshy.org

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost *August 18, 2019*

Gathering

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

Prelude

Erhalt uns, Herr

setting by Anne Krentz Organ

Invocation

The presiding minister begins

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn

Let the Whole Creation Cry

ELW 876

SALZBURG

Greeting

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

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.

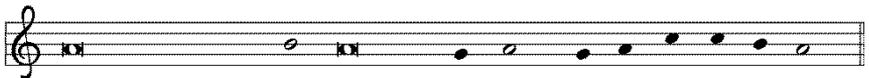
Kyrie



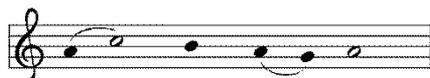
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



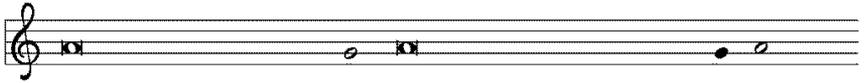
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



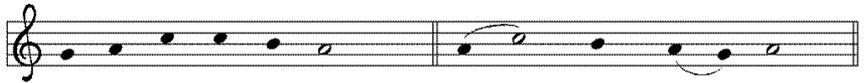
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

Hymn of Praise



Assisting minister

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



All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



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.



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.

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister prays the prayer of the day.

Let us pray,

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

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

First Reading:

Jeremiah 23:23-29

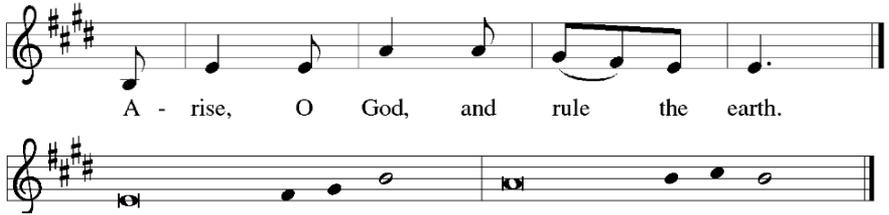
Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw

A reading from the 23rd chapter of Jeremiah:

²³Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? ²⁴Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.



- ¹God stands to charge the divine coun- | cil assembled,
giving judgment in the midst | of the gods:
- ²**“How long will you | judge unjustly,
and show favor | to the wicked?”**
- ³Save the weak | and the orphan;
defend the hum- | ble and needy;
- ⁴**rescue the weak | and the poor;
deliver them from the power | of the wicked. R**
- ⁵They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander a- |
bout in darkness;
all the foundations of the | earth are shaken.
- ⁶**Now I say to you, | ‘You are gods,
and all of you children of | the Most High;**
- ⁷nevertheless, you shall | die like mortals,
and fall like | any prince.’”
- ⁸**Arise, O God, and | rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations | for your own. R**

Second Reading:

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

The Second Reading is from the 11th chapter of Hebrews:

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been

encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³who through faith conquered realms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection.

³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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.

Gospel Lesson:

Luke 12:49-56

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

The Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹“I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, and in-laws against one another.”

⁵⁴Jesus also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

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

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

ELW 517

ERHALT UNS, HERR

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

Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation:

A brief silence is kept. Each petition ends:

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

The prayers are concluded:

All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord,
Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit. **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

Erhalt uns, Herr

setting by Glenn Wonacott

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"

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
 Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God,
 for the greening earth given for all,
 for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine.
 Transform us to be the body of Christ, that, feasting on this food
 and drink, our lives may reflect your generosity;
 through Christ our Lord.

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 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.

