



The Parishioner

Volume 25, Issue 4

A Publication of St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

May 2020

ASCENSION: EASTER'S CHALLENGE

“You are to be my witnesses!”

*“You will be my witnesses – in Jerusalem, in all Judea,
in Samaria and in every part of the world.” - Acts 1:8*



Easter's glory was our Lord's victory over sin and death. He lives! And because He lives you and I are invited to share in that same resurrection promise. We are invited to live our lives in the joyful assurance of eternal life. At His ascension into heaven, the risen Lord instructed his disciples that Easter's glory was our Lord's victory over sin and death. He lives! And because He lives you and I are invited to be His witness in all the world. (*Note: The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord is celebrated on May 21st this year.*)

No words are more memorable than final words. Jesus told His disciples over and over who He was, and what would happen to Him and to them. The details of His lengthy farewell (in John 21) may well have been lost on them in the panic and fear of the crucifixion. But they found forgiveness and joy in His resurrection, and now before He “withdraws” (ascends) He reminds them one last time of what scripture had been saying all along: that He, the Messiah, was to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day. It happened just as He said. Now they, as **witnesses**, are to proclaim repentance and forgiveness to all people starting right where they are in Jerusalem.

Jesus must have talked repeatedly in sermons and parables to get His followers to understand what He was all about and what their mission would be, in light of all they had gone through with Jesus and because of Jesus. But even as He was carried up (ascended), and even though they were continually in the temple blessing God, we do not get the sense from the text that the disciples are ready for what is about to happen and what is about to come to them on the day of Pentecost. (*Note: The Feast of Pentecost is celebrated on May 31st this year.*)

A powerful healing and heads-up come to us simultaneously in this text where it falls in the church year. How many times have we heard who Jesus is, what we are to do? And how many times have we been baffled and confused at what Jesus is doing even after He told us countless times. Yet even in our cluelessness, we are blessed. And as we too are continually blessing God, who knows what awaits us?

-fr Sunday & Seasons, Augsburg Fortress

We are called to be witnesses. And like a witness in court, we are called to testify, to tell what we have seen and heard. And we are to speak truthfully. Our task is not to whitewash nor embellish the truth. Our task is to tell the truth. Period.

There is however, one difference between the witness in a court and the witness for Christ. The witness in a court eventually steps down from the witness chair, but the witness for Christ never does, Since the claims of Christ are always on trial, court is perpetually in session, and we remain under oath.

-fr Just Like Jesus by Max Lucado

YOU are to be my witnesses!

Pastor Neal +

Societas Trinitatis Sanctae

The Society of the Holy Trinity

Founded September 1997

A number of you have inquired as to the STS post script found following Pastor Neal's name. The following explanation is taken from the back-cover of the Society's Annual Calendar

The Society is an association (ministerium, order) of pastors who have been ordained in Lutheran churches throughout North America and Australia. Immersed in the Lord's Scriptures and Sacraments, the ordained pastor carries and reflects the Lord's Life to an absorbed, afflicted and agonized world. The Society assists that carrying and reflecting by encouraging obedience to the Holy Trinity, by using the daily Prayer offices and the daily Lectionary of the Church, and by studying the Scriptures, the Confessions and the Church fathers. The Society reminds its members that through the Son's Cross we are stirred and sustained to be faithful carriers and reflectors of the Lord's Life. This is why we support one another in remaining faithful to the promises spoken at ordination. ~ Website: www.societyholyltrinity.org ~



*"Let each of you look not only to his own interests,
but also to the interests of others."
Philippians 2:4*



During this time that the church building is closed to gathering, eleven St. Mark's members volunteered to reach out through phone calls, checking on the church family. Below is a note from Karen Cooper about her experience as one of those volunteers:

