

# Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428

stmarksconshy.org

*Third Sunday in Lent*

*March 15, 2020*

## Gathering

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

### Prelude

*Various artists*

### Invocation

*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 is present, who gives life,  
who calls into existence the things that do not exist.

**Amen.**

### Confession and Forgiveness

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned away from you,  
knowingly and unknowingly.**

**We have wandered from your resurrection life.**

**We have lost the vision of your love for all people.**

**Turn us back to you, O God.**

**Give us new a new vision and right spirits,  
that we may see what is pleasing to you**

**and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**

Receive good news: God see you in love.

“I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God.

All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ,  
who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.

**Amen**

## Opening Hymn

ELW 777

*Be Thou My Vision*

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=v5675CrHe40](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v5675CrHe40)

## 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

Let us pray,

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst  
and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink  
from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Word

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

### First Reading:

Exodus 17:1-7

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—“Is the LORD among us or not?”—received a very positive answer.*

The First Reading is from the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter of Exodus:

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites

journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

The word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Psalmody**

Psalm 95

- <sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing | to the LORD;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
- <sup>2</sup>**Let us come before God’s presence | with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.**
- <sup>3</sup>For you, LORD, | are a great God,  
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.
- <sup>4</sup>**In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**
- <sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, | for you made it,  
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
- <sup>6</sup>**Come, let us worship | and bow down,  
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker. R**
- <sup>7</sup>For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture

and the sheep | of God's hand.

Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!

<sup>8</sup>“**Harden | not your hearts,**

**as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah | in the desert.**

<sup>9</sup>There your ancestors | tested me,

they put me to the test, though they had | seen my works.

<sup>10</sup>**Forty years I loathed that gener- | ation, saying,**

**‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not | know my ways.’**

<sup>11</sup>Indeed I swore | in my anger,

‘They shall never come | to my rest.’” **R**

## **Second Reading:**

Romans 5:1-11

*Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.*

The Second Reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans:

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But it is proof of God's own love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup>Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. <sup>10</sup>For if while we were

enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of the Son of God, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by the life of the Son of God. <sup>11</sup>But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Lesson:**

John 4:5-42

*Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.*

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 4th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

<sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jewish man, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jewish people do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his children and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." <sup>15</sup>The woman

said to Jesus, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

<sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” <sup>19</sup>The woman said to Jesus, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jewish people. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth.” <sup>25</sup>The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming”(who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” <sup>26</sup>Jesus said to her, “Here I am, the one who is speaking to you.”

<sup>27</sup>Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” <sup>28</sup>Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, <sup>29</sup>“Come and see someone who told me everything I have ever done! Can this be the Messiah?” <sup>30</sup>They left the city and were on their way to him.

<sup>31</sup>Meanwhile the disciples were urging Jesus, “Rabbi, eat something.” <sup>32</sup>But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” <sup>33</sup>So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will and accomplish the work of the one who sent me. <sup>35</sup>Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. <sup>36</sup>The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering

fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup>For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ <sup>38</sup>I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

<sup>39</sup>Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” <sup>40</sup>So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and Jesus stayed there two days. <sup>41</sup>And many more believed because of his word. <sup>42</sup>They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

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

*The Rev. Bryan Penman*

## Hymn of the Day

ELW 331

*Come Thou Font of Ev’ry Blessing* [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=DMHGAEROGXG](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DMHGAEROGXG)

## 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**

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence is kept.*

*Each petition ends:*

Hear us, O God / **Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers are concluded:*

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through 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**

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*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.*

## Offering Prayer

Holy and generous host,  
you set a table where we feast as friends.  
Prepare us to see and give witness to your goodness  
with every gift you have given us to share,  
that all people may know and see your peace  
through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Words of Institution

*ELW p. 206*

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's love is poured out in Christ for you.  
Open your eyes and yourselves to receive it.

### **Distribution of Communion**

*Today we will receive communion around the Altar Rail. 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 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**

We thank you, living God,  
for the body and blood of your Son,  
which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike.  
As Christ has loved us in this feast,  
so send us to love Christ in our neighbors.  
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

# Sending

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*God blesses us and send us in mission to the world*

## Blessing

Now is the acceptable time.  
Now is the day of salvation.  
Holy God,  
speaking, spoken, and inspiring,  
✠ bless you, unbind you,  
and send you in love and in peace.  
**Amen.**

## Sending Song

ELW 658

*How Firm a Foundation*

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=6ZCG3L5IKLW](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZCG3L5IKLW)

