

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Christ the King Sunday

Eucharist for All Ages

November 20, 2022

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



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
134 N. Division Ave.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
www.stmarksgpr.org

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 sign-in sheet in the foyer and/or fill-out a Visitor's Welcome Card. Also, please take a welcome folder on the Welcome Desk.



Safety: Everyone entering the St. Mark's Parish House is encouraged to wear a mask. Guests and visitors are asked to sign the register. The wooden doors to the Parish House will be locked fifteen minutes after Services begin with a security guard on duty to be of assistance. Upon leaving a restroom, please wash hands with warm soapy water and sanitize. Many thanks.

Weekly Worship and Prayer at St. Mark's: Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.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. We offer a mid-week Eucharist Service in St. Mary's Chapel each Wednesday at noon.

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 Judy Freeman at judyfw@comcast.net.

Children's Formation: Sundays throughout the fall, we will be holding our children's formation series during 10:30 services. This includes formation, nursery care, and every third Sunday, Eucharist for All Ages. This is an inclusive service that gets children and youth involved. This Fall's theme is the 12 disciples. Come join us!

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.

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 Sunday forums at 8:30 a.m. Please, see Fr. Christian for more details. We also offer a book study for adults. For the book group, please contact Carmela McIntire at 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. Please, 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.

St. Mark's Full- and Part-time Staff

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato, Rector (FT)
The Rev. Susan York, Priest Associate
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon
Megan Harding, Parish Administrative Associate (FT)
Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager (FT)
Dr. Gregory Crowell, Director of Music
Alexis VanZalen, Organ Scholar
Evan Knill, Director of Children's Ministry
Jeff Brown, Director of Youth Ministry
Kate Pyles, Director of Communications Ministry
Ronnie Bowen, Sexton
Craig Mosley, Sexton Associate
Doris Molina, Weekend Sexton

The Gathering of God's People

Our prayer begins with the offering of music to help us prepare for the words and actions to follow in the Service.

The Prelude — Sonatina

F. Kuhlau

Rowan Kozminski, piano

Lector I **The Welcome**

Introit — Good, Good Father

Chris Tomlin

Reece Hoyt, sign language interpreter

Standing as able, we continue our prayer as clergy and ministers are called forth from the congregation to assist us as leaders in worship.

The Gathering Hymn — Blue Hymnal 460: Alleluia, Sing to Jesus

Hyfrydol

Prayer of Invocation

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

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

Presider I: Let us pray.

All: **O God, stay with us, your beloved children, and remain with us in our prayer; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts and awaken new hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture, the Holy Eucharist, and in the faces of one another. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

To best prepare for what is to come in our worship, we openly ask God for forgiveness and seek reconciliation and peace.

Presider I: Let us confess our faults and admit our frailty. *(Pause for reflection)*

All: **Have mercy upon us, most merciful God; 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.**

Kyrie *(Spoken at 8:00 a.m. and sung at 10:30 a.m.)*

Richard Proulx

The musical notation for the Kyrie consists of two staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff has three measures: the first measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the second measure is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy.' The second staff has three measures: the first measure is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Christ, have mer - cy.'; the second measure is labeled 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third measure is labeled 'All' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.' The notation uses quarter notes and half notes with stems, and there are double bar lines between the first and second measures of each staff, and at the end of the second staff.

Presider I: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in your great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to you: have mercy on us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life, in the † name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

Presider I: Let us offer praise to God.

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 - cy 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. A - men.

Collect of the Day

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

At this point, we are seated to listen and hear the Word of God from the Sacred Scriptures of both the Jewish and Christian traditions.

The Hebrew Scripture

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Lector I: A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So, I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46:1-7,9-11

(Prayed responsively by half verse at 8 a.m.; Antiphon intoned by the choir and repeated by all at 10:30 a.m.)



1 God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

3 Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

Antiphon

5 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most High.

6 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of day.

7 The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.

Antiphon

9 Come now and look upon the works of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

Antiphon

The Christian Scripture

Colossians 1:11-20

Lector II: A Reading from the Letter to the Colossians

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Lector II: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel (*Standing as able*)

Luke 23:33-43

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

People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Gospeler: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Homily

The Rev. Susan York

The Children's Message (*10:30 a.m.*)

Laura Kozminski

The 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

The following prayers are offered to God on behalf of all people, those children of all ages gathered here in-person or praying with us online, and those around the world.

