

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428
stmarksconshy.org

Fifth Sunday of Easter May 2, 2021

- *To Join our virtual worship space click on this link:*
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85054242582?pwd=N1ZPb3FGa0xIWlZjTG1ZV0lNcW5LUT09>
 - *Meeting ID: 850 5424 2582*
 - *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

Engelberg

setting by Anne Krentz Organ

Introduction to Virtual Worship

The Presiding Minister introduces us to our virtual worship space

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

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.

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 name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

Opening Hymn

ELW 379

Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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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

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Word

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

First Reading

Acts 8:26-40

Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.

The First Reading is from the eighth chapter of Acts:

²⁶An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So Philip got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. Philip asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” ³¹the eunuch replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,

so he does not open his mouth.

³³In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” ³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” ³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalms 22:25-31

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Ps. 22:27)

²⁵From you comes my praise in the | great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who | fear
the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat | and be satisfied,**

**Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your
hearts | live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn | to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow | before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
who rules o- | ver the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow | down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel

be- | fore the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall | serve the LORD,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- | tions to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people | yet unborn,
saying to them, "The | LORD has acted!"

Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love

The Second Reading is from the fourth chapter of First John:

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent into the world God's only Son so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in God and God in us, because we have been given of God's own Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent the Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as the Son is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because God first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their

brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

John 15:1-8

On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing

The Holy Gospel according to John, the fifteenth chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ²My Father removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit my Father prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷“If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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

Rev. Bryan Penman

Hymn of the Day

ELW 449

We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows.

Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God,
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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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 Louise Annarose Greene and 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 Matthew and Katrina hear the gospel of Jesus Christ within this household of faith?

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

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.

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:

Louise Annarose, 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.

The pastor 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

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Each petition ends:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The prayers are concluded:

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through 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 “Tithe.ly” giving app (Apple Store and Google Play) or text “give” to 844-430-0285.

Offering Prayer

God of love,
you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer.
Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world;
for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.
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.

The risen Christ invites us to this table.

Come, eat and be satisfied.

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

Wellspring of joy,

through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts.

Satisfy the hunger still around us,

and send us as joyful witnesses,

that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and send us in mission to the world

Blessing

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

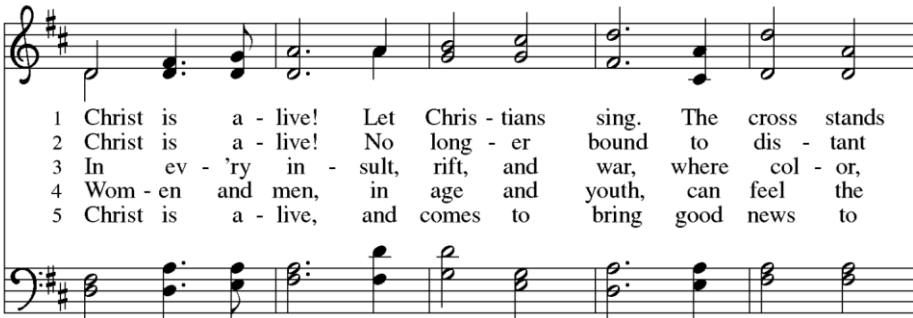
The God of life,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
 bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW 389