## 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

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|                               |                         |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Presiding Minister</b>     |                         | The Rev. Bryan Penman   |
| <b>Dir. of Music Ministry</b> |                         | Emily Ballentine Erb    |
| <b>Seminarian</b>             |                         | Breanna Myers           |
|                               | <i><b>This Week</b></i> | <i><b>Next Week</b></i> |
| <b>Assisting Minister</b>     | Theodora Morley         | Katie Colaneri          |
| <b>Communion Ass't</b>        | Karen Hanna             | LJ Kriebel              |
| <b>Readers</b>                | Garret Kriebel          | George Pokalo           |
| <b>Nursery</b>                | The MacNeals            | The Holsts              |
| <b>Acolytes</b>               | Joanne Popowicz         | Theodora Morley         |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>            | Jen Ramsden             | Jen Schreiter           |
| <b>Usher 1</b>                | Joanne Copestick        | The Logan Family        |
| <b>Usher 2</b>                | LJ Kriebel              |                         |
| <b>Counter 1</b>              | Joanne Copestick        | Lauren Parkin           |
| <b>Counter 2</b>              | LJ Kriebel              | Pam Keebler             |
| <b>Offering Recorder</b>      | Jen Schreiter           | Kathy Pokalo            |
| <b>Fellowship Hour</b>        | The Holsts              | The Schreiters          |
| <b>Faith Formation</b>        | Gail Penman             | Beth Patruno            |
|                               | Holly Holst             | Jen Ramsden             |

## **Worship Ministry:**

*Ways we gather in praise of God*

### **Easter Flowers**

Easter flower order forms are available in the back of the sanctuary. Help us to joyfully decorate the sanctuary and celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord at Easter worship service.

### **Dinner Church on Thursday at 6pm**

Dinner Church is also suspended during the ban on activity – so we will not be holding Dinner church over the next two weeks.

## Holy Week Schedule

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

- **Palm Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>** with worship at 9:30am
- **Maundy Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>** – Potluck dinner at 6 pm and worship in the sanctuary at 7 pm
- **Good Friday evening, April 10<sup>th</sup>** with worship at 7 pm
- **Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>st</sup>**, with worship at 9:30am

## Faith Formation Ministry:

*Ways you can deepen your faith life*

### Faith Formation Classes

We will be working to email out resources to our faith formation parents this week to hold home based faith formation lessons this week, so be on the lookout!

### Faith Formation Project

Our children in Faith Formation are collecting money during Lent in small boxes to be distributed at the Overbrook School for the Blind.

### Confirmation Class

Confirmation class will meet in the upstairs front classroom on Sundays during our Faith Formation hour following worship. Confirmation is for students in upper elementary and middle school. For more details about the program and about getting your child confirmed, talk with Pastor Bryan.

### diakonia™ classes resume Saturday, March 21@10am

Classes will resume on Sat., March 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am. This is a two-year adult theological education and discipleship program covering a range of topics from the Bible, Practical Ministries, Church History and Christian Teachings. Participants can sign on for the entire year or take the courses individually as their schedules allow! Each course is 5 weeks long. Next up is: Christian Ethics – Various Speakers

## Fellowship & Evangelism Ministry:

*Ways you can share your faith with others*

## **Reconciled in Christ Forum postponed**

Our congregation is in the process of drafting a "Welcome Statement" so that our congregation can apply for "Reconciling in Christ" designation with Reconciling Works. The "Reconciling in Christ" is a designation for congregations that have made a public statement of welcome for LGBTQIA+ individuals. We are working to take it a step further by publicly and officially make known the fact that "no matter where you are on your faith journey you are welcome here." As we prepare this statement, a few listening sessions have been scheduled for the congregation to ask questions and have questions answered.

Pastor will also be using this time to answer some of the questions submitted anonymously to the task force members. Should you have additional questions to ask or submit, we welcome them!

At this point we will work to reschedule these sessions once worship has resumed a normal schedule.

## **Easter Egg Industry Pick Ups**

### **Easter Egg Order Pick Up Times:**

**Monday Evenings 6pm – 8pm**

**Wednesday Afternoon/Evening 6pm – 8pm**

**Friday Mornings 9am – 11am**

## **Service Ministry:**

*Ways you can do God's work with your hands*

### **Lenten Devotion**

"20-20 Vision: Seeing the Cross Anew" a series of Lenten devotions written by St. Mark's Stewardship Team will be available in printed copies next week. Each week, a daily devotion will be sent out as well to reflect on the gospel text from the week.

### **Blessing Bags**

Blessing bags are available on the pews in the back of the sanctuary. These bags are used to help folks who might be facing homelessness with some food, personal care items, and new socks. It's great to have a couple in your

care to give out if needed.

## **Food Collection Items Needed**

Our local food bank run by our friends over at Colonial Neighborhood Council is in urgent need of Chef Boyardee, fruit 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.

## **March Special Envelope Collection: Lutheran Settlement House**

The Lutheran Settlement House is a non-profit, community based social service organization that serves over 14,000 women, men, and children each year through four program areas: Adult Education and Employment, Domestic Violence, Senior Services, and Homeless Services.

Established in 1902, Lutheran Settlement House (LSH) is a non-profit, community-based organization committed to serving vulnerable children, adults, and families living in Philadelphia. Over the past century, the programs and services offered by LSH have changed in response to the evolving needs of the community. However, the core mission of Lutheran Settlement House —"to empower individuals, families, and communities to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency through an integrated program of social, educational, and advocacy services"— has remained constant.

For more information and or to volunteer opportunities, visit us them on LSH website at: <http://www.lutheransettlement.org> or on facebook:

# 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 worshipers, "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 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: 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.