"I was sitting in my room and wondering what I could do to help people through all this. When I got an email asking if I could make calls to check on our membership. I jumped at the chance, got my list and went to work. This gave me a chance to talk to friends and make new friends. When calling I introduced myself by name and member of St. Marks. Asked how they were and told them the church was calling to see if they were ok. Asked if the church could do anything to help them and most had families to help and did not need anything presently. They were all pleased that the church cared. I told them I would be praying for them. They all seemed pleased. I left my name and phone number and said to call the church office or me if anything changes. This may have done more for me than them. One member offered financial help. Another offered her time to help anyone who needs help with groceries. Then another was telling me about his son's business being closed and they switched to making masks, and can't keep up. Thanks to everyone for helping each other. I will keep praying. Prayer Works." ~ Karen Cooper

Stay Connected

We are working hard to continue reaching out,
serving and “being witnesses” through a variety of old and new ways.

Find us, “Like us” and Share us! 

- Website – stmarksbutler.org
- Facebook – St. Mark’s Evangelical Lutheran Church (Butler, PA)
- YouTube – St. Marks Butler PA
- Radio Broadcast – WBUT 1050 AM, Sunday mornings @ 10:30 am
- Newsletter – “The Parishioner” - sent monthly to your mailbox and found on the website
- Email – Parish Administrator, wendy.holt@stmarksbutler.org
- Phone – (724)-287-6741
- Mail – 201 West Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001

Help us stay connected to you.

Share and/or update your contact information so that we can keep you informed.



Thank You for continuing to send and share your contributions.

•Mail them to 201 West Jefferson Street, Butler, PA 16001.

•Or set up electronic giving through your bank, add St. Mark’s as a designated payee.

“How while they were undergoing every sort of trouble, and were in the greatest need, they took all the greater joy in being able to give freely to the needs of others. For I give them witness, that as they were able, and even more than they were able, they gave from the impulse of their hearts” ~ 2 Corinthians 8:2-3 ~

<u>2020 Congregational Council Officers</u>	March 2020	April 2020
President: Reuben Pink	<u>St. Mark's Financial Overview</u>	
Vice President: Ron Atkison	\$38,432.00	\$24,949.11
Secretary: Judy Minehart	\$34,393.35	\$25,489.23
Treasurer: Sherry Young	-----	-----
Financial Secretary: Toni Tassey	\$4,038.65	\$540.12
	Receipts	Receipts
	Expenses	Expenses
	Balance	Deficit

NOTES from KATIE'S KITCHEN.....

Well, it certainly has been a challenging few weeks for all of us- not only here at St Mark's & Trinity Lutheran, but around the world. We all are adjusting to a "new normal" for almost everything in our lives. The challenges of staying in place, sanitizing EVERYTHING, and timing our ventures out of the house to get groceries & necessities of daily life, & of course- masks have become topics of everyone's conversations. No outings like church, shopping, theaters or concerts, no sporting events, no Spring rites of passage like Proms & graduations..... This pandemic has certainly changed the world we live in. Even my friends in England & relatives in Sicily are dealing with the very same restrictions that we are & have been for several weeks longer than we have. Somehow in the craziness, it is bringing the world a bit closer together (ok, just remain 6 ft apart!). Somehow, this is all in God's plan for us. Maybe he is trying to tell us something? We just need to trust in His guidance & know that He will guide us where we need to be.

As most of you are aware, Katie's Kitchen has been closed since the end of March due to decisions of St Mark's & Katie's Board of Director's. We prepared "Grab & Go" meals for 2 weeks before the governor issued the Stay at Home order. It was then felt that for the safety of volunteers & staff, KK should close for a bit. A huge thank you to Pastor Benson & members of Trinity Lutheran who have continued making "Grab & Go" meals out of their kitchen & have been transporting them to the parking lot of Young's Funeral Home to keep the serving area relatively close to where our clients are familiar.

