

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (in-person and live-streamed)



Christ Carrying the Cross, El Greco



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

134 N. Division Ave
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
www.stmarksgr.org
616.456.1684

Welcome to 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, 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 Information packed from a welcome folder inside the lobby podium.

Church Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday— 9 a.m. to noon.

Weather Policy: St. Mark's will post closures to WZZM 13, WOOD TV8, Facebook and our website by 7:00 a.m. or as soon as possible. The decision on afternoon and evening activities will be made separately, posted by noon.

Reserved Accessible Spaces: There are three shorter pews, two in the north transept and one on the north side of the nave. Please only sit there or in the adjoining pews if you have assistive devices or need of extra space.

Safety: The outer doors to the Parish House will be locked fifteen minutes after Services begin with a security guard on duty to be of assistance. Please pay attention to the nearest exit in the Sanctuary. In an emergency, an announcement will be made and children will be ushered to a designated place for safety away from the Church complex.

Parking on Sundays: Limited parking is available in the Parish Lot. If you are able, please, consider not parking in the Parish Lot to reserve access for those less mobile. Consider the free metered parking on Pearl, Ionia, Lyon, Fountain and other streets near the church, the Kendall Lot across the street when the gate is up, the upper levels of the GRCC building on Fountain Street (only until 2 p.m.), and the Ellis Parking Lot at 210 Ionia just west of Lyon Street. For the Ellis Lot: vouchers for free parking on Sundays are available from an Usher (must be used with original parking ticket).

Rest Rooms are located on the main level of the Parish House under the exit sign at the top of the Foyer ramp. More rest rooms are available on the second level of the Parish House, if you are able to use the stairs.

Weekly Worship and Prayer at St. Mark's: Eucharist on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays at noon from September through May. Compline (Night Prayer) on Mondays at 8:00 p.m. via Facebook.

Sunday School: We offer children's and youth formation, including Make a Joyful Noise with Mr. Alex, from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Nursery care for children under kindergarten is available from 9:15 a.m. through the 10:30 a.m. Service. For more information please contact Jeff Brown, Director of Faith Formation, at jeffb@stmarksgr.org.

Youth Ministry: Grand Rapids Episcopal Youth: G.R.E.Y. is a joint youth ministry between St. Mark's and St. Andrew's Episcopal Churches for grades 6-12. We have regular formation gatherings during the school year and service as well as social activities throughout the year. Our Director of Faith Formation is Jeff Brown, jeffatgrey@gmail.com.

Adult Formation Ministry: *Adult Forums* are offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings at different times of the year. *Episcopal 101: An Inquirer's Journey* is offered yearly for adults especially those seeking Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church or to Reaffirm one's faith. A multi-year seminar, *Education for Ministry* (EFM), is offered during the program year: contact Doug Karsen for more information at karsendc@gmail.com.

Breakfast Café Ministry: A program to nourish our neighbors with a hot meal every Saturday at 8:15 a.m.. If you would like more information and to possibly volunteer, please contact Judy Freeman at judyfw@comcast.net.

Land Acknowledgment: St. Mark's recognizes that our property sits on land of the indigenous people of the Three Fires. It is our privilege to occupy this land while recognizing and acknowledging with sadness the deep wounds created many years ago by our forebears.

eNews: For the fullest expression of St. Marks' activities, get the weekly eNews in your email or from our homepage.

Cell Phones: We ask that you silence your cell phone; if you are on call, please turn it to vibrate.

St. Mark's Staff

The Rev. David Blank, Interim Rector
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon

Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager
Kate Assarian, Administrative Associate
Dr. Gregory Crowell, Director of Music
Jeff Brown, Director of Faith Formation
Alexis VanZalen, Organ Scholar

Mike Armour, Operations Manager
Ronnie Hammond, Sexton
Craig Mosley, Sexton Associate, Video
Marquice Jackson, Weekend Sexton
Jamie Interial, Security Representative
Eric Gable, Webmaster

Worship during Lent (Ash Wednesday - Wednesday of Holy Week): During Lent, our liturgies take on a different and somewhat less celebratory character due to the penitential nature of the Lenten season. The liturgical environment is sparse and the liturgical color changes to a deep purple. The prayers of the liturgy reflect the season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

The Gathering of the People

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

Prelude—Developing Flutist, mvts. III and IV
Berlinda Pablo-Pablo, flute

Norman Dello Joio

Welcome—*Lector I*

Introit— "The Swan" from *Carnival of the Animals*
Isabel Landero, oboe

Camille Saint-Saëns

(You may stand.)

