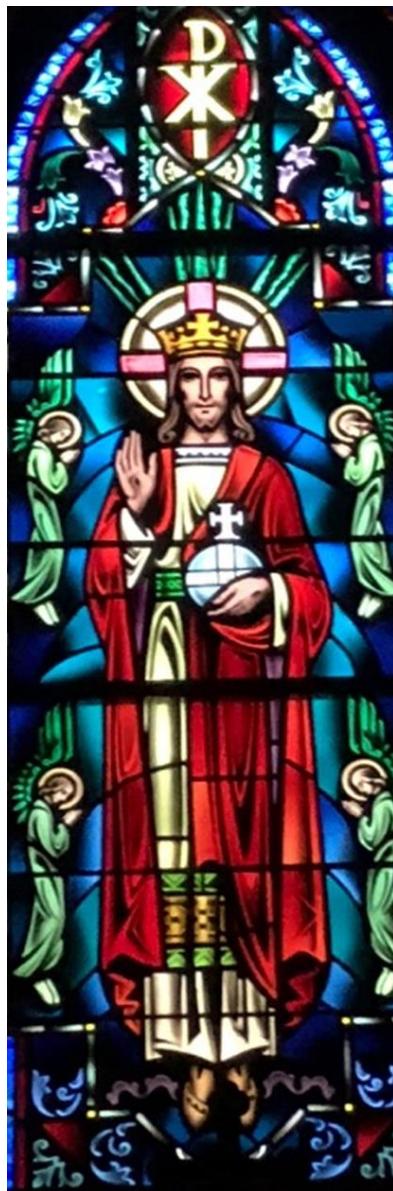


# Christ the King Sunday Stewardship Commitment Sunday

November 21, 2021

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

(In-Person and Live-Streamed on Facebook and YouTube)



## St. Mark's Episcopal Church

134 N. Division Avenue

Grand Rapids MI 49503

616-456-1684

[www.stmarksgr.org](http://www.stmarksgr.org)

[www.facebook.com/stmarksgr](https://www.facebook.com/stmarksgr)

# Welcome to St. Mark's

Welcome to historic St. Mark's, a vibrant community of faith, which has gathered for worship since 1836 and in the current building since 1848. If this is your first visit with us, please know that we are delighted you are here. Please, introduce yourself and be sure to sign our guest book at either entrance to the Sanctuary and/or fill-out a Visitor's Welcome Card.



**Health Safety:** Everyone entering the St. Mark's Parish House, all parishioners and visitors, are asked to register with name and contact information, clearly printed. All adults and children, whether vaccinated or not, are be strongly encouraged to wear a mask. Everyone is asked to use sanitizer provided in several places in the Parish House foyer and also encouraged to sanitize at the time of leaving the building. Upon leaving a restroom, please wash hands with warm soapy water and sanitize prior to re-entering the Sanctuary. At the time of receiving Holy Communion at the communion rail, everyone is encouraged to maintain some distance unless with a family member. Your help and cooperation will be much appreciated. Please keep in your prayers those who are sick especially from COVID and ask God to be with them in their recovery. Peace, blessings and thanks. ~ Christian+

**Weekly Worship and Prayer at St. Mark's:** Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Eucharist at 12:00 p.m.; Compline on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. via Facebook live. The bulletin is identical for both Sunday Services with musical elements not included in the 8:00 a.m. Service.

**The Breakfast Café**, a program of our outreach ministry, is at 8:15 a.m. every Saturday. If you would like more information, please contact the church office at [meganth@stmarksgr.org](mailto:meganth@stmarksgr.org).

**Children at St. Mark's:** St. Mark's provides many children's activities and opportunities and welcomes you to contact our Director of Children's Ministry, Evan Knill at [eknill107@gmail.com](mailto:eknill107@gmail.com) for more information.

**Junior and Senior High Youth: Grand Rapids Episcopal Youth:** G.R.E.Y. is a joint youth ministry between St. Mark's and St. Andrew's Episcopal Churches for youth in grades 6-12. We have weekly formation gatherings during the school year and service and social activities throughout the year. Please contact our Director of Youth Ministry, Jeff Brown, for more information: [jeffatgrey@gmail.com](mailto:jeffatgrey@gmail.com).