So while we have been staying home due to this virus, several GOOD things have been happening:

- ❖ The leaders of the churches who serve the Community Dinners have been meeting regularly through ZOOM meetings to share concerns, ideas, & even food. In all of the years that these churches have been doing this wonderful service, they have never really met to discuss their mutual interest. It has been a great blessing to meet & share with others who have a great concern of feeding the needy of our community. Mary Ann Swanson, from First English Lutheran Church, worked with Walmart to obtain packaging & products to use in our meals during the first month of the crisis. When the Butler Walmart reached the limit of their budget, Mary Ann was asked to write 5 grants for Walmart's in our area to obtain an additional \$20,000 to be divided among the 5 churches who serve the dinners. This money will be forthcoming in the next month or so & will be divided at that time. A very Special Thank You to Walmart for being such a good friend to the Butler Community and to Mary Ann for giving of her time for this important service.
- ❖ Marburger Dairy has also stepped up & has offered to provide milk & juice for all of Butler's community meals during this time of crisis. Please make sure to support them when you are purchasing their wide variety of dairy products for your family! Our area farmers are extremely important to our economy & the supply chain! Remember to Shop Local whenever you can!
- ❖ Maybe some of you have heard about 412 Food Rescue out of Pittsburgh that has been helping to distribute food to the needy in the southern part of Western PA. Katie's Kitchen has been getting some food from them on the 3rd Monday of the month through the Food Bank since November. In February, Janine Kennedy, who headed the food bank, was leaving for another job & suggested that I apply to 412FR so that they would do a drop off of food at St. Mark's. February was our first "drop off". The food they share is generally all fresh produce & some refrigerated food. In the past they did drop offs at some Senior housing too, but that has ended during this Stay at Home order. This week when 412 FR came, I was very happy to share the food that they brought with the other Community dinners and hope to continue sharing with them in the future. This fresh produce will greatly help our budgets & will provide our clients with fresh, healthy food that they may otherwise not have access to.

....continued of page 5

❖ Best news of all— it has been decided that Katie’s Kitchen will be open again as of **Thursday, May 7**. We will be working with a very limited staff & will do several shifts to prepare, package, & serve our meals to limit our exposure to the Covid 19 virus. Of course, I expect that we will still be preparing the “Grab & Go” meals for some time to come. This will require more packaging & unfortunately an increase in expenses.

.....but it will be good to get back into our routine & serve those who need our food & fellowship! I look forward to seeing all of my very dedicated volunteers & pray that this pandemic is over soon. With God’s grace we will get through this together!

As always, I appreciate your continued support & prayers, **Justine** ~



May 1, 2020



“Hi,

....My church in Butler, as well as my church in Panama City, has been making adjustments because of this pandemic. This corona virus and social distancing will soon be over.

Thank you for remembering me with a lovely card. My thoughts and prayers are with St. Mark’s. We will be moving forward again when the time is right.”

Love in Christ,

Carol Fibick



Card Ministry

The card ministry sent in the month of April:



- 10 Birthday Cards
- 26 Easter Cards
- 2 Sympathy Cards
- 4 Thinking of You/Get Well Cards

Thank you to Vera Niggel for serving our church family in this way!

Bob & Vera spearheaded the efforts to gather volunteers for our Phone Call ministry and participated in making some of those calls. A note on their experience while reaching out:



“The folks were pleased to get a call, and thought this was a great idea to keep in touch. One elderly lady was a real joy. She will be ninety-nine, and she is as alert and lively as can be. She was more of a ministry to us than we were to her I think” - Bob & Vera

THANK YOU

to all our phone call volunteers!

happy
mother's day!

²⁵ She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

²⁶ She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

²⁷ She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

²⁸ Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

Proverbs 31:25-28 [NIV](#)



Another test of knowledge from Rebecca Veith.

Here's a quiz from the Lutheran Hour Ministries.

--Answers on page 9, so do NOT turn the page if you don't want to see the answers! --

These five sayings are commonly quoted as though they're from the Bible. Which ones are actually true, and which are nothing like the truth? We'll give you the correct answers next month!

1. "God will never give you more than you can handle."

- Whole truth
- Half truth
- Nothing like the truth

2. "Cleanliness is next to godliness."