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

Gathering Hymn— Blue Hymnal No. 401: The God of Abraham Praise

Leoni

Invitation to Prayer

Presider: † Bless God, who forgives all our sins.

All: **God's mercy endures forever.**

Presider: Jesus said, the first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31)

The Confession

Presider: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9) *Silence is observed.*

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Kyrie

Healey Willan

Absolution

Presider: May †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.**

Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

We listen and hear the Word of God from the Sacred Scriptures of both the Hebrew and Christian Traditions.

The Hebrew Scripture (You may sit.)

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18

Lector I: A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, “I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27: 5-11

Dominius illuminatio

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Let us pray the psalm responsively by half verse.

At 10:30 a.m., the Antiphon is intoned by the choir and repeated thereafter.



One thing have I asked of the Lord;
one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord *
and to seek him in his temple.

Antiphon

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe
in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling
and set me high upon a rock.

Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

Antiphon

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, Lord, will I seek.

Antiphon

The Christian Scripture

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Lector II: A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn—Blue Hymnal 571, vv. 1-3: All Who Love and Serve (continues after Gospel) Charlestown

The Gospel (You may stand.)*Luke 13:31-35**Gospeler:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.**All:** **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Gospeler: The Gospel of Christ**All:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

After the Gospel reading during the 10:30 a.m. Service, children of all ages are invited to join us for Celebrate Jesus, a story and activity time in St. Mary's Chapel. We'll return to the Sanctuary at The Peace.

Gospel Hymn (continued)—Blue Hymnal 571, vv. 4-5: All Who Love and Serve*Charlestown***The Homily**

The Rev. David Blank

*A brief silence is observed for reflection.***The Nicene Creed**

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.

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

Prayers of the People (You may stand.)

Lector I: O God, you uphold all those who fall and lift up all who are bowed down. Therefore, during this Season of Lent, we pray in humility with the response, hear our prayer.

Lector II: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons: for Sean, Presiding Bishop; the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes; Bonnie and Rayford, Bishops of Michigan and Northern Michigan; Moises, Bishop of the Dominican Republic and Craig, St. Jude's of Fenton and

its Priest-in-Charge, Susan Williams; Grace Church of Grand Rapids and its Rector, Anne Schnaare. We remember the Church of the Province of Central Africa. We pray:

All: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Lector I: God of love, hear the cry of those who yearn for love; fractured families, broken homes, neglected, feeling unwanted, alone. God of love, **Hear our prayer.**

Lector II: God of justice, hear the cry of those who yearn for justice; persecuted and oppressed, exploited, ill-treated, broken. God of justice, **Hear our prayer.**

Lector I: God of peace, hear the cry of those who yearn for peace in battle zones and broken states, frightened, fearful, anxious. God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

Lector II: God of healing, hear the cry of those who yearn for healing or those feeling physical and spiritual hurt, weakness, depression, especially remembering those on our Parish Prayer list in the bulletin and all those for whom we have promised to pray. (*Pause to add names silently or aloud.*) God of healing, **Hear our prayer.**

Lector I: God of mercy, hear the cry of those who yearn for mercy; conflicted, in need of your grace, contrite, humble, bowed down, God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Lector II: God of the living and the dead, we pray for those who have died and those who will die this day, especially those unremarked or unattended. I invite you to add the names of those for whom you wish to pray. (*Pause to add names.*) O God, hear us. **O God, graciously hear us.**

Presider: O God, we ask you to hear these prayers and give us your love, justice, healing and mercy, this day and all days. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Music — Concerto No. 2 in G Major, Op. 13 , mvt. III

Mia Williams, violin

Frederich Seitz

Doxology

Praise God through - out these for - ty days;

praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;

and praise the Spi - rit who im - parts

God's love in Christ in - to our hearts.

The Great Thanksgiving

Scottish Prayer Book 1983, Eucharistic Prayer III

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Presider: Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home. In Christ your Son's enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome. Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Creator's house, and so we pray:

Sanctus

David Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
he - 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.)

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father, for Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the Cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made. Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign. Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died, your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples, Jesus took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you." Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, Jesus took the cup. He offered you thanks and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.

We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Reign.

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father and send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Holy Reign.