**Adults:** We offer the *Education for Ministry* seminar during the program year, an *Inquirers' Class* for those preparing for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirming one's faith and seasonal Wednesday or Sunday forums. Please, see Fr. Christian for more details. We also offer a Saturday book study for adults. For the book study, please contact Carmela McIntire at [carmela0067@att.net](mailto:carmela0067@att.net).

**A Note about Cell Phones:** We ask that you turn off your cell phone; if you are on call, please turn it to vibrate when you enter the church.

**Rest Rooms** are located on the main level of the Parish House under the exit sign at the top of the Foyer ramp.

**Parking on Sundays:** Limited parking is available in the Parish Lot. Therefore, consider the free metered parking on Pearl, Ionia, Lyon, Fountain and other streets near the church, the upper and lower levels of the GRCC building on Fountain Street and the Ellis Parking Lot at 210 Ionia just west of Lyon Street. For the Ellis Lot: Please, pick up an exit ticket from an Usher, a Greeter or on the little table where the bulletins are in the north transept. Parking is free on Sunday only. A white ticket is required to accompany the parking ticket and to exit the lot.

# The Gathering of the People

Prelude - Adoration

Florence Price

Lector I - Welcome

Introit - He is King of Kings

African-American Spiritual

Alexander Williams, tenor

Gathering Hymn - Blue Hymnal No. 473: Lift high the cross

Crucifer

## Presider I Greeting

Presider I: **†** Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.

People: **And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.**

People: 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.

## The Confession of Sin

Presider I: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Presider I and People: 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 of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The Absolution

Presider I: **†** Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen**

**Glory to God** (Spoken at 8:00 a.m. and sung or spoken at 10:30 a.m.)

S280

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -  
might - ty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord

God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - ey  
 on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re - ceive our  
 prayer, For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone  
 are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of  
 God the Fa - - ther. Amen.

**Collect of the Day (Standing as able)**

*Presider II:* God be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider II:* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

**The Hebrew Scripture (Seated as able)**

Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

*Lector I:* A reading from the Prophet Daniel

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

*Lector I:* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 93** – (8:00 a.m. Prayed by all; 10:30 a.m. Antiphon intoned by the choir and repeated by all)

The Lord shall reign for ev - er and ev - er.

1 The Lord is King; he has put on splendid apparel; \*  
the Lord has put on his apparel and girded himself with strength.

2 He has made the whole world so sure \*  
that it cannot be moved;

3 Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; \*  
you are from everlasting.

*Antiphon*

4 The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; \*  
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

5 Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, \*  
mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.

6 Your testimonies are very sure, \*  
and holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever and for evermore.

*Antiphon*

### **The Christian Scripture**

Revelation 1: 4b-8

*Lector II: A Reading from the Book of Revelation*

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

*Lector I: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.*

*People: Thanks be to God.*

### **The Gospel Hymn - Blue Hymnal No. 435: At the name of Jesus**

King Weston

### **The Gospel**

John 18: 33-37

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

*People: Glory to you, O Christ.*

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

*Gospeler: The Gospel of Christ.*

*People: Praise to you, O Christ.*

### **Homily**

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato

**Nicene Creed** (*Please note the language for the Spirit.*)

**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 a 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, the Spirit is worshiped and glorified. The Spirit 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** (*All remain standing as able*)

*Lector I:* During the periods of silence, I invite you to offer additional prayers either silently or aloud and respond: "O God, hear us."

*Lector II:* O God, grant that the Christian Tradition throughout the world may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

*Lector I:* O God, give us genuine gratitude for the gifts you have given us at St. Mark's. We thank you for this season of giving, as we prepare for a bright future in 2022 and beyond.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

*Lector II:* O God, we pray for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop; Provisional Bishop-Elect Prince, and all bishops, priests and deacons and all who minister in God's Name especially here at St. Mark's.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

*Lector I:* O God, guide our President, Governor, Mayor and all elected officials. Give them and all of us a true understanding of the dignity of all people, to help end racism, bullying, intolerance and violence of any kind. Guide all the nations of the world in the ways of justice and peace.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

*Lector II:* O God, we give thanks for all who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this week. We pray for the celebrations and needs of those gathered here. (*Silence to include individual thanksgivings*)

