

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

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First Sunday after Christmas December 27th, 2020

Worship Service available online:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y4rROmNwvxY&feature=youtu.be>

Hymn: *Go, Tell it on the Mountain*

Hymnal 99

Acclamation

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

People: *And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.*

Celebrant: Collect for Purity

Gloria

Hymnal S-280

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Collect of the Day

Book of Common Prayer 213

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Congregation: 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 Isaiah (Isaiah 61:10-62:3)

Reader: The Rev. Judith Roberts

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Refrain: The Word became flesh and lived among us.

Verses

- 1 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem; Zion, praise your God.
God has strengthened the bars in your gates; all your children are blessed. (R)
- 2 The Lord brings peace to the people and feeds us with finest wheat.
Order is made sure through-out all the earth;
God's promises has been made known. (R)
- 3 God's word is revealed to Jacob, the statutes and decrees to Israel.
To us alone God's word has gone out.
Sing praise to the Lord. (R)

A Reading from the Book of Galatians (Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7)

Reader: Grace Mahoney

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: John 1:1-18

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. John Warfel

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 III

The Leader and People pray responsively

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.
Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

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

Anthem: *Christ is Born*

Mark A. Miller

**THE HOLY COMMUNION
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

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 God 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.

Proper Preface of the day said by Celebrant

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:

Sanctus

S-125

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.*

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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,

for ever and 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.

Act of Reception

In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every Altar of your church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I remember your death, Lord Christ; I proclaim your resurrection, I await your coming in glory. And since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of your body and blood, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse me of my sins and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

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.

The Christmas Blessing

Hymn: *Good Christ Friends, Rejoice!*

Hymnal 107

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

WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS:

“In-person” Worship - Sundays at 9:00 am. Seating is limited. Please register to reserve your seat on our website: <https://stmarksvenice.com/services> or by calling the office. Registration opens Tuesday for the following Sunday’s service. For more details, please contact the office.

“In-person” Outside Worship - Saturdays 4:30 pm. . ****PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL NO SATURDAY OUTDOOR SERVICE ON DECEMBER 26TH**** Join us outside on the labyrinth for the Saturday Evening Eucharist Service. No reservations are required, we will ask you to sign in when you attend. Mask and social distancing will be the norm. We will have outdoor chairs available or you can bring your own chair. Contact the office with questions

Coffee Hour, Sundays at 10:00 am. Grab your cup of coffee and join us for some fellowship via [Zoom meetings](#). Sit at your own table and enjoy the weekly conversation about this and that! For more information on Zoom or for help starting Zoom, please contact the church office or check out www.zoom.us. Zoom is an easy video/audio conferencing application. You can join with audio only from any regular telephone.

Drive-Through Communion – Sundays at 11 a.m. – Noon. You are invited to receive Holy Communion from the safety of your car. While this is an unusual approach, we do long to share the blessing of Holy Eucharist as part of our Sunday celebration of prayer and thanksgiving. Please enter the parking lot behind Gray Hall via Riviera Street.

Men’s Morning Fellowship – Tuesdays at 10 am. **NO MEETING ON TUESDAY DECEMBER 29th**. Weekly opportunity for Men's fellowship. Normally during the pandemic, the meetings have been held online **via Zo0m**. Please contact the church office for the Zoom meeting details.

Morning Prayer under the Oaks on Mondays and Wednesdays, at 9:30 am. We now have chairs available or you can still bring your own chair, mask are required. We have leaflets available or you may bring your own BCP.

Wired Word Bible Study – Wednesdays at 10:30 am. **NEXT MEETING JANUARY 6th**. Wired Word group is taking a break over the holidays. Next meeting will be Wednesday, January 6th.

ANNOUCEMENTS:

St. Mark’s will welcome our new rector, January 13th, 2021. The Rev. Michael Rau comes to St. Mark’s with extensive experience and training in youth ministry as well as five years of experience as Rector of Holy Nativity Episcopal Church in Pennsylvania and experience as Associate Rector in St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in New Canaan, Connecticut. He is a graduate of General Seminary in New York City. During the ten years prior to entering seminary he worked in various positions of increasing responsibility in the Montgomery County Office of Domestic Relations in Pennsylvania.