It is indeed right our duty and our joy.... join their unending hymn:

Sanctus *Holy, Holy, Holy*

ELW p. 152

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The presiding minister continues

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

**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

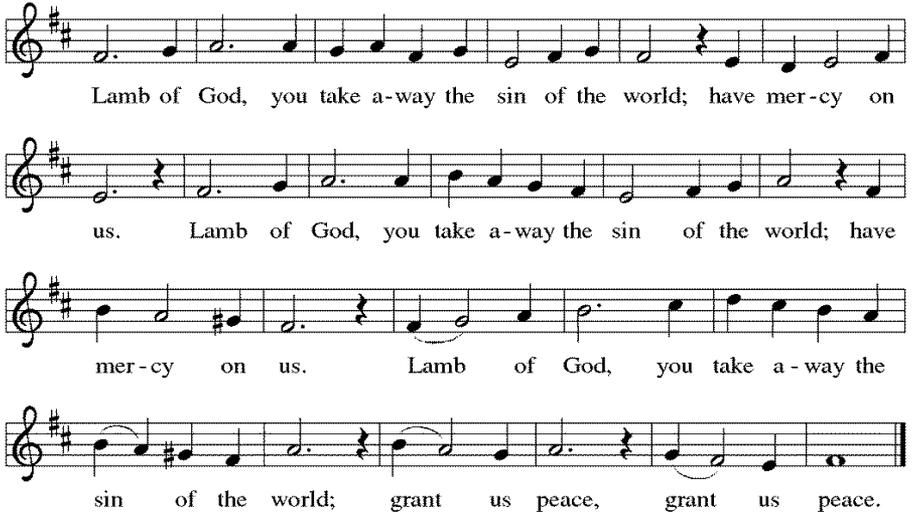
Here at St. Mark's we invite all people to the Lord's Table no matter where you are on your faith journey. This is Christ present for you – freely offered in bread and wine – all are welcome to commune.

God invites you to this table of bounty.

Come, the banquet is ready.

The bread may be broken for the communion

Agnus Dei *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.

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.

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.

Communion Hymns

ELW 813 *Faith of Our Fathers*

ST. CATHERINE

ELW 704 *When Pain of the World Surrounds*

CALLED TO FOLLOW

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

O God, in this holy communion
you have welcomed us into your presence,

nourished us with words of mercy,
and fed us at your table.
Amid the cares of this life,
strengthen us to love you with all our heart,
serve our neighbors with a willing spirit,
and honor the earth you have made;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and send us in mission to the world

Blessing

Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him,
and abound in thanksgiving;
and the blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God,
be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

Lead On, O King Eternal!

ELW 805

LANCASHIRE

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is sending you.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Lobe den Herren

setting by Anne Krentz Organ

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Leading Us in Worship

Presiding Minister:	The Rev. Bryan Penman	
Director of Music	Emily Ballentine Erb	
	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
Assisting Minister	Sheldon Erb	Joe Jacovino
Communion Asst.	Joanne Copestick	LJ Kriebel
Reader	Meagan Moul	Allison Fike
Nursery	The Fikes	The MacNeals
Acolyte	Joanne Copestick	Joanne Popowicz
Altar Guild	Pam Keebler	The Dryburghs
Ushers	Meagan Moul Joanne Copestick	The Logan Family
Counters	Pam Keebler Susan Jacovino	LJ Kriebel Stephanie Conklin
Offering Recorder	Jennifer Schreiter	Pam Keebler
Fellowship Hour	J. Schreiter Pam Keebler	The Logans

Worship Ministry:

Ways we gather in praise of God

Adult Choir & Bell Choir Begins Thursday, August 29th

Come, join the joyful noise of music ministry at St. Mark's! The Adult Choir and Bell Choir will be gathering for weekly rehearsals starting Thursday, August 29. Anyone is welcome to join either choir; you do not need to know how to read music (although it is helpful). The Adult Choir sings in two, three, and four parts and the Bell Choir rings three octaves of handbells to offer special music during worship services throughout the program year. If you have any questions, or if you're interested in singing and ringing, please contact our Director of Music, Emily Ballentine Erb. (emily@stmarksconshy.org).

Dedication of New Hymnals:

Our new hymnals will be dedicated during worship on September 8th. Because of the generous giving of our congregation members and friends, we were able to purchase 40 new Evangelical Worship (ELW) hymnals to use as we glorify and worship God through liturgy and song on Sundays and other occasions.

Dinner Church on Thursday

Traveling this summer? Don't worry, there is still a chance to get your weekly worship fix by attending Dinner Church on Thursday's at 6pm! Over the summer we serve a meal of hot dogs and salad. We invite people to volunteer to make salads during the weeks over the summer and a sign up sheet is located in sign up hallway.