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

*Lector I:* O God, comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. We remember those on our Parish Prayer List found in the bulletin, the Anglican and Diocesan Cycles of Prayer and all those for whom we have promised to pray. We especially remember those suffering from COVID and natural disasters of any kind. (*Silence to include additional prayers*)

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

*Lector II: O God, we commend to your mercy all who have died that they may know your peace. We especially remember those who have died due to COVID and those who will die this day unloved or unattended. (Silence to include additional prayers)*

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

*Presider II:* Hear now, O God, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

## The Peace

*Presider II:* May the peace of Christ be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider II: Respectfully, let us offer one another a sign of peace.*

## Announcements

## Stewardship Witness

David Buller

## Prayer on Stewardship Commitment Sunday

*Presider I:* Let us pray together. Eternal God, we pray that we will make stewardship a way of Life. We acknowledge you as the source of all we have and all we are. Help us to place you, our loving Creator, first in our lives by becoming more prayerful, more focused on loving and caring for our families and our neighbors in need, and by becoming less preoccupied with material things. Help us to hear your call to be good stewards, caretakers, and managers of all your gifts by sharing them for your purposes. Help us make your priorities our priorities and to put our faith into action. Help us plan to "give back" the talents, treasures and time with which we have been blessed. Help us plan to serve our church, our community, and our world with your gifts. May we serve you and pray with a joyful spirit of mind and heart. Amen. ([edow.org/resources](http://edow.org/resources))

### **A moment of silence and reflection to consider the joy of giving and pledging at St. Mark's**

# The Liturgy of the Table

## Offertory Music - King of Glory, King of Peace

Harold Friedell

**Doxology** (*Standing as able: 8:00 a.m. prayed by all; 10:30 a.m. sung by all*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow:**

Praise God, all creatures here below;

**Praise God above, O heavenly host;**

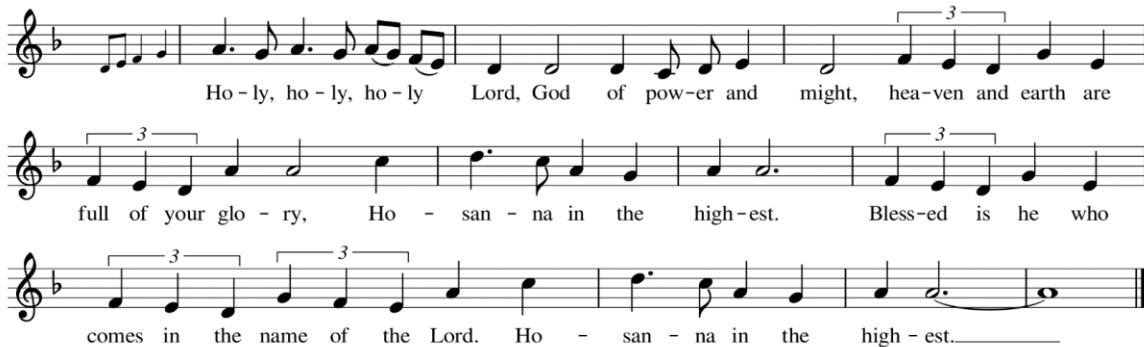
**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.**

## **The Great Thanksgiving (Spoken at 8 a.m., Sung or spoken at 10:30 a.m.)**

*Presider I:* It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

### Holy, Holy, Holy



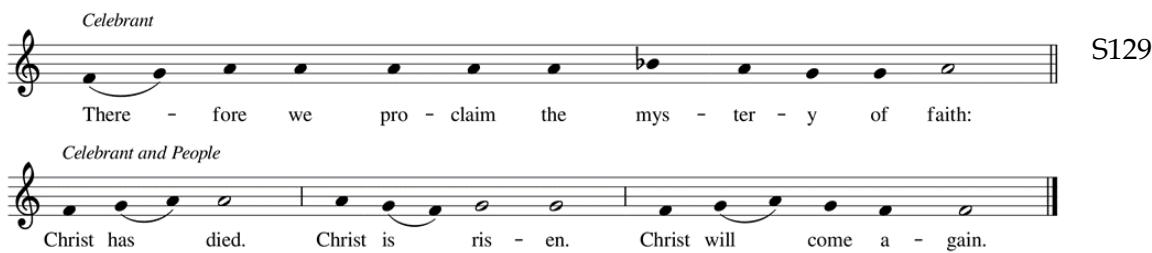
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people may stand or kneel as the Presider continues.*

Holy and gracious God: 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 Creator 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 in 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."