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 generosity as we give of our gifts for the sake of our ministry at St. Mark's. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: O God, we pray for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, Presiding Bishop; 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, our Governor, our mayor and all elected officials. Give them and 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 have birthdays or anniversaries this week. Today's altar flowers are in celebration of Larry and Sandy Snellink's 51st wedding anniversary. (*Pause 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. (*Pause to include additional prayers.*) We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: O God, we commend to your mercy all who have died and those who will die this day unloved or unattended. May all the departed rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. (*Pause to include additional names*). We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Presider II: Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: 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 I: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us offer one another a sign of that peace.

Announcements

Food Pantry Ingathering and Blessing

While special music is offered, our monetary gifts are received for the benefit of the mission of St. Mark's. The Table is prepared, and the collected gifts are presented to be blessed by God. The Liturgy of the Table asks God to receive our gifts of bread and wine and ourselves as we are blessed by God in the Holy Eucharist.

Offertory Music — Come Away to the Skies

Glory Strey, flute

Richard Erickson

Doxology (*Spoken at 8 a.m. and sung at 10:30 a.m.*)

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 Liturgy of the Table

The Invitation

Bread and wine have been received, and we now call upon God, the Father, through the Son, to consecrate them through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Spoken at 8 a.m. and sung or spoken or sung at 10:30 a.m.)

Eucharistic Prayer C, BCP

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. At your command all things came to be: The vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust, and we turned against one another.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Sanctus

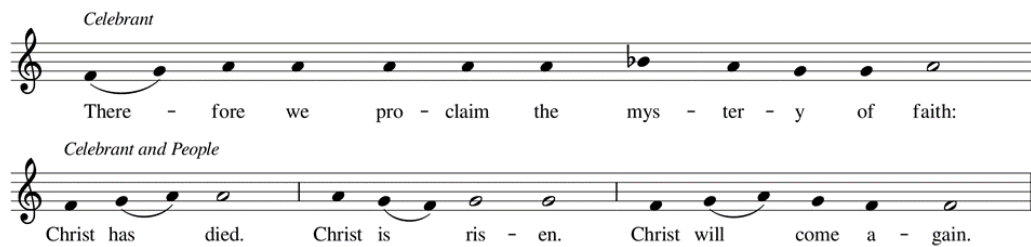
Robert Powell

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. _____

And so, Holy God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. † Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."



Lord God of our Ancestors, God of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

The now consecrated elements of bread and wine are held high as a final offering to God for blessing followed by the Great Amen, an important affirmation on the part of all gathered for Eucharist.

Accept these prayers and praises, O God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory and worship, from generation to generation.



The Lord's Prayer

As an expression of the inclusivity of the Eucharist and the importance of The Lord's Prayer, we have included three options for praying this beautiful and meaningful prayer. Other languages are also welcome.

Presider I: Please pray the Lord's Prayer in whichever language or version you prefer.

(Traditional) 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.

(Contemporary) 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 día, perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden, no nos dejes 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.

As the following words are offered, the Presider breaks the consecrated bread and wine and hold them up so that all may see and respond. Hosts are prepared with wine added in advance of the Service. Each host contains both consecrated bread and wine.

The Breaking of the Bread and the Reception of the Sacrament (*Spoken at 8 a.m.*)

Gerald Near



Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

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

Presider: As is our tradition, all are invited to the Holy Eucharist at the Table of the Lord. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest, and you will receive a blessing. Please follow the guide of the ushers to receive Communion which contains combined elements of consecrated bread and wine. If you prefer a host without wine, gluten free consecrated hosts are available and are without wine.

We come to the Altar-at-the-Crossing to kneel or stand to receive the Eucharist. Gluten free wafers are also available. The Eucharist contains consecrated bread and wine combined prior to the Service and now the Body and Blood of Jesus while also remaining bread and wine.

The Distribution of the Sacrament

Eucharistic Minister: The body and blood of Christ.

All: Amen.

Communion Music — Blue Hymnal 458: My song is love unknown

Love Unknown

Post Communion Chant (*Sung several times*)



Post-communion Prayer (*Please stand as you are able*)

Presider II: Let us pray:

All: Faithful God, in baptism you adopted us as your children, made us members of the body of Christ and chose us as inheritors of your reign: we thank you that in this Eucharist you renew your promises within us, empower us by your Spirit to witness and to serve, and send us out as disciples of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.**

The Hymn of Sending Forth — Blue Hymnal 477: All praise to thee, for thou, O King divine

Engelberg

Here, we are sent into the world having been nourished and fed for the journey of life. We will go with thanksgiving to be light in the world for those all around us.