Fr. Michael’s wife, Melissa, works as a consultant to various churches around the country and recently began working as Chief of Staff at Bexley Seabury Seminary, a digital seminary ‘without walls. Fr. Michael and Melissa are very proud of their three children – Talie, a sophomore at Boston Conservatory of Music; Kiersten, a tenth-grade student; Peyton, an eighth-grade student, and Francis, the family dog!

As part of the announcement at St. Mark’s Senior Warden, Michael Knowlton, mentioned the guiding hand of God as the critically important component in place throughout the entire transition process. He then specifically thanked the vestry, the search committee, church staff and numerous church volunteers who have worked so hard and accomplished so much during this uniquely difficult and challenging time.



INTERCESSIONS: For the universal Church; for Justin the Archbishop of Canterbury; the Anglican Communion; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Dabney, our Bishop; Julio, Bishop of our Companion Diocese; for St. Mark's Clergy; for a resolution to the conflict in the Middle East; for civilian workers; for military chaplains; our service personnel, their families; victims of terror and abuse everywhere; for all those suffering due to disasters of nature.

THE SICK: Jean Alfano, Chad Alley, Milt Barnes, John Barr, Emma Bentley, Sue Bickenton, Joyce Bishop, Patricia Blow, Barbara & Ed Boucher, Barry Briggs, Gibb Brownlie, Genevieve Brussee, Scott Buckley, Dick Bull, Betty Caldwell, Jackson Carmichael, Kayce Caswell, Loretta Cunningham, Donne Cutting, Janie Davis, Ron Davis, Carole Doll, Connie Dowry, Shari Duval, John Eichman, Rodney Eller, Evelyn Eisenhower, Chris Emmons, Mack Emmons, Judy Epperson, Robert Evans, Ouida Felker, Clint Ferrazzo, Dan Flatt, Lyn Ford, Bob Fritche, Flora Garsten, Michael Gavin, Lynda Geyer, Jason Goss, Betty Graves, Jennifer Grieger, Joshua Griffin, Douglas Griffith, Anne Grubb, Steve Grupp, Tracy Hagar, Meredith and Allan Hardman, Woody Harvey, Sue Hatch, Penny Heleman, Kristin Hickey, Hobe Hinchman, Christina Hines, Linda Hintzpeter, Natalie Holcroft, Linda Hopkins, Madeline Horvath, Linda Hubbard, Matt Hulbert, John Hussey, Nancy Hussey, Eleanor Jean, Jennifer, Forrest Jerome, Jill, Joshua Johns, Karen & Steven Kabatski, Molly Kehoe, Robert Kench, Janine Kiddle, Sarah Kipp, Kirstin Knotph, Lee Krumbacher, Mary Krzos, Charles Lakowsky, Pat Lauth, Jennifer & Jack Laules, Joyce Leithauser, Leslie Livinghouse, E. Melvin Lloyd, Bill Luckfield, Scott Macintosh, Anita Marshall, Paul Marshall, Michael Mayo, Willa McCafferty, Victor Mankiewicz, Kim Medvedis, Melissa McCoy, Barbara Minor, Andrea Montgomery, Elizabeth Moser, Pam Motte, Mark Nettesheim, Elizabeth Ord, Rachel Parrish, Lucy Patterson, Deb & Holly Ranieri, Eli Rider, Dori Reiley, Tom Ritzel, Sarah and Aaron Royster, Lora Rzepka, Barbara Sammons, Cynthia Schein, Linda Seerey-Lester, David Sherwood, Liz Shetterly, Helen Sica, David Simmons, Jeff Slang, Doug Small, Rich Smith, Lisa Spears, Nan Stortz, Mike Strasburger, Nancy Tabor, Molly Taylor, Marvin Thomas, Sally Thomas, Harris H. Tibbetts, Jr., Peter Tibbetts, Chrissy Todd, David Todd, Len Van Zinderen, Jim Walker, Eddie Ward, Christopher Warnock, Connie Waymer, Ann Weaver, Bernie Welker, John White, Lisa Whole, Bob Williams, Kathryn Williams, Kourtney Williams, Hubert Willis, Randy Willis, Robert Wills, Jan Wolf, Mark Woodward, Ann Worrall, those in nursing homes and our parish homebound.



The prayers of the Parish family are asked for those who have died:
Betty Lou Holmes