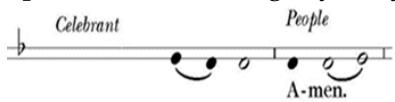


*Celebrant*  
There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:  
*Celebrant and People*  
Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

*Presider continues:* 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 St. Mark and 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 are yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.



### The Lord's Prayer

*Presider:* Let us pray the Lord's Prayer in whichever language or version you prefer.

**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.**

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 forever. Amen.

**(Spanish)** Padre nuestro, que estas en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre; venga a nosotros tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo, danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia, perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden, No nos deyes caer en la tentación y libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

### Breaking of the Bread and Reception of the Sacrament

S155

*Presider:* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*People:* Let us take them in remembrance that Christ died for us and feed on him in our hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Presider:* Please, be assured that those distributing the Sacrament have sanitized. Please, follow the ushers to receive the Eucharist at the communion rail by proceeding up the center aisle, fill-in the communion rail from right to left and return via the side aisles. Those in the center nave will receive Communion first. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest. All are welcome to the 'Table of the Lord'.

### Instruction for Receiving Holy Communion

*All who seek a deeper relationship with Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. Parent(s), please feel free to make a decision for your child. Gluten-free wafers are available.*

**Communion Music – Blue Hymnal No. 324: Let all mortal flesh keep silence**

Picardy

**Post-Communion Prayer (Standing as able)**

*Presider II:* Let us pray.

*People:* Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed, that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen

**The Blessing**

*Presider I:* Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of God almighty, the †Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always. **Amen.** (1 Thessalonians 5:13-22)

**Hymn of Sending Forth - Blue Hymnal No. 544: Jesus shall reign where'er the sun**

Duke Street

**Dismissal**

*Deacon:* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*People:* **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Postlude - Come, O Almighty King**

Healey Willan

*You are invited to participate in the tradition at St. Mark's to remain seated until all the candles are extinguished and the postlude has ended, fitting ways to conclude our worship together. Thank you.*

*Please, join us for fellowship and conversation, as our celebrations continue in the Parish Hall. A reminder that when the Rector preaches, his homily is available on the Resource Tables of the Church. All 10:30 a.m. Services are video-taped and can be found at [www.stmarksgr.org](http://www.stmarksgr.org) at the Media tab and on YouTube at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, MI.*

Altar Flowers today are provided by Baldwin and Judy Ogden in prayer for Baldwin's health

**In Grateful Thanks, todays Lectors/Intercessors:** Judy Ogden 8:00 a.m.;  
Katherine Marmion and Herb Merrill 10:30 a.m.

## Parish Notes

### **Stewardship Commitment Sunday: Today**

Today, we officially gather pledges for our ministry at St. Mark's for 2022. As of last Friday, we had received 96 pledges with offerings of \$382,928 toward the pledge goal of \$500,00. If you have not pledged, we sincerely ask that you do so. Pledge cards with proportional giving information are in each pew and elsewhere at St. Mark's. If you have pledged and can increase your pledge, please consider that opportunity for giving. Copies of the 2022 budget can be found at the Welcome Desk of the Parish House. Join others in giving for the vitality and viability of a "bright future" in 2022. ~ Stewardship Ministry

### **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service In-Person and Live-Streamed: November 22**

Please, consider registering and joining us at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 Fulton Street, GR at 7:00 p.m. for this year's Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. The Sudanese Grace Drummers will be offering their gifts, and I will accompany a powerful interfaith thanksgiving text written for the Kaufman Interfaith Institute. To attend in-person, please register at: <https://bit.ly/interfaiththanks21> A livestream will be available at: [www.InterfaithUnderstanging.org](http://www.InterfaithUnderstanging.org) ~ Christian+

### **Advent Wreath Workshop: Today**

Today, following the 10:30 Service, a fun event will take place in the Parish Hall. Materials will be provided for crafting home advent wreaths. Please, plan to stay for the Social Hour and this fun-filled and meaningful event.

