



# ST. MARK'S

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:30 a.m. Rite II November 28, 2021

- From a place of utmost concern for all, our Bishop has decided that masks once again should be worn by all individuals for indoor gatherings.
- For the time being, guidelines for Holy Communion will remain bread only.
- The side alcove is designated as a socially-distanced seating section for those interested.

**Prelude:** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland — J. S. Bach

**Hymn:** Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding Hymnal 59

**Acclamation** Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

**People:** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

#### Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### Trisagion

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One,  
Have mer - cy up - on us. \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from *Mass for Grace*  
© 1997 Carl Haywood

#### Collect of the Day

BCP 211

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Collect for St. Mark's Episcopal Church

**Gracious God, through your Fatherly goodness, make St. Mark's a Christian community united to serve others; enrich our life in Christ, that we might celebrate and share Christ's love; and send your Holy Spirit to give us strength and courage to proclaim the Good News of your love through word and deed. Amen.**

## A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 25

Julien Loucks, Cantor

Refrain:



Verses:

1. Your ways, O Lord, make known to me, teach me your paths. Guide me, teach me, for you are my Savior. [Refrain]
2. Remember your compassion, Lord, and your kindness of old. Remember this, and not my sins, in your goodness, O Lord. [Refrain]
3. Good and just is the Lord, the sinners know the way. God guides the meek to justice, and teaches the humble. [Refrain]

## A Reading from the Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians (1 Thessalonians 3:9-13)

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn:** *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Hymnal 56 v.1-2

## **The Gospel: Luke 21:25-36**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Maggie Sullivan

## **Nicene Creed**

BCP 358

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## **Prayers of the People Form IV**

BCP 388

*People may stand or kneel for the prayers.*

*Deacon or other leader*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect*

**Confession of Sin**

BCP 360

*Celebrant and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**Absolution**

**The Peace:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Welcome and Announcements**

*The offering plate will not be passed, but will be brought forward at the Offertory. Offerings and pledge cards may be placed in plates before the service, can be given electronically, mailed, or brought to the church office.*

**Offertory Anthem:** *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending*

— John Rutter

*Lo! He comes with clouds descending, Once for favored sinners slain;  
Thousand, thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears, on earth to reign.  
Every eye shall now behold him robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at nought and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing shall the true Messiah see.  
Yea, amen! Let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour, take the power and glory: claim the kingdom for thine own:  
O come quickly, O come quickly, O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come!  
-Charles Wesley and J. Cennick*

**The Doxology:** *Standing if able, all sing.*

“Old Hundredth”



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low; praise



him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People:*

## Sanctus

S-129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and  
might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

*The people stand or kneel.*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People:

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Mark all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the Feast, Alleluia.**

### Fraction Anthem

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break-ing of the  
*fine*  
bread. The bread which we break, al - le - lu ia, is the com -  
*D.C. al fine*  
mun - ion of the bod - y of Christ.

### Administration of the Sacrament

Parishioners will come forward to two standing stations to receive communion. If you desire to have communion brought to you, please notify an usher. If you would prefer a blessing from the priest, please stand with your arms crossed.

**Communion Hymn:** *Let Us Break Bread Together*  
**Communion Hymn:** *Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People*  
**Post Communion Anthem:** *How Long?*

Hymnal 325  
Hymnal 67  
- Mark A. Miller

*We wait for your coming, we wait for new life,  
we wait in our despairing, we wait through the strife.  
But how long? How long? How much longer can we wait?  
Lord, we are forsaken, we yearn to be free.  
You said, "Change is gonna come," but right now we can't breathe.  
How long? How long? How much longer can we wait?*

**Post Communion Prayer**

BCP 365

***Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**Blessing**

BCP 366

**Closing Hymn:** *Hark! The Glad Sound!*

Hymnal 72

**Dismissal:** Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
***Thanks be to God.***

**Postlude:** *Toccata on 'Veni Emmanuel'*

— Andrew Carter



Prayers of the parish family are asked for those who have died:  
*James Brandt, Fred Bartlett, Jr.*



**Laity Serving this service**

**Readers:** Melissa Rau, Carlotta Woolpert  
**Crucifer:** Lou Ortt

**Altar Guild**

Holly Wilson, Ouida Felker, Pamela Pratt

**Ushers:** Karen Dehne, Susan Park  
Donna McCutcheon

**Greeters**

Cheryl & Doug Richards

Special thanks to all who serve in the ministries at St. Mark's.  
We are blessed to have grace filled services because of the many who give their time and talents.



