

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428
stmarksconshy.org

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 18, 2020

- *To Join our virtual worship space click on this link:*
- *<https://zoom.us/j/649397358?pwd=c21YemhZYjFVUjZkOXBBZ3NzRXJsOT09>*
- *Meeting ID: 649 397 358*
- *Password: saintmarks*
- *Using the Zoom Controls, you can turn on and off your video and mute and unmute your microphone. For most of the worship service the presiding minister will keep the assembly on mute so that you can follow along.*
- *During worship we will celebrate communion, so if you wish to participate with us, we invite you to grab some bread, and some wine or grape juice so that when we get to the MEAL, we can celebrate together.*
- *You are invited to speak the assembly responses and sing, but we ask that you stay on mute so that all may participate together.*

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.

We gather in community. Despite the mandate to "physical distance" we gather in community across virtual means. We welcome those who may be joining us from afar! If you would like to be added to our mailing list, leave your address in the Chat on Zoom. We are so glad that you have joined us today!

Gathering

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

Prelude

Lord Have Mercy
Bell Choir

by Erin MacGorman

Introduction to Virtual Worship

The Presiding Minister introduces us to our virtual worship space

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 creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,
and turn us again to life in you**

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,

Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW 705

God of Grace and God of Glory

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the soprano and alto parts, with piano accompaniment in the bass and tenor parts. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with a corresponding musical staff. The lyrics are: 1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple; 2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as - ; 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to; 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils; pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us; your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion; bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age; free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age; rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969
 Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

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,
 Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let
 us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory;
 redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus
 Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

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

First Reading:

Isaiah 45:1-7

*The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one
 the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice
 so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia
 had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty
 over both light and darkness.*

The First Reading is from the 45th chapter of Isaiah:

¹Thus says the LORD to Cyrus, the LORD's anointed,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip rulers of their robes,
to open doors before Cyrus—
and the gates shall not be closed:

²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,

³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.

⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,

⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.

⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 96:1-9

Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

¹Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

²**Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;**
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.

³Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations

and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

**⁴For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.**

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

**⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

**⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**

⁹Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

[¹⁰**Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be
moved will judge the peo- | ples with equity."**

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful
and all that | is therein.

**¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your
com- | ing, O LORD,
for you come to | judge the earth.**

¹³You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth.

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

The Second Reading is from First Thessalonians:

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the
Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that God has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for God’s Son from heaven, whom God raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson:

Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God’s people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to Jesus, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and

teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then Jesus said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

Children’s Sermon

A special message for our young disciples, we invite them to come to the screen so that they can see each other.

Sermon

The Rev. Bryan Penman

Hymn of the Day

ELW 709

When Our Song Says Peace



1 When our song says peace and the world says war, we will
 2 When our song says free and the world says bound, we will
 3 When our song says home and the world says lost, we will



sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,
 sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,
 sing de-spite the world. We will trust the song, for we sing of God,



who breaks the spear and sword and stills the storm of war.
who o - pens pris - on doors and sets the cap - tives free.
who brings us home at last, and gives a song to all.

Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953
Music: JENKINS, Thomas Pavlechko, b. 1962
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Music © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

Holy Baptism

God claims us and washes us clean in the waters of grace

The Candidate for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font. The assembly present is seated.

The presiding minister addresses parents:

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support **Maeve** pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

Address to New Members

The presiding minister address those who are to become members

Response: **I do.**

The presiding minister address the assembly:

People of God, will you help **Michael and Rachael** hear the gospel of Jesus Christ within this household of faith?

We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.

The assembly stands.

Profession of Faith

Let us together profess our faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

At the font, the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God , ... through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

Baptism

The presiding minister baptizes each candidate.

The presiding minister continues with prayer and laying on of hands:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God ... the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Maeve Frances, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

Welcome by the Assembly

A lighted candle is given to each of the baptized

Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me
will have the light of life.

A representative of the congregation may present a Bible to each person being welcomed. New members are also given a directory of the congregation so that they can get to know us, a set of work gloves so that they may join us in doing "God's Work with Our Hands," a Welcome Letter explaining things about the congregation, a set of envelopes so that they can support the mission of St. Mark's to bring up new disciples and connect people to lives of faith, a set of invitations so that they too, might invite new people to come and join them on their faith journey. The ministers and the baptismal group face the assembly.

Receive these gifts as a reminder to live into your baptismal

covenant that you affirmed this day: Hear God's word with us. Learn and tell its stories. Discover its mysteries. Honor its commandments. Rejoice in its good news. May God's life-giving word inspire you and make you wise.

Let us welcome the newly baptized and our newest members!
We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

The service continues with the Prayers of the People.

Prayers of the People

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need

A brief silence is kept. Each petition ends:

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

The prayers are concluded:

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name 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.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with those who have gathered together or with others on the screen.

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. During this time of “physical distancing” contributing via electronic funds is a way to continue to support the ministry of St. Mark’s. At this time, contributions towards “Current Ministry funds” are most needed. To contribute electronically, download our “Give+” giving app on your phone, available in the Apple Store and Google Play take a picture of the QR code with your phone to be directed to the download page.



Offertory

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Bell Choir

arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

Offering Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,
nourish us with this rich food and drink,
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

Instructions for the Lord’s Prayer

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.

Come to the banquet table
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

Distribution of Communion

Today we will receive along with the presiding minister or invite those who have gathered together to commune one another by distributing the elements or offering a blessing.

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond -- Amen.

