

Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

Mailing Address: 513 Nassau Street South - Venice, Florida 34285
941.488.7714 ♦ www.stmarksvenice.org ♦ info@stmarksvenice.com

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29th, 2020

Worship Service available online:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8-IfQCWPtc&feature=youtu.be>

Before the service, let us silently speak to God.

During the service, may God speak to us.

After the service, let us joyously speak to our friends.

Prelude: *Gottes Sohn ist kommen*

J.S. Bach

Advent Prayer & Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Calder & Paxton Barrick

Hymn: *Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding*

Hymnal 56

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

People: *His mercy endures for ever.*

Collect of Purity

BCP 355

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

S-101

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

Setting: John Rutter (b. 1945)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Collect for 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.*

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 Book of Isaiah (Isaiah 64:1-9)

Reader: Dr. Jon Campbell

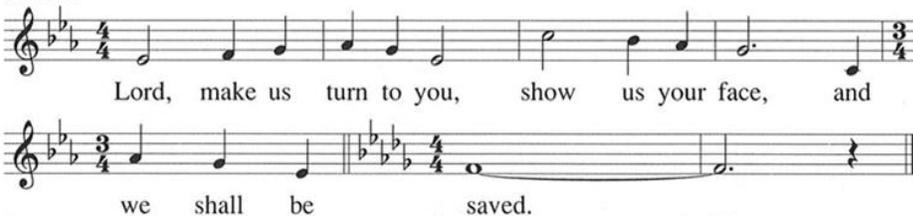
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil--to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalm 80

Peter A. Madpak, Cantor

Refrain



Verses

1. Shepherd of Israel, hearken from your throne and shine forth,
O rouse your power, and come to save us.
2. We are your chosen vine, only by your care do we live,
reach out your hand, O Lord, unto your people.
3. If you will dwell with us, we shall live anew in your love,
O shine upon us, great Lord of life.

A Reading from Saint Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 1:3-9)

Reader: Carlotta Woolpert

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord..

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

The Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark

Glory to you, Lord Christ

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to thee, Lord Christ

The Sermon

The Rev. Keith Backhaus

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

People may stand or kneel for the prayers.

In the hushed anticipation of your coming, O Lord, kindle in us the desire to remain awake,

That we might be ready for your coming and eager to pray.

O God, you are the potter, and we are the clay, the work of your hand.

We pray for the church, that you might form us and mold us into the church you would have us be.

Come Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

In your time O Lord, the valley shall be lifted up, the mountains and hills shall be made low, and the rough places will become a plain. We pray for our nation and all the nations, that your peace will be manifest in ever corner of the earth.

Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

In your kingdom, O Lord, you bring unending comfort. You feed your flock like a shepherd and gather the lambs into your arms. We pray for the sick, the suffering, and all those in distress of any kind; that you will heal all injuries, comfort all grief, and settle all wrongs.

Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

Your great works of redemption, O God, span the ages, we pray for those who rejoice this week as they celebrate their birthday and anniversaries; that they might obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sign might fleet away.

Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

In the fullness of time, O God, you sent your Son to be born of our sister Mary; and his name was Emmanuel, God be with us. We thank you for your present with us and we pray that you might be always present with those we love and no longer see.

Come Lord Jesus, and hear our prayer.

Come among us, O God, and hear our prayers, so that when your son Jesus comes among us, with great might and in manger mild, we might recognize his face and voice and come to adore him. *Amen*

Confession

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

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

Announcements (see end of bulletin)

Anthem: *Of The Father's Love Begotten*

- arr. Molly Ijames

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

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel (if able).

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.*

As our Savior Christ has 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: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia

Fraction Anthem: Be Known to Us

S-171

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.

Anthem: Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

- arr. Alan Bulard

Post Communion Prayer

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

Hymn: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

- Hymnal 57

Dismissal:

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Nun komm der Heiden Heiland

- J.S. Bach



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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.

Bell Ringers are Needed. We will be "Ringing the Bell" again this year at the Publix on East Venice Avenue between November 27th and December 24th and we need some additional volunteers. If you are willing to help us out by working a two hour shift, please contact Bill Flack at 315-527-1984 or email bill@flackbroadcasting.com. Thank you!

Preschool Silent Auction. Preview items beginning November 29th. Items will be continually added to the auction, So please check back for new items. Online auction opens with Bidding on Wednesday, December 2nd, at Noon and Closes Saturday, December 6th. www.biddingowl.com/stmarkspreschool

"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. Join us outside on the labyrinth for the Saturday Evening Eucharist Service. No reservation 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.

Taking Flight, Songs of Inspiration and Hope in the Pandemic World of 2020. Sunday, November 29th, at 3:00 pm. In-person in the Sanctuary with limited seating. Reservation will be required. You can register online [click here](#) or by calling the office. The registrations will open on Monday, November 16th. This concert will also be available online, more information to follow.

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. Weekly opportunity for Men's fellowship. Normally during the pandemic, the meetings have been held online **via Zoom**. 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. Weekly Bible study for Adults [via Zoom](#). Lessons are based on the week's news that usually spark stimulating discussions. Please contact the office for the Zoom meeting details.



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, Hobey 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 Kyrzos, 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.