**Call for Vestry Nominations**

Parishioners can self-nominate or nominate other parishioners to the nominations committee. Submit nominations for the vestry by visiting or calling the church office, emailing [info@stmarksvenice.com](mailto:info@stmarksvenice.com), or dropping a note in the offertory plate during any service. All nominations must be submitted before December 7, 2021. The election will be held at the annual meeting on Sunday, January 30, 2022. Requirements for vestry include being *baptized, confirmed, enrolled as a member in the register of St. Mark's, regular attendance at services, received Holy Communion at least three times in the past year, have made a stated contribution of record to the general support of the parish, and must be 18 years of age.*



Stewardship: Thank you to everyone who has turned in their 2022 pledge card!  
It's not too late to turn one in! Please drop it off at the church office or in the offering plate.



Father Mike is currently on vacation.

## Week of November 28

### **Sunday, 11/28**

- **Coffee Hour** is in Gray Hall immediately following each service.
- **Gift Shop is open:** Please stop by after both the 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. services to buy that perfect item for someone special, or just shop for yourself.
- **Nursery Care:** Provided for children 3-yrs and younger from 9:15 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

### **Monday, 11/29**

- **Morning Prayer** at 9:30 a.m. meets in Gray Hall.

### **Tuesday, 11/30**

- **Men's Morning Fellowship** at 10:00 a.m.: This is a weekly opportunity for Men's fellowship. The meetings are currently held online via Zoom. Please contact the church office for the Zoom meeting details. This week's topic will be "Christianity and Money."

### **Wednesday, 12/1**

- **Morning Prayer** at 9:30 a.m. meets in Gray Hall.
- **Wired Word Discussion Group** at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom; Lessons are based on the week's news with scriptural references that usually spark stimulating discussions. For more information and/or to be added to the group list to receive the meeting link and discussion material, please contact the church office.
- **Wednesday Dinner and Formation**, This week will be the intergenerational Gingerbread House building contest. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m. in Gray Hall with the program following dinner. Please sign up for dinner; signup sheets will be in the narthex and Gray Hall, or you can call the office to sign up.
- **Choir Practice** meets in the choir room in Gray Hall at 7:30 p.m.

### **Thursday, 12/2**

- **Contemplative Prayer** at 4:00 p.m. in the narthex for quiet, meditative prayer.

### **Saturday, 12/4**

- **Eucharist** at 4:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

### Looking Ahead

**Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign.** We are looking for a **few more** Bell Ringers to ring those bells. The campaign runs from November 27 until December 24. If you would like to join us in this fun and very important ministry, please sign up in the narthex or Gray Hall, or by calling the office. You can also contact Bill Flack with any questions.

**Sunday, December 5, Monthly Breakfast,** Join us for our monthly breakfast after each Sunday Service.

**Tuesday, December 7, Episcopal Church Women (ECW) program** will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a Christmas pageant presented by the children of St. Mark's Preschool, an annual tradition and delightful part of the Advent season, followed by Eucharist and Lunch. Lunch will be a catered meal prepared by Jojo and Dennis Keck. Signup sheets will be posted in the narthex and Gray Hall, or you may call the office to signup. We look forward to seeing you there!

**Wednesday, December 8, Dinner and Advent Lessons and Carols.** Join us for dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. followed by Advent Lessons and Carols presented by St. Mark's Choir. Come hear the story told in scripture and song.

**Monday, December 13, Community Dinner,** served 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm. (typically the Second and Fourth Monday each month). The dinners serve anyone interested in loving fellowship and a delicious meal. Please contact the office for more information.

**Tuesday, December 14, Book Circle,** join the book group in Gray Hall to review the December book selection; *A Common Life* by Jan Karon. Normally on the third Tuesday each month, this month has been changed due to the holidays.

**Wednesday, December 15, Angel Christmas Tree Deadline,** If you selected a child's name from the Angel Tree, this is the deadline to return your wrapped gift(s). Please attach the Angel tag with the child's name visible on top of the present. Gifts can be returned to the Gift Shop on Sunday mornings, or to the church office during the weekdays.

**Wednesday, December 15, Dinner and Blue Christmas Service,** Join us for dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. followed by Blue Christmas Service. Contemplative service of healing and hope, for those who are hurting this Christmas.

**Sunday, December 19, Friends of Music Concert Series,** come join us at 3:00 pm for a concert celebrating the season with Siren Song. This group was founded in 2013 and has served the Sarasota/Venice communities by bringing the joy of music and memorable entertainment to concert stages across the country.

**Christmas Eve Services will be at 5:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 10:00 p.m., and Christmas Day will be 9:30 a.m.**

*For more information about any programs or upcoming events, to be added to the parish prayer list, or to schedule some time to talk with clergy or staff, please stop by the church office, call (941) 488-7714, or email [info@stmarksvenice.com](mailto:info@stmarksvenice.com)*