Altar Flower Sponsorship

We have an openings for Altar Flowers in September. This is a wonderful way to honor or remember a loved one. The Sign-Up sheet is in the hallway. The cost is \$40.00.

Faith Formation Ministry:

Ways you can deepen your faith life

Get Ready for Rally Day – Sunday, September 8th

Faith Formation classes: will begin on Sunday, September 8th. Join us for our first class of the new year as we explore more in depth the stories from worship. Each week we gather to read scripture, do an activity, sing, pray and dive deeper into our faith together. Children ages 4 – 5th grade are welcome to this class (and so are their parents, because bible learning is for all ages!)

diakonia™ Classes Starting this Fall

diakonia™ is a two-year adult faith formation and discipleship program covering a range of topics from the Bible, Practical Ministries, Church History and Christian Teachings. It emphasizes the vocation of all Christians to serve as Christ has served us. The group will meet here on Mondays 6:30-9:00 pm. Participants can sign on for the entire year or take the courses individually as their schedules allow! There's lots of information about this program which is sponsored by the both the SEPA Synod and the ELCA: go to (ministrylink.org under the leadership tab) or (www.diakoniusa.org). Please speak with Pastor Bryan if you're interested in participating!

Confirmation resumes

Confirmation classes will resume for the year with a new weekly class format. Confirmation will meet on Sundays during our Faith Formation hour following worship. Confirmation is for students in middle school ages. To find out more details about the program and about getting your child confirmed, please speak with Pastor Bryan.

Service Ministry:

Ways you can do God's work with your hands

Capital Appeal Update: Pipe Organ Repairs

We continue to raise funds for our current Capital Appeal to renovate and refurbish our Pipe Organ. The results will be a refurbished pipe organ that will be brought back to its full potential.

Currently we've raised \$48,668 of the \$54,000 needed to complete this work—that's \$5,332 to go! We need your help to get us the rest of the way there! We invite you to consider making a gift donation to help us with these much-needed repairs to our organ. Another family has agreed to match funds given to the Capital Campaign over the next few weeks. So, if you give, they will also give. Now is the time to give to our capital appeal process so we can pay the bill on refurbishing our Pipe Organ! Work installing the new racks and pipes is almost complete!

Thank You for Backpack Donations!

Thank you to all who brought in backpacks for Colonial Neighborhood Council's (CNC) school supply drive for families in need of a little help getting their kids off to school this year. How wonderful for those kids to have new, brightly colored backpacks to begin the school year!

Food Collection Items Needed

Our local food bank run by our friends over at Colonial Neighborhood Council is in urgent need of tuna, fruit, jelly and, as always, toilet paper. Baskets are located at the rear of the sanctuary to collect items that will be taken over each week to the food bank.

Special Collection Envelope This Month: Silver Springs Martin Luther School

This month's special collection envelope is for Silver Springs Martin Luther School offers a holistic approach to improving the developmental, emotional, educational, spiritual, and social well-being of children and families through residential and community-based mental health services, special education, and foster family care. With locations in Plymouth Meeting and Philadelphia, Silver Springs is a Social Ministry Organization (SMO) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and is non-denominational with regard to whom it serves.

This Week at St. Mark's

Monday <i>Office Closed</i>		<i>6am Meals on Wheels</i>
Tuesday <i>Office hours: 3pm – 7pm</i>		<i>6am Meals on Wheels</i>
Wednesday <i>Office hours: 10am – 12pm</i>		<i>6 am Meals on Wheels 8pm AA Group</i>
Thursday <i>Office hours: 3pm – 7pm</i>	<i>6pm Dinner Church</i>	<i>6am Meals on Wheels</i>
Friday <i>Office hours: 10am – 12pm</i>		<i>6am Meals on Wheels 7 pm AA / Al-Anon 8:30 pm AA Group</i>
Saturday		<i>7 pm AA Group</i>
Sunday	<i>9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 Fellowship Hour</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 cyons 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 or Yellow Visitor Cards in the pew backs which can be dropped 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.