- Whole truth
- Half truth
- Nothing like the truth

3. "For where two or three are gathered, there I am among them."

- Whole truth
- Half truth
- Nothing like the truth

4. "Spare the rod and spoil the child."

- Whole truth
- Half truth
- Nothing like the truth

5. "A fool and his money are soon parted."

- Whole truth
- Half truth
- Nothing like the truth

ANSWERS for April Quiz:

- 1 It Is Well With My Soul
- 2 Sweet Hour of Prayer
- 3 The Solid Rock
- 4 Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus
- 5 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
- 6 Rock of Ages
- 7 How Firm a Foundation



Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2020 occurs on Monday, May 25. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

Early Observances of Memorial Day

The [Civil War](#), which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries. By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers. *Did you know?* Each year on Memorial Day a national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time. It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. And some records show that one of the earliest Memorial Day commemoration [was organized](#) by a group of freed slaves in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the [Confederacy](#) surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, [New York](#), the official [birthplace of Memorial Day](#). Waterloo—which first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—was chosen because it hosted an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

Decoration Day

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land," he proclaimed. The date of [Decoration Day](#), as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle. On the first Decoration Day, General [James Garfield](#) made a speech at [Arlington National Cemetery](#), and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Union and Confederate soldiers buried there. Many Northern states held similar commemorative events and reprised the tradition in subsequent years; by 1890 each one had made Decoration Day an official state holiday. Southern states, on the other hand, continued to honor their dead on separate days until after [World War I](#).

History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars, including [World War II](#), [The Vietnam War](#), [The Korean War](#) and the wars in [Iraq and Afghanistan](#). For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.

Memorial Day Traditions

Cities and towns across the United States host Memorial Day parades each year, often incorporating military personnel and members of veterans' organizations. Some of the largest parades take place in [Chicago](#), [New York](#) and [Washington, D.C.](#) Americans also observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries and memorials. Some people wear a red poppy in remembrance of those fallen in war—a tradition that [began with a World War I poem](#). On a less somber note, many people take weekend trips or throw parties and barbecues on the holiday, perhaps because Memorial Day weekend—the long weekend comprising the Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day and Memorial Day itself—unofficially marks the beginning of summer.

Pentecost, Sunday, May 31, 2020

Article by Rev. Dr. Mark D. Roberts

What is Pentecost? For Christians, Pentecost is a holiday on which we commemorate the coming of the Holy Spirit on the early followers of Jesus. Before the events of the first Pentecost, which came a few weeks after Jesus' death and resurrection, there were followers of Jesus, but no movement that could be meaningfully called "the church." Thus, from an historical point of view, Pentecost is the day on which the church was started. This is also true from a spiritual perspective, since the Spirit brings the church into existence and enlivens it. Thus Pentecost is the church's birthday.

What does the word "Pentecost" mean? The English word "Pentecost" is a transliteration of the Greek word *pentekostos*, which means "fifty." It comes from the ancient Christian expression *pentekoste hemera*, which means "fiftieth day." But Christians did not invent the phrase "fiftieth day." Rather, they borrowed it from Greek-speaking Jews who used the phrase to refer to a Jewish holiday. This holiday was known as the Festival of Weeks, or, more simply, Weeks (*Shavuot* in Hebrew). This name comes from an expression in Leviticus 23:16, which instructs people to count seven weeks or "fifty days" from the end of Passover to the beginning of the next holiday (*pentekonta hemeras* in the ancient Greek translation of the Hebrew Scripture). *Shavuot* was the second great feast in Israel's yearly cycle of holy days. It was originally a harvest festival (Exod 23:16), but, in time, turned into a day to commemorate the giving of the law on Mt. Sinai. This day became especially significant for Christians because, seven weeks after the resurrection of Jesus, during the Jewish celebration of *Shavuot*/Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon his first followers, thus empowering them for their mission and gathering them together as a church.