Help us and all the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into the heritage of the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, the prophets, St. Mark and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, God of all ages, world without end. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

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

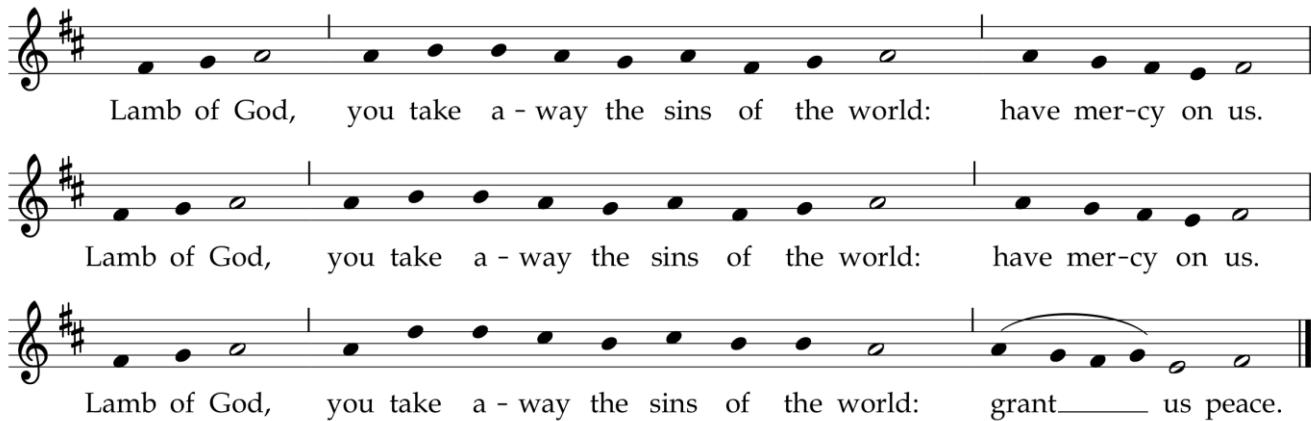
(Traditional) Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. 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 estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre; Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy el pan de este dia y perdona nuestras deudas, como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores y no nos dejes caer en la tentación mas 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 Distribution *Spoken at 8:00. Sung at 10:30.*

David Hurd



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant_____ us peace.

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: All are invited to receive Holy Communion which contains both consecrated bread and wine. Following the distribution of consecrated bread, please feel free to dip your host into consecrated wine offered in a cup for intinction. Gluten-free consecrated bread is available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, come forward with hands crossed over your chest. Please follow the Ushers' direction to the communion rail and fill in from right to left. All are welcome at the Table of the Lord.

Healing Prayer: *When present in the South Transept, healing ministers offer a brief and simple prayer.*

Communion Hymn—Blue Hymnal No. 337: And Now, O Father

Unde et memoris

Post-Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

People: **O gracious God, Jesus stretched out arms of love upon the hard wood of the cross to embrace all the peoples of the earth. We thank you for feeding us with the Sacrament of that precious Body and Blood, the sign and instrument of our common life, food for our Lenten pilgrimage and the foretaste of the heavenly banquet to come; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Presider: May the peace of Christ which passes all understanding keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and may the blessing of God, †Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be upon us this day and remain with us always, we pray: **Amen.**

Hymn of Sending Forth—Blue Hymnal 143: The Glory of These Forty Days

Erhalt uns, Herr

Dismissal

Presider or Deacon: Let us go in peace to love and serve God and all God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude –

At 8:00 a.m.

Toccata in E Minor

J. Pachelbel

At 10:30 a.m.

“Oh Happy Day”

Philip Doddridge, arr. Edwin Hawkins Singers

Andrew Warren, saxophone

Thank you for being with us today. We are all invited to participate in St. Mark's tradition to remain seated until all candles are extinguished and the postlude has ended. Then please join us in the Parish Hall for further fellowship.

Thank you to Isabel Landero, Berlinda Pablo-Pablo, Andrew Warren and Mia Williams for their musical offerings today. Thank you also to Brendan Hollins, piano.

The St. Mark's Prayer List

Contact the church office to add names to the prayer list. Names may be removed after one month unless requested.

The Sick and Other Needs

Alissa Almont
Dave Atkinson
Jayne Austin
Sally Bowie
Christopher Brewer
Ed Cox
Terry Dusendang
Jon Hamm
Ruth Hammond
Kathryn Marmion
Laura Maslonka
Jackie McCarthy
Chris McClain
Jean McCormick
Carmela McIntire
Goebbert-McIntire Family
Bill Nasser
Ed Nicholson
Marilyn and Ron Oom
Joe Pinto
Michael Reale, Sr.
Julie Renauldo
Bea Rocco
Javier Ronquillo
Dan Scripsema
Meghan VanderMale
Guillermo Venecia

Sue Allen
Susan Andrews
Nita DeGraaf
John Gracki
Jennifer Julius
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Roma Warmington
Jean Zylstra

In Military Service

B.G. Timothy Brower, Sr. USA
PV2. Cailen Donahue McLea, USA
Spc. Henry Dykema, ARNG
Cpt. Nathan Gaggin, USAF
Col. Lt. Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC
Col. Todd Murray, USAF
2LT. John Nicholson, USA