~ Laura Kozminski

### **Giving Tree**

Our annual Giving Tree will be dedicated this year to providing additional winter clothing to our homeless neighbors and Breakfast Cafe guests. While we had a generous outpouring of gifts in October to provide many of these items, we are experiencing an increase in the number of newly homeless neighbors. Beginning next Sunday, November 14th, please consider bringing hats, scarves, gloves, and socks to place on or below the tree in the south transept. These items will be distributed at the Christmas Breakfast Cafe in December. ....

### **Westminster food pantry**

Please consider feeding one or more people with a donation. It currently costs the pantry \$17.64 to feed a client each month with Feeding America prices. As an alternative you can bring non-perishable goods to church during the next two Sundays and we will deliver them to the Pantry. The Pantry will also offer "Holiday Baskets" that typically include all the ingredients and specials for a holiday feast, including a turkey. Due to COVID-19, this can't happen again this year. As an alternative the Pantry plans to offer 250 clients a \$20 food-only gift card at Meijer. This extra help is greatly appreciated by the clients during the holiday season. Please make checks payable to St. Mark's with FOOD PANTRY in the memo." Please contact Deacon Jan for more information.

### **Mid-Week Eucharist and Thanksgiving Service at St. Mark's: November 24**

Please, consider a quiet contemporary Eucharist followed by a light lunch this Wednesday beginning at Noon. Come and give thanks for the many gifts which are ours individually and as a community of faith. ~ Christian+

### **Advent Prayer Booklet**

Please, find a new beautiful small booklet for Advent, "The Gospel of Advent." My hope is that this resource for prayer and reflection will be meaningful for Advent, a special time and opportunity to walk together as a Faith Community at prayer. The booklets can be found on the Resource Table of the Sanctuary. ~ Christian+

### **Advent Retreat: December 4**

Please, consider making an Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 4, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at St. Mark's. The retreat will include opportunities for quiet, reflections, journaling and sharing with participants. Please, sign the clipboard if you plan to attend or contact the Parish Office, so that resources will be available. ~ Christian+

**Adult Advent Series: 'The Psalms of Advent'**

The Rev. Dr. Steven Manskar will be leading an Adult Advent Series on the first three Sundays of Advent from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. in the Canterbury Room (December 5, 12, & 19). Steven will lead reflections on the Psalm for each Sunday of Advent. Participants will receive a complimentary copy of *A Disciple's Journal: A Guide for Daily Prayer, Bible Reading and Discipleship*, a lectionary based devotional resource. The book provides Scripture passages and brief excerpts from sermons and hymns from The Rev. John Wesley, an Anglican theologian and evangelist and founder of the Methodist Movement.

**An Evening in December: Maranatha: December 9**

Please, consider joining fellow Christians for an ecumenical community-wide event on Thursday, December 9 from 6:30-8:30 at the Catholic Information Center on the corner of South Division and Wealthy in GR. There will be reflections, opportunities for sharing and a concluding evening prayer. The event and participants include Bethlehem Lutheran, Cathedral of Saint Andrew, the Catholic Information Center, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Westminster Presbyterian and Kaufman Interfaith Institute. Please, see more information for registering either for in-person attendance or Zoom to follow.

**A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols: December 19**

Please, join us for this year's Sacred Sounds event in preparation for Christmas at 5:00 p.m. on December 19. Come and be inspired by beautiful readings, beloved hymns and choral music. All are welcome!

**Christmas Celebrations at St. Mark's: December 24**

Please, mark your calendars for the Family Christmas Service and Children's Pageant at 5:00 p.m. and/or the Candlelight Festival Service with choir at 10:00 p.m. Invite your family members, friends and neighbors. Come, Celebrate, Worship and Sing!

**Prayer requests:**

The Bedford Family  
Shirley Bernard  
Chuck Bocskey  
Philip Brown  
Philip and Josh Dodge  
Catherine Frerichs  
Arlene Griffin  
Santa Garcia Heinemann  
Lynn Homeyer  
Jennifer Julius  
Julia Kollen  
Sarah McIntire  
Jean McCormick  
Terri McCounaghy  
Ally Nichols  
John Oatley  
Baldwin Ogden  
Aila Olivia  
The Polanski Family  
David Pyles  
Steven Reale & Alena Kirova  
The Rev. Robert Schiesler & Mary Novello  
The Rev. Bill Spaid  
Dale Van Kley