What actually happened on that day of Pentecost? This event is recorded in the New Testament book known as The Acts of the Apostles. Chapter 2 begins, "And when the day of Pentecost [*ten hemeran tes pentekostes*] had come, [the first followers of Jesus] were all together in one place" (2:1). All of a sudden, a sound came from heaven, like a strong wind, filling the house where the people had gathered. Something like tongues of fire rested on their heads. "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability to speak" (2:4). (Notice the tongues of fire on the heads of the people in the painting by Restout.) The languages spoken by the early Christians were intelligible (not other worldly) and were heard by thousands of Jewish pilgrims who had come to Jerusalem to celebrate *Shavuot*. The content of the miraculous messages had to do with God's mighty works (2:11). Many who heard these messages in their own languages were amazed, though others thought the Christians were just drunk (2:12). At some point, Peter, one of the leading followers of Jesus, stood up and preached his first sermon. He interpreted the events of that morning in light of a prophecy of the Hebrew prophet Joel. In that text, God promised to pour out his Spirit on all flesh, empowering diverse people to exercise divine power. This would be a sign of the coming "day of the Lord" (Acts 2:16-21; Joel 2:28-32). Peter went on to explain that Jesus had been raised and had poured out the Spirit in fulfillment of God's promise through Joel (2:32-33). When the crowd asked what they should do, Peter urged them to turn their lives around and be baptized in the name of Jesus. Then they would be forgiven and would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (2:37-39). Acts reports that about 3,000 people were added to the church that day (2:41). Not a bad response to Peter's first sermon!

The Inclusive Ministry of the Church After the Holy Spirit fell upon the first followers of Jesus, Peter preached a sermon to help folks understand what had just happened. In this sermon he cited a portion of a prophecy from Joel: 'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike— and they will prophesy.' (Acts 2:17-18; Joel 2:28-29) Later, Peter explained that the Spirit would be given to all who turned from their sin and turned to God through Jesus (Acts 2:38). This was a momentous, watershed event. For the first time in history, God began to do what he had promised through Joel, empowering all different sorts of people for ministry. Whereas in the era of the Old Testament, the Spirit was poured out almost exclusively on prophets, priests, and kings, in the age of the New Testament,

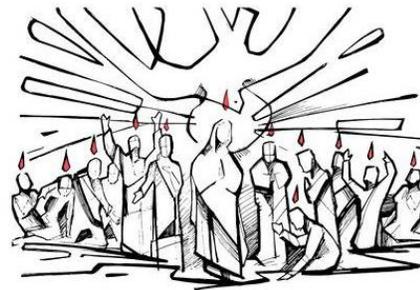
.....continued on page 9

the Spirit would be given to “all people.” All would be empowered to minister regardless of their gender, age, or social position. Although this truth would not mean that every Christian would be gifted for every kind of ministry, it did imply that all believers would be empowered by the Spirit. The church of Jesus Christ would be a place where every single person matters, where every member contributes to the health and mission of the church (see Eph 4:11-16).

Personal Implications: Each Christian needs to ask: Am I serving God through the power of the Spirit? Am I exercising the gifts of the Spirit in my life, both in the gathered church and as I live for God in the world? Pentecost is a time to ask God to fill us afresh with the Spirit so that we might join in the ministry of Christ with gusto. And it is a time to renew our commitment to fulfilling our crucial role in the ministry of God’s people in the world. Moreover, those of us who hold positions of power in the church should examine our attitudes and actions. Are we encouraging all of God’s people to minister through the power of the Spirit? Are we open to what the Spirit of God wants to do in our churches and communities through his empowered people? Or are we gatekeepers of the church who would even keep the Holy Spirit out of our carefully tended and controlled communities? As a pastor, my role is to equip God’s people for doing the ministry of Christ in the church and the world (Eph 4:11-12). Sometimes, however, we pastors are so concerned about our own position and power that we fall short of this central pastoral calling. Pentecost is a day for pastors and other church leaders to recommit to equipping and encouraging all Christians for their ministry. When we do this, the Holy Spirit will be free to use the church of Jesus Christ for God’s purposes in the world.