Members of the Vestry

Ben Busman, Sr. Warden
Judy Freeman, Jr. Warden
Emily Krueger, Clerk
Gloria Lara, Treasurer
Steve Bell
Scot Gugle
Laura Kozminski
Penny Larsen
Dan McDonald
Carmela McIntire
Rex Miller
Michael Reale

Search Committee

Bob Brower
Doug Busman
Nancy Dodge
Karen Hunter
Carmela McIntire
Shawn Miller
Heather Tafel
Darren Walhof
Tom Woudstra,
Chaplain

Postulant for Holy Orders

Thon Deng

Candidate for Holy Orders

Cathy Stevens

Offerings and Multiple Ways to Give to St. Mark's

Place check or cash in the offering plate

Electronic giving (email pams@stmarksgr.org)



Vanco Mobile App from any mobile device:

Pay by text – text 616-205-9714 from your phone to send a payment



Mobile App Square Cash – Cashtag: \$stmarksgr Web address: [cash.me/\\$stmarksgr](http://cash.me/$stmarksgr)

Mail a check to the church

Online at our website at www.stmarksgr.org through PayPal

Remember St. Mark's in your estate planning (A brochure is available at the Welcome Desk.)

Gifts or transfer of stock

Church Spotlights: Music Today

Musicians at the 10:30 a.m. Service

Please join us as we welcome four Grand Rapids Symphony Mosaic Scholars at our 10:30 a.m. Service.

- Isabel Landero, a student from Lee High School who is in her senior year. She studies with Ale Miller, the GRS principal oboist.
- Andrew Warren, an 11th grade student from East Kentwood High School who studies saxophone with Ed Clifford.
- Mia Williams, a 9th grade student from East Kentwood High School who studies violin with the GRS's Christina Fong
- Berlinda Pablo-Pablo, a developing flutist from Wyoming High School who is studying with the GRS's Ruth Bylsma.

As you may have read in recent bulletins and eNews, St. Mark's wishes to build an impactful relationship with the Mosaic Scholars program, supporting them with friendship, encouragement, interest and some financial support. We are interested in your feedback. ~*Anne Hiskes, Wendy Wenner, Penny Larsen, Karen Hunter, Judith Clayton, Julie Connors, Becky Bocskey*.



Sacred Sounds at St. Mark's Presents "Salutation" with Vox GR at 5:00 p.m.

Vox GR is the premier professional choral ensemble in West Michigan. Under the direction of Christopher Mason, this enchanting program will trace a day – from first light of dawn to

the soft glow of twilight – through the music of Britten, Elgar, Muhly, Gjeilo, Palestrina, and many more. No cost due to generous sponsorship of Sacred Sounds of St. Mark's. Reception to follow.

Parish Notes

Welcome! Guests, please sign the book in the front lobby. Fill out the new parishioner information sheet (in the lobby podium) to get name tags, receive weekly eNews or officially join the St. Mark's Family in Faith.

Happy 50th Anniversary to Doug and Cathy Karsen! May God continue to bless your journey together.

Education for Ministry (EfM) Welcomes You! EfM is an adult education course that dives deeply into scripture, church history and theology. For two weeks this spring we are hosting a book discussion of "The Four Vision Quests of Jesus," by Steven Charleston, a Native American priest within the Episcopal Church. All are welcome to join these discussions March 30th and April 6th from 12:15 p.m. -1:30 p.m.. This is a chance to explore a wonderful book and possibly explore interest in joining our EfM group in the future. Please contact Laura Kozminski if you would like to join: laurakozminski@gmail.com.

United Thank Offering (UTO): Pick up a UTO Blue Box from the Welcome Desk to participate. UTO encourages people to notice each good thing that happens during the day, give thanks to God, then drop an offering for that blessing into the box. 100% of the collection goes toward innovative mission and ministry.

Give Something Up, Give Something Away: The Outreach Ministry challenges us to set aside grocery items each week, to bring to church every Sunday in Lent for the Downtown Food Pantry.

Donations for a Parishioner with financial difficulties are being collected in the lock box just inside the lobby front desk area. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to support this long-time member.

Adult Formation, Wednesdays of Lent: Join us for soup supper at 6:00 p.m. on March 19th, 26th, April 2nd, 9th and 16th. Sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m., led by Rev. Dr. Steven Manskar and Steve Bell. We will explore *Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist, Prayer* by Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury. We will close with Compline by 8:00 p.m. Sign up at the Welcome Desk to bring soup.