Our homebound parishioners:  
Irene Haizman  
Shari Takus  
Jean Zylstra  
Sue Allen  
Gertrude DeAguire  
Nita and Chuck DeGraaf  
John Gracki  
Larry Manglitz  
Irene Savara  
Shirley VanDerBos  
Roma Warmington

Those in the Military Service  
Col Timothy Brower Sr. USA  
Col Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC  
Lt. Col. Todd Murray, USAF  
1/Sgt Deidre Piechocki, USA

**St. Mark's Clergy and Staff**  
The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato, Rector  
The Rev. Susan York, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon  
Megan Harding, Parish Administrative Associate  
Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager  
Dr. Greg Crowell, Director of Music  
Evan Knill, Director of Children's Ministry  
Jeff Brown, Director of Youth Ministry  
Kate Pyles, Chair Communications Ministry  
Ronnie Brown, Sexton  
Doris Molina, Weekend Sexton  
Wendell Chivis, Sexton Associate

## Sustaining St. Mark's Ministry in 2021

### Offertory and Ways to Give to St. Mark's Episcopal Church

- 1.) Place check or cash in the offering plate
- 2.) Electronic Giving (email Pam for form – see the attachment in our e-news)
- 3.) Give+ Mobile App from any mobile device
- 4.) Pay by text - text 616-205-9714 from your phone and send in a payment
- 5.) Mobil App Square cash - Cashtag: \$stmarksgr Web address: cash.me/\$stmarksgr
- 6.) Mail in a check to the church
- 7.) Online at our website at [www.stmarksgr.org](http://www.stmarksgr.org) through PayPal



### Pledge Update for 2022

The proposed operating budget for 2022 is \$681,828. A pledged amount of \$500,000 is needed. We have determined that there are at least 235 pledging units. As of November 19, 2021, we have received 96 pledges for a total of \$382,928. Your generosity is much needed and appreciated.

## Sustaining St. Mark's Ministry in 2021

The total budget for 2021 is \$654,938, which requires an estimated \$12,595 income per week. The total pledged amount for 2021 is \$480,746.

Last week, we received \$24,956 in pledges and offerings. That amount included pledges paid by mail, online through Give Plus, PayPal, and regular giving.

<b>Weekly:</b>	Total Weekly Contributions Needed:	\$ 12,595
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Total Weekly Contributions Received this past week:	\$ 7,651
Total Contributions Received from the Silent Auction:	\$ 430
Total Contributions Received for Breakfast Café	\$ 1,875
Total Contributions Received from a 2022 Pre-Pd. Pledge	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
Total Received for November 14, 2021	\$ 24,956
Difference:	\$ 12,361

<b>Year to Date (YTD):</b> Total Contributions Needed YTD:	\$579,370
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Total Contributions & Pledges Received YTD:	\$507,809
Total Operating Expenses YTD:	<u>\$518,776</u>