Complete article can be found @

<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/markdroberts/series/what-is-pentecost-why-does-it-matter/>



QUIZ ANSWERS from page 6

1. **Half-truth** This one’s only half true. God will never give us more than we can handle—as long as we are depending on Him instead of our own resources. This saying probably began as a paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 10:13: “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.” As you can see, it’s a great example of the way that quoting only half of a verse usually leaves you with only half of a truth!
2. **Nothing like the truth** It sounds good on the surface, but you won’t find this one in the Bible. Actually, the fact that it sounds good on the surface is the problem. God certainly doesn’t disapprove of good hygiene—but He is a lot more concerned with the cleanliness of our hearts: “Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work” (2 Timothy 2:21).
3. **Whole truth** This is Matthew 18:20. But it’s not an excuse for staying home from church, as many people seem to take it. Matthew 18:20 comes at the end of a passage on church discipline. The lesson here is that church discipline is not a one-person job, and if those entrusted with it earnestly seek God’s will over how to handle a particular situation, they can count on God’s presence even in the tough decisions.
4. **Half-truth** This one is probably a paraphrase of Proverbs 13:24, “Whoever spares the rod hates his son, but he who loves him is diligent to discipline him.” What makes this a half-truth is that “the rod” is certainly not the only way to discipline a child, and all discipline in the Bible is in the context of godly instruction. The point of the verse is not to say that children should be spanked whenever they misbehave! It is that godly correction is essential to raising a well-adjusted, spiritually strong adult.
5. **Nothing like the truth** This one may be experientially true, to the delight of advertising executives, but you won’t find it in the Bible. One big clue—in the Bible, being labeled a “fool” seldom has anything to do with intellectual capacity, knowledge or worldly wisdom. Instead, “The fool says in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good” (Psalm 14:1). That’s a type of foolishness that crosses all boundaries of intellect and education.



Prayer for our Church

Shared by a fellow Parishioner

Our church is composed of people like me.

I help make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am friendly.

Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.

It will make generous gifts to many causes,

if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into its worship

and fellowship, if I invite and bring them.

**It will be a church of loyalty and love,
of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble**

spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am

filled with these same things.

**Therefore, with the help of God, I shall
dedicate myself to the task of being all the things**

that I want my church to be.



May 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 National Day of Prayer 5:00 Katie's Kitchen	8	9
10  Happy Mother's Day!	11	12	13	14 5:00 Katie's Kitchen	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 5:00 Katie's Kitchen	22	23
24 	25 	26	27	28 5:00 Katie's Kitchen	29	30
31 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit! Acts 2.4	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>May Birthstone – Emerald May Flowers – Lilly of the Valley and Hawthorne May Fruits & Vegetables – Mangos, Potatoes, Limes and Rhubarb</p> </div>					



“He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many will see and fear and will trust in the Lord.” – Psalm 40:3

Lessons and Prayers for the Sundays in May

May 3, 2020 – *Fourth Sunday of Easter* – Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23, 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10, Prayer of the Day: “O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.”

May 10, 2020 – *Fifth Sunday of Easter* – Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, John 14:1-14, Prayer of the Day: “Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.”

May 17, 2020 – *Sixth Sunday of Easter* – Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21, Prayer of the Day: “Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.”

May 24, 2020 – *Seventh Sunday of Easter* – Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11, John 17:1-11, Prayer of the Day: “O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.”

May 31, 2020 – *Day of Pentecost* – Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, Acts 2:1-21, John 20:19-23, Prayer of the Day: O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son

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Website: www.stmarksbutler.org

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BUTLER, PA

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 AM -- 1: 00 PM

Tuesday – Friday

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:15 AM

Sunday School: 9:00 AM

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



- Sunday, May 10, 2020 ~ Mother's Day
- Monday, May 25, 2020 ~ Memorial Day
- Sunday, May 31, 2020 ~ Pentecost

**A Congregation of the
North American Lutheran Church**