The Sending Forth

Deacon: Friends in Christ, let us go forth to love and serve God and all God's people. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Postlude — Now Thank We All our God

A.W. Leupold

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. A reminder that when the Rector preaches, his homily is available on the Resource Table in the north transept. Please, feel free to take a copy for further reflection. All homilies are videoed and can be found at www.stmarksgr.org at the Media tab and on YouTube at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, MI.

Today's Social Hours are provided by St. Mark's Adult Formation Ministry. All are welcome.

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 a payment
- 5.) Mobil App Square cash - Cashtag: \$stmarksgr Web address: [cash.me/\\$stmarksgr](https://cash.me/$stmarksgr)
- 6.) Mail a check to the church
- 7.) Online at our website at www.stmarksgr.org through PayPal
- 8.) Remember St. Mark's in your Estate Planning
- 9.) Gifts or Transfer of Stock



Total budget for 2022:	\$673,270	Proposed Budget (2023):	\$724,000
Pledged Amount for 2022:	\$484,255	Pledges Needed (2023):	\$500,000
Received Yr. to Date (Pledges, Gifts and Income):	\$534,786	Pledges Received to Date:	\$487,983

Thanks to all who financially support the Ministry of St. Mark's. Please know that additional pledges can be received at any time. Any questions whatsoever, please feel free to contact our Finance Manager, Pam Stevenson or our Treasurer, Marc Vander Velde.

The St. Mark's Prayer List

The Sick

The Ash Family
The Bedford Family
Wendell Chivis
Charlie Coplin
Anthony DeMello
Jennifer Julius
Tom Klein
Anais Laurent
George Linde
Jean McCormick
John Oatley
Rev. David Pike
Mary Rollins
Craig Timm
Jim Todd
Jean Zylstra

Those in Military Service

Col. Timothy Brower, Sr. USA
HC. Yamar Chivis USN
Henry Dykema, USNG
Cpt. Nathan Gaggin, USAF
Col. Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC
Lt. Col. Todd Murray, USAF
1st Sgt. Deidre Piechocki, USA

Discernment for Ordained Ministry

Rachel Ravellette
Cathy Stevens

Homebound Parishioners

Sue Allen
Nita and Chuck DeGraaf
John Gracki
Irene Haizman
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Shirley VanDerBos
Roma Warmington
John Wells
Jean Zylstra

Officers of the Vestry

Nancy Dodge, Senior Warden
Dawn Buller, Junior Warden
Brian Topolewski, Clerk
Marc Vander Velde, Treasurer

Members of the Vestry

Kate Dykema
Judy Freeman
Joshua Gonzales
Chuck Hoyt
Gloria Lara
Jon Anderson
Amy Richards-Duncan
Mike Armour

Announcements

eNews: Please visit our website at www.stmarksgsr.org and click on the scroll that says “Newsletter” for our weekly announcements, opportunities and news. This is the same as our electronic newsletter (eNews) to which you may subscribe to receive in your email each week by filling out one of our Welcome Cards and placing it on Megan’s desk.

Christmas Fair and Advent Wreath Workshop TODAY after the 10:30 a.m. Service!: Get a jump start on your shopping at our Christmas Fair and prepare for Advent by making your own Advent wreath, and! We have plenty of supplies (including candles). This workshop is fun for all ages.

Downtown Food Pantry Thanksgiving Ingathering, Today: Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the Westminster Food Pantry Ingathering. We will bless this food and articles during the 10:30 a.m. Service today. The food will then be delivered to the pantry this week. Please note that we will collect food and item donations on the first Sunday of each month. Thanks again.

Happy Thanksgiving: We wish you many blessings this Thanksgiving Holiday! We are very thankful for each and everyone of you. Please note, the parish office will be closed on November 24 and November 25 in observation of Thanksgiving. ~*St. Mark’s staff*

Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration: Nov. 21, 7:00 p.m. Please, join me and many others in celebration of religious diversity while offering thanks together in this year’s Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration sponsored by the Kaufman Interfaith Institute. The Service will be at Temple Emanuel, 1715 Fulton, Grand Rapids. All are welcome as we choose gratitude for the many gifts which are ours. ~ *Christian+*

Advent Retreat, Dec. 3, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.: During Advent, the Church invites us to reflect on the coming of Christ. Please, consider taking time to retreat and to consider Advent themes of anticipation and hope through the lens of the 13th-century mystic, St. John of the Cross. Using his prayers and quotes from his mystical writings, we will take time for reflection, silence and writing to explore the spirituality of Advent and its potential benefits for our lives of faith. A sign-up sheet is available on the Welcome Desk of the Parish House or contact me, and I will add your name for you. A light lunch will be provided. ~ *Christian +*

Christmas Tree Lighting and Carols, December 4 at 4:30 p.m.: Bundle up and join us for Christmas Carols and the blessing and lighting of the newly planted Christmas tree on the lawn of the Parish House. Stay for the Sacred Sounds Concert at 5:00 p.m.