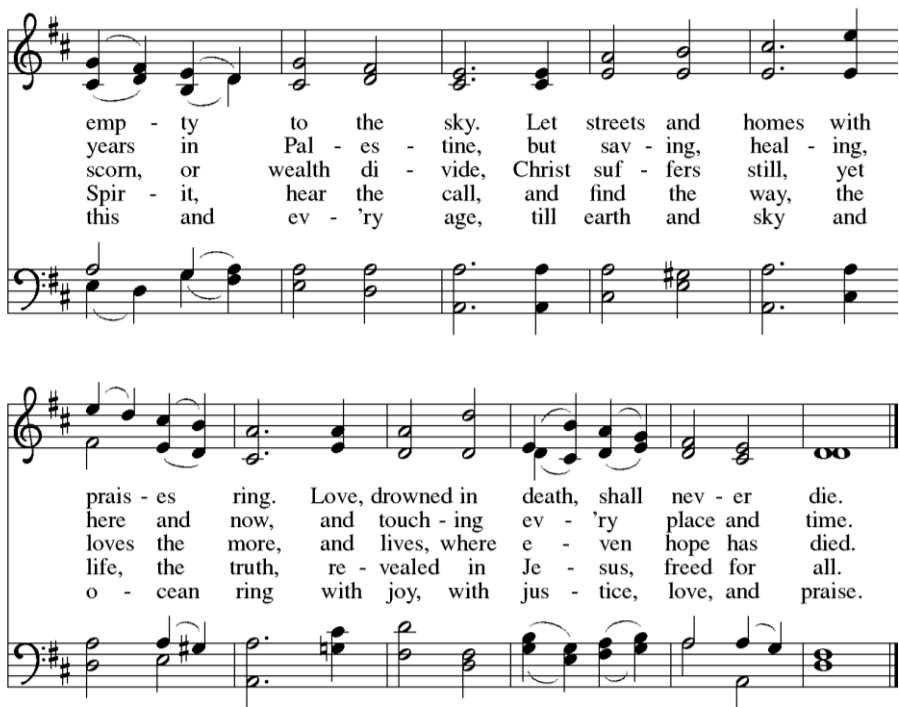
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing



1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and



emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - time, but sav - ing, heal - ing,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, yet
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
 Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789
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Dismissal

The assisting minister sends us forth

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

Noel Nouvelet

setting by Mark Sedio

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Today we welcome to St. Mark's

In the waters of baptism

Louise Annarose Greene

And by affirmation of baptism

Matthew and Katrina Greene

Leading us in Worship

Presiding Minister

The Rev. Bryan Penman

Dir. of Music Ministry

Emily Ballentine Erb

Digital Sacristan

Bre Myers

Altar Guild

Sheldon Erb

Assisting Minister

Joe Jacovino

Reader

Stella Ruggiero

Counter:

Kathy Pokalo

Serving in Worship Next Week:

Assisting Minister:

Mike Todd

Reader:

Donna Kobi

Counter:

Jen Schreiter

Worship Ministry:

Ways we gather in praise of God.

Outdoor Worship May / June

We are making plans to hold a series of Outdoor Worship services in May and June. These services will be weather depending and we will make the call via the Pastor's Email and Facebook page if we will be outside that weekend by Saturday afternoon.

- May 9th (Mother's Day)
- May 23rd (Pentecost)

- June 6th
- June 20th (Father's Day)

We will hold these services outside the front of the church on 5th Ave. So bring your favorite lawn chair, your downloaded bulletin, and something to celebrate communion with (bread and juice/wine).

We will attempt to also hold these services on Zoom / Facebook live and should weather not be great, the service will be on Zoom / Facebook live only.

Outdoor worship Setup / Tear Down Volunteers

Pastor will need help getting the audio equipment and worship elements set up outdoors before our outdoor worship services. If you would be willing to help with this, please let him know. Volunteers will be needed both before and after the service to set equipment and put it away.

Prayer List and Prayer Wall

If you have a prayer request or would like someone added to our prayer list 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. Additionally, you can add people to our Prayer Wall in our church app, you can also show people that you are praying for them by checking the box that you are praying for them!

Dinner Church

Join us on Thursday evenings for a time of fellowship and prayer in our Dinner Church worship service. Here this spring we will gather as "Picnic Church" – so grab your dinner a blanket or camp chair and join us outside the church (weather permitting) for Dinner Church on Thursday at 6pm. If the weather doesn't work, we will be back on Zoom as we usually do.

Faith Formation Ministry:

Ways you can deepen your faith life

Vacation Bible School "River of Life" | August 1st – 5th

This year, we are journeying down the river to learn about God's gracious gift of water. From the waters of baptism to the waters that sustain farms and gardens, water is life. As a church, the ELCA is committed to accompanying communities that lack access to clean water and proper sanitation, both in the United States and internationally, through ministries supported by ELCA

World Hunger. The simple reason for this is that all of creation relies on water to live. But water is much more than a resource. For people of faith, water is a powerful symbol, with significance as deep as the natural stores that cover the globe.

