

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

4200 Londonderry Road, Harrisburg, PA 17109 652-6700

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MINISTERS: Every Member

PASTOR: The Rev. James E. Person, 717-712-8191



Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2021

MISSION STATEMENT: Nourished by Word and Sacrament, the mission of the members of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to spread God's Word in Jesus Christ through our thoughts, words, and actions, proclaiming God's good news for all to hear and live.

Please silence all electronic devices.

WELCOME! Please enjoy the opportunity to observe Silent Meditation during the Prelude.

PERSONAL HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. Please see an usher if you have trouble hearing the service.

INTRODUCTION

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit of God moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Prayer Litany*

by H. Kemp

HYMN #303 *Brightest and Best of the Stars*
Organ Only — No Singing

Stand **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,

whose goodness cascades over all creation.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy God,

C you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin —
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow
your outward way of love.**

We distrust those who are not like us.

**We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.**

Forgive us, gracious God,

for all we have done and left undone.

**Even before the words are on our tongues,
you know them; receive them in your divine mercy.**

Amen.

P How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of + Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away

and we are claimed as God's own beloved.

Indeed, we are forgiven.

In the wake of God's forgiveness,

we are called to be the beloved community

living out Christ's justice

and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

C Amen.

Greeting

p The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you

Spoken **Hymn of Praise**

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth.

Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;

we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY—Let us pray. . .

A Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORD

Sit **First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5**

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the

light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 29

Read in Unison

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,

ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;

worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;

the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;

the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;

the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,

and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord

bursts forth in lightning flashes.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;

the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;

the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.

O Lord, give strength to your people;

give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied — altogether there were about twelve of them.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Stand Spoken

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are
stirred.**

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark the 1st Chapter

C Glory to you O Lord

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P The Gospel of the Lord

C **Praise to you O Christ**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Sit **HYMN #303** *Baptized in Water*

Organ Only

Stand **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.**

The Prayers

A Let us pray

C Have mercy, O God,

A Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen

PEACE

The Peace is the link between the proclamation of the Word and the sharing of the Eucharistic meal. Our unity and mutual forgiveness come from Christ whose Word has just been proclaimed and whose meal we now prepare to share. We pray for the peace of the Lord for each other. **“Due to the heightened risk of flu or other illness, please practice a “non-contact” sharing of the Peace until further notice.**

P Each one of you is part of the body of Christ, and you were chosen to live together in peace. So let the peace that comes from Christ control your thoughts. And be grateful. (Colossians 3:15)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

MEAL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A O God,

**C receive these gifts as you receive us:
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.
Nourish us anew in your tender care,
and empower us in faithful service
to tend to others with this same love,
through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.**

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

BLESSING

P God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace.
C Amen.

Sit **HYMN #300** *The First Noel*
Organ Only

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C We will. Thanks be to God.

Please Remain Seated Till Dismissed

**Please do not leave your bulletin in the pews,
dispose of them in the Narthex in recycling can.**

POSTLUDE *As With Gladness Men of Old*

by C. Kocher

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Upcoming Events



Winter Youth Retreat at Kirchenwald
Saturday, January 9 - 9am – 7pm
Sunday, January 10 - 9am – 4pm
\$80 (both days) | Grades 3-9
[Register Now!](#)

2021 Chicken & Waffles at Nawakwa - Canceled
Winter Fun Day at Kirchenwald
January 17 | February 21
1-6pm | Free Will Offering

Don't forget you can make a gift today to support the ministries of the Lutheran Camping Corporation.

READINGS for January 17, 2021:

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: John 1:43-51

NOW HIRING SUMMER STAFF

We are hiring summer staff to help make this the best summer ever for our campers and guests. Serve others, grow in faith & community, and have a blast working at camp this summer! Learn more and apply online on the website.

SUMMER Camp
NOW HIRING Camp STAFF

Apply ONLINE AT
LutheranCamping.org/employment

Kirchenwald
Lebanon, PA
Zach Weiss
zweiss@lutherancamping.org
717-964-3121

Nawakwa
Arendtsville, PA
Mike Youse
myouse@lutherancamping.org
717-677-8211

COUNSELORS
LIFEGUARDS
KITCHEN STAFF

MAINTENANCE
CRAFT STAFF

Why Apply?

- Impact Lives
- Share Your Faith
- Meet New People
- Experience New Places
- Spend The Summer Outdoors

*Ministry sites of
The Lutheran Camping Corporation
of Central Pennsylvania*

Operating Receipts thru November 30: \$237,992

Payments made thru November 30: \$249,907

Attendance:

We look forward to continued support of our mission through your generous response to God's gifts given to us.

Chris Bair is collecting newspapers for the Bird Sanctuary

SIMPLY GIVING – A Simple Choice: A Generous Response & Save Paper. Simply Giving is the program St. Mark's uses to enable electronic transfer for church donations. Most people use similar methods to make recurring payments for utilities, mortgages, etc. Why not save paper and make it easier for yourself, and the Counters here at St Mark's. Sign up and support our programs with regular donations that are safe, reliable, and conserve paper resources.

If you are already enrolled consider increasing the amount at this time. Forms are available in the narthex and on bulletin boards, or ask at the office.

ONLINE GIVING - is also available on our website, stmarksharrisburg.org. Click the GIVE tab and follow the instructions. **ON LINE GIVING IS SEPARATE FROM SIMPLY GIVING.** If you use both you will be giving twice. Changes to **SIMPLY GIVING** must, for the time being, be made by paper form only. Thanks for your generous stewardship.

ATTENTION: So we can keep our Data Base up-to-date, if you have changes to your name, address phone number and your email address changed, you can call or send your updated information to church office.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

MINISTER OF MUSIC - Joyce Van Nieuwkuyk

MINISTER OF CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

- Bennett Williams

YOUTH/FAMILY MINISTER - Kellen Michalowski

ALTAR CARE - ;

USHERS - Don Young, Doug Womer, Ed Shadle,

Chris Bair, Dennis Dinger, Dave Featherman

GREETERS -

COMMUNION ASST -

WORSHIP ASST -

LECTORS -

FLOWER DELIVERY -

COUNCIL PRESIDENT - Stephanie Carl

NURSERY SCHL DIRECTOR - Pam Baranowski 671-4855

SEXTON - Don Young

Altar Flowers No flowers until church opens back up.

ST. MARK'S MEDITATION GARDEN BRICKS - Cost \$35.00 per brick (no limit). Order forms are available at both entrances to the sanctuary. Bricks can be purchased anytime throughout the year.

Birthdays for January

01/02 – Phyllis Mengel
01/03 – Roberta Wege
01/03 – Troy Spencer
01/04 – Hailey Neidig
01/04 – Alice Graham
01/05 – Kenny Baranowski
01/06 – Elizabeth Baranowski
01/07 – Courtney Miller
01/08 – Andrew Simpler
01/09 – Samuel Flook
01/09 – Chaz Evans
01/12 – Marcia Forlizzi
01/13 – Fritz Ulrich
01/13 – Clay Spencer
01/13 – Brent Spencer
01/14 – Shyese Brown
01/15 - Deb Banks
01/15 – Jeffery Weldon
01/15 – Christina Dinger
01/21 – Susanne Smithers
01/22 – Teaghan Davis
01/27 – Rebekah Hengst
01/28 – Bonita Lengel