Sacred Sounds Concert December 4 at 5:00 p.m.: Hannah De Priest, soprano, is praised for her impeccable singing and vivid performances. She is in high demand on both sides of the Atlantic. Joining the Prize Winner of the 2021 International Cesti Vocal Competition is the celebrated pianist, Michael Pecak. You will not want to miss this event. This concert is free but donations to the Sacred Sounds program will be graciously accepted. The concert will be followed by a reception in the parish hall.

Advent Event: From Grieving to Joy, December 6, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.: Please, join me and others for prayer, reflection and discussion at the Catholic Information Center, 360 Division Ave. South (See flyer in the Parish House Foyer) as we gather for an evening in Advent. I volunteer at the CIC and hope that you will want to be with us for this unique Advent opportunity. Also, there is a need for a few volunteers at the Center on the following: Preparation of packets on Tuesday, Nov. 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Set-up on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at 1 p.m. Clean-up after the event on Tuesday, Dec. 6 8:45-9:30 p.m. If you can help, please, contact at church or via my cell or sign-up at the Welcome Desk in the Parish House. Blessings. ~ *Christian+*

The Kent Philharmonic Orchestra presents a Christmas Concert for All Ages, Friday Evening December 9, 2022 7:30 p.m.: The Kent Philharmonic Orchestra presents a holiday concert featuring The Carol Symphony by Victor Hely-Hutchison. The orchestra will also perform A Christmas Festival and Sleigh Ride by Leroy Anderson and excerpts from the Nutcracker Suite by Peter Tchaikovsky. The St. Cecilia Auditorium is located at 24 Ransom NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. Tickets are available at the door.

Visit the resource table in the north transept: We offer Advent Daily Devotional Booklets, The Daily Bread, Day by Day and so much more!

The Parish Life/Hospitality Civic Theater annual holiday musical on Sunday, December 11 for the 2:00 matinee: This year they are performing Mary Poppins! We have the group rate if we have 20 or more. Tickets are \$28.00 for adults and \$16.00 for students. That is a \$7.00 savings with the group rate. We also are planning on a complimentary luncheon at the church prior to the play. Please send your check to Pam Stevenson, our bookkeeper. Remember that your check will insure your reservation. Deadline for reservations is December 2.

Sanctuary 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 this Sunday, November 20, please consider bringing hats, scarves, gloves, and socks to carefully place on or below the tree in the south transept. These items will be distributed at the Christmas Breakfast Cafe in December. Thank you for your generosity. ~ *Outreach and Social Justice Ministry*

Episcopal 101: An Inquirer’s Journey, January - April 2023: If you wish to be received into the Episcopal Church, to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church or to reaffirm your faith as an Episcopalian, please, consider this opportunity at St. Mark’s. All participants will be expected to prepare the materials whether in attendance or not, and that only a minimum number of sessions can be missed. A variety of days and times will be offered to try and accommodate as many schedules as possible. If needed, I will schedule a make-up session or two. A sign-up sheet is available at the Welcome Desk in the foyer of the Parish House or you can contact me as well. Many thanks. ~ *Christian+*

Upcoming Events

Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration, Nov. 21, 7:00 p.m., Temple Emanuel

Advent Retreat, Dec. 3, 10:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Advent II Dec. 4: Christmas Tree Lighting and Carols at 4:30 p.m. and Sacred Sounds Concert 5:00 p.m.

Advent Sunday Forums Dec. 4, 11 and 18, 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Catholic Information Center Advent Event “From Grieving to Joy”, Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
featuring Rev. Woong-Sik Chon (see flier in Parish House Foyer)

Advent Wednesday Forums, supper at 6:00 p.m., forum from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Dec. 7 and 14

Advent III, Dec. 18, 5:00 p.m., Sacred Sounds Festival of Lessons and Carols

Labyrinth, December 21, prayer from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Eucharist Service at 10:30 a.m. (only)

New Year’s Day (Sunday) Services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.