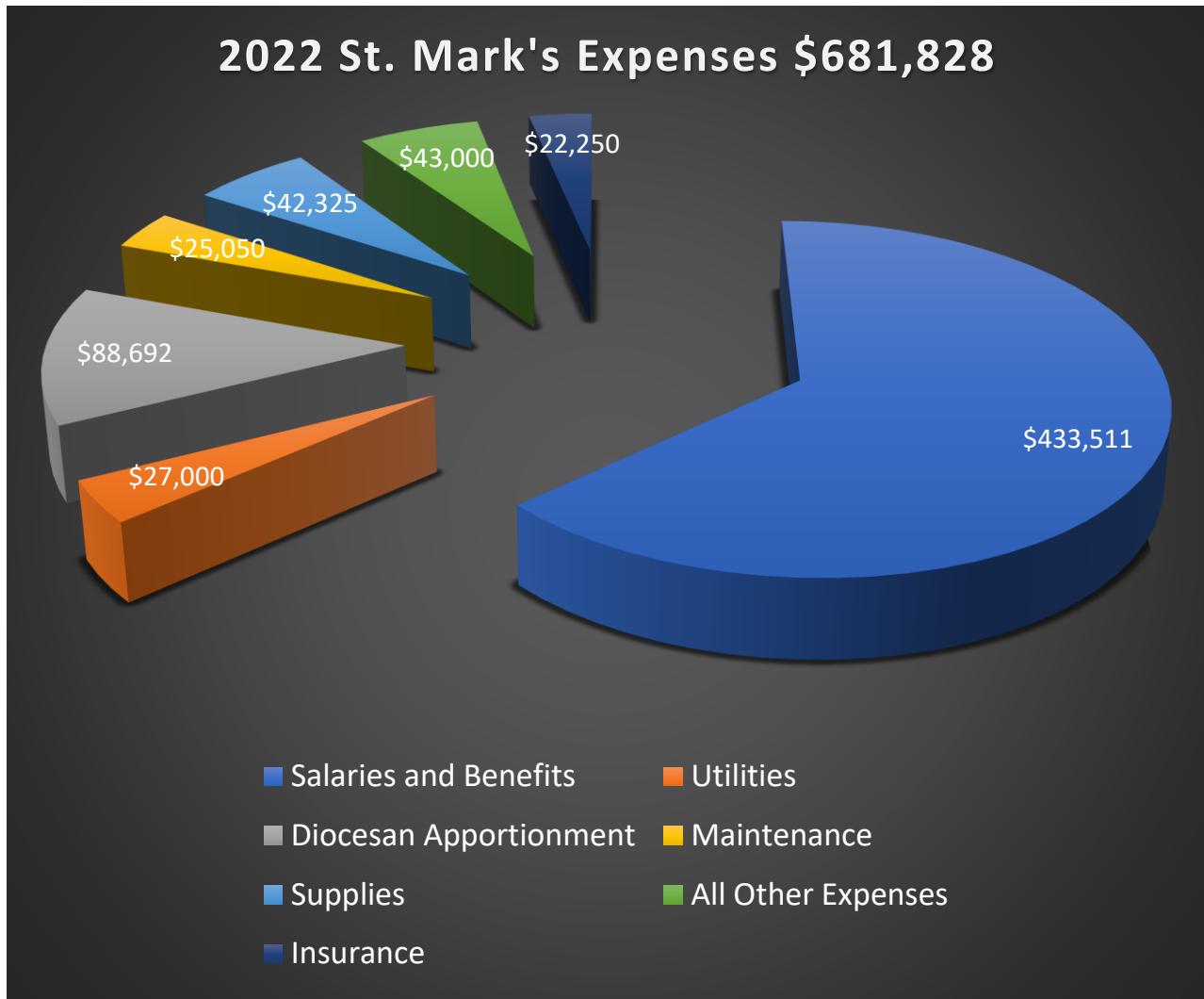
<b>Current YTD:</b>	\$ 10,967
	<b>(Shortfall)</b>

Thank you for maintaining your pledge and giving whether pledged or not.  
Pam Stevenson, St. Mark's Finance Manager

## 2022 Financial Plan and Needs

*Marc Vander Velde, Treasurer*

As we consider giving and needed pledged income for 2022, the Finance Ministry would like to provide important information regarding St. Mark's finances to inform our pledge decision. As part of our overall 2022 budget, **our goal for 2022 is \$500,000 for pledged giving towards an operating budget of \$681,828**. How did we establish a goal of \$500,000? First, let's start with reviewing our expenses in the chart below:



As you can see above, the vast majority of our expenses are salaries for our three full-time staff and eight part-time staff, our Diocesan Apportionment which must be paid to the Diocese of Western Michigan, as well as utilities and maintenance for our wonderful, but aging, house of worship. We then review the history of all of our non-pledged offerings and other sources of income to calculate what our pledged offerings need to be to cover those expenses. This year, we will need \$500,000 in pledges to cover those expenses. This pledged income represents 74% of our total income for the year and is the primary source of the church's financial health.~ *Finance Ministry*

## 2022 St. Mark's Income Projections

• <b>Pledged Offerings</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>
• <b>Unpledged Offerings</b>	<b>\$ 29,000</b>
• <b>Weddings, Funerals, Memorials</b>	<b>\$ 7,500</b>
• <b>Christmas/Easter Offerings</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
• <b>Parking Lot Rent</b>	<b>\$ 25,000</b>
• <b>Bequests</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
• <b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$ 20,800</b>
• <b><u>Endowment Allocation</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 89,528</u></b>
<b>Total Projected Income</b>	<b>\$ 681,828</b>