Communion Blessing

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

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,

the body and blood of Christ.
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and send us in mission to the world

Blessing

Mothering God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW 713

O God of Every Nation

1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble clef and a bass clef, both in the key of B-flat major (two flats). The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with four different versions of the text provided for different parts of the hymn.

re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc-tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind-ness to your way,
 when hope and cour-age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn-ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923
 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.
 Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Dismissal

The assisting minister sends us forth

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Cwm Rhondda

setting by J. Bert Carlson

Leading us in Worship

Presiding Minister
Dir. Of Music Ministry
Digital Sacristan
Altar Guild
Assisting Minister
Reader

The Rev. Bryan Penman
Emily Ballentine Erb
Bre Myers
Sheldon Erb
Theodora Morley
Brooke Kenna

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Worship Ministry:

Ways we gather in praise of God.

Today at the font we celebrate

Maeve Frances Michuda

Baptized Child of God!

Matthew Michuda and Rachael Meek, parents

who we also welcome this day as New Members of St. Mark's.

Amanda Rielly and Bergin Gillespie, Godparents

Confirmation Sunday

Join us October 25th as we celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism (or Confirmation) of two of our young disciples as they affirm their faith and become adult members of our congregation. They have been preparing for this affirmation the last 3 years in confirmation and are excited to become members of our faith community!

All Saint Sunday – November 1st

We will observe All Saint's Sunday on Sunday November 1st. This year we are inviting anyone who would like to remember the names of a loved one to contribute to the list of names we remember in worship as we celebrate the feast and remember our unity with all the Saints. To submit a name or names to be remembered please email the church office info@stmarksconshy.org

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request send it to the church office (office@stmarksconshy.org). They will be shared with Pr. Bryan. If we receive it by Friday morning, it will be included in that Sunday's Prayers of the People.

Dinner Church on Thursday at 6:00pm

Dinner Church will gather "virtually" for dinner, prayer, scripture, song and a time to check in with on another during this time of "physical distancing" check our Facebook page for the weekly Zoom link.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/131997480?pwd=R3YzWGgrL3pNZTh2M1pWQVU0MnlWdz09>

Meeting ID: 131 997 480

Password: saintmarks

Faith Formation Ministry:

Ways you can deepen your faith life

Fall Faith Formation Activities

Faith Formation will resume in the Fall, as it 'normally' does, however, continuing the work of passing along and sharing the faith through Christian education will shift a little this year.

We will not be holding our Sunday morning classes as we normally do - instead we will be working to create "Faith Boxes" for families to work on together at home. My hope is that the whole congregation can participate in this process as well as we discover together the basic foundations of our faith. Each month will feature a different theme with a variety of activities to do together at home and ways to connect with other members of our congregation of all ages!

Fellowship & Evangelism Ministry:

Ways you can get to know each other and our community

Service Ministry:

Ways you can do God's work with your hands

Council Special Collection Envelope: Colonial Neighborhood Colonial

The Colonial Neighborhood Council (CNC) has been a fixture on the Conshohocken-Plymouth-Whitemarsh social landscape for the past 44 years. CNC sponsors the **Meals on Wheels** program that is housed at St. Mark's and has continued throughout the pandemic. Five days a week packaged meals to individuals at home who are unable to purchase or prepare their own meals. Because they are housebound, many of the recipients are the elderly, and many of the volunteers are also elderly but able-bodied and able to drive automobiles.

Research shows that home-delivered meal programs significantly improve diet quality, increase nutrient intakes, reduce food insecurity and improve quality-of-life among the recipients. The programs also reduce government

expenditures by reducing the need of recipients to use hospitals, nursing homes or other expensive community-based services.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Believe it or not, it is time to think about Thanksgiving baskets. Every year the CNC collects items from area churches and organization to provide Thanksgiving baskets to neighbors in need in our community. This year, St. Mark's has been asked to provide 100 cans of cream of mushroom soup by Sunday, November 15th. Donations can be dropped off in the parcel room.

Blessing Bags

As folks return to venturing out in public more, Rebecca Casey reminded me this week that folks might need some blessing bags during this time. I put a box of them in the Parcel Room at the church. Feel free to take as many as you would like and I'll refill them as the supply gets depleted, we have more inside the church.

Offering Envelopes

For those who use our offering envelopes as a way to give to the church in our weekly Sunday gathering, we invite you to continue the practice by mailing the envelopes to the church address 508 Harry Street Conshohocken, PA 19428. We have been creating a weekly deposit for those funds that are mailed to the church during the week.

It also may be a great time to set up St. Mark's on your banks bill pay system, simply set up Saint Mark's as a recurring item for payment and if it asks for account number – you could use you offering envelope number or just leave it blank. For all those who have mailed in their offerings,

THANK YOU, the church needs you now at this critical time as our worship services have been suspended in the building.

Food Collection Items Needed

Mac and Cheese --- Sandy has mentioned that Mac and Cheese is needed this week, so as you sparsely do your shopping if you could remember to grab a bottle or jar of jelly that would be greatly appreciated! Given the unknown nature of this time of “physical distancing” the schools are closed and lots of families in our area that depend on school meals have extra needs – kid friendly snacks are greatly appreciated. Also, in urgent need of Chef

Boyardee, fruit and, as always, toilet paper.

To make a donation – you can leave items in our Delivery Room located on Harry Street at the 508 sign. That door is always unlocked and you may leave your items in there and Pastor will work to get those items down to CNC during the week.