Fellowship & Evangelism Ministry:

Ways you can help spread the "Good News" with others

Download our new church App – The Prayer Wall

One of the new features of our church app is the ability to add prayer request to the "prayer wall." Prayer request entered on the App will be added into our weekly prayer email as well as our prayers as a community in worship on Sundays. In addition to requesting prayers - you can also leave comments on the prayers and commit to pray for those concerns for others.

Prayers can be for help, for thanksgiving, or general concerns you have for the church and the world. If you want things to remain more anonymous, you are welcome to use the person's initials, God knows everything, so God will know who we are praying for.

So download the app today and help get connected to God and our community by uploading a prayer request this week!

Easter Eggs – Bargain Sellout Price!

It was such a successful season of our Easter Egg Industry carried out under such extraordinary circumstances! There are only 20 boxes of mint Easter Eggs left to sell, offered for the bargain sellout price of \$8.00 a box. To purchase contact Joanne Popowicz at jojowicz@aol.com or call 610-639-2011.

Service Ministry:

Ways you can do God's work with your hands

Monthly Special Collection: Interfaith Hospitality Network

The Interfaith Hospitality Network of the Main Line, an Affiliate of Family Promise, enables volunteers from local congregations and the broader community to provide compassion and temporary shelter for homeless families. IHN-ML programs and services connect the families to community

resources, empowering them to achieve and maintain affordable housing.

Help Assemble Blessing Bags Next Week

After outdoor worship next week, May 9th, we will be assembling **Blessing Bags** outdoors. What a great way to celebrate Mother's Day as a family - show Mom that you did listen to her and you do care for others!

Here is the link to sign up for supplies we need to help make blessing bags:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090E4DA5A929AAFB6-blessing1>

We have all encountered folks asking for donations on the street and often feel like we don't know what to do. Blessing bags are a way for you to step into those situations and be a blessing to someone. Each kit has snacks and personal care items and a pair of tube socks (the #1 most requested item at shelters.)

Keep a few for your own car. Additional ones can be picked up from a box in the Parcel Roomy - the entrance is on Harry Street and is open all the time. Feel free to take as many as you would like and I'll refill them as I see it needs refilling, we will have more inside the church.

Food Collection Items Needed

CNC is in need of larger sized diapers in larger sizes at this time.

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.

Pastor will work to get those items down to CNC during the week.

Your support is making a difference

We offer a variety of ways you can support the mission and ministry of St. Mark's by making a financial gift.

- You can set up St. Mark's with your Bank's Bill Pay system to send checks to St. Mark's.
- You can utilize our Tithe.ly giving app available on Apple and Google. Simply search for St. Mark's by zip code (19428) and set up a one time or recurring gift by credit card or by Bank Routing numbers.
- Send a text to our giving number (844) 430-0285

- Mail a check to the church.

We offer a variety of "categories" that you can give to, but giving to our "Current Ministry Expenses" help us make our day to day operations possible.

- **Current Ministry** - helps support our yearly Budget and Ministry Spending Plan, it covers our ministry area expenses and our operations like utilities and maintenance.
- **Capital Appeal** - giving to this helps defray the costs of periodic capital appeals that are larger than our ongoing budget can cover. At this point there is not an active appeal, so funds given here are put in a savings account should we need an appeal in the future.
- **ELCA / Synod Support** - these funds are given to help support the work of our Synod and wider ELCA denomination. We strive to give at least 10% of funds we receive to help support the ongoing work of the wider church.
- **Special Monthly Collection** - each month we designate a special non-profit or ministry focus that we wish to intentionally support throughout the year. It's a way we can help do God's Work, with our Gifts throughout the year.

No matter how you give of your time, your talents and your treasures, we say a hearty THANK YOU for the ways we continue to do God's work, with our hands -- even during the pandemic!!