St. Mark's Episcopal Church

November 8, 2026 *10:30am*

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II with Holy Baptism

Prelude *Rêverie* Claude Debussy

Welcome

Hymn *We the Lord's People* Blue Hymnal -- 51

Opening Acclamation

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

People There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People One God and Father of all.

The Collect

Celebrant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

¶ All are seated.

A Reading Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Lector A reading from the Revelation to John.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are

living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:1-7 *Attendite, populе*

℣ The Psalm is sung by the choir.

1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.

3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, *
and the wonderful works he has done.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

A Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Lector A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thesselonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

People Thanks be to God.

¶All are invited to stand.

The Gospel Hymn *Once He Came in Blessing,* vv 1-2 Blue Hymnal - 53

The Gospel Matthew 25:1-13

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Deacon The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Hymn (cont.) *Once He Came in Blessing,* vv 3-4 Blue Hymnal - 53

¶ All are seated.

Sermon The Rev. Jedediah Fox, Rector

¶ All are invited to stand.

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Celebrant: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Godparents: I present Oliver Eliot Braswell to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

P & G: I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

P & G: I renounce them.

Celebrant: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

P & G: I renounce them.

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

P & G: I do.

Celebrant: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

P & G: I do.

Celebrant: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

P & G: I do.

¶The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

Celebrant: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Celebrant: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Celebrant: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

¶ The Celebrant then says to the congregation

Let us now pray for Oliver, who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deacon: Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

¶ The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever.

People: Amen.

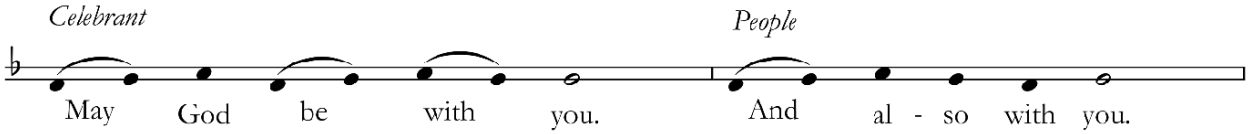
Hymn at the Font

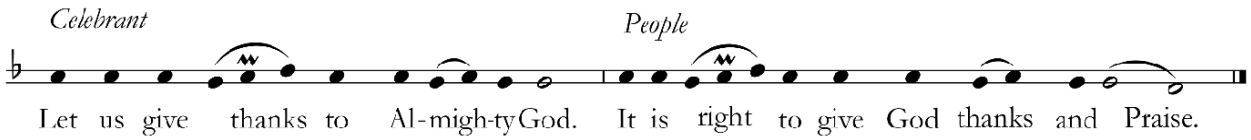
Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song Blue Hymnal - 513

¶ During the hymn the children fill the font with water.

Thanksgiving over the Water

¶ The Celebrant blesses the water, first saying





¶ The Celebrant continues

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life. We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

The Baptism

¶ The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who then pours water upon the candidate, saying

Oliver Eliot, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

¶ When this action has been, the Priest, at a place in full sight of the congregation, prays over them, saying

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

People: Amen.

¶ Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross using Chrism and saying

Oliver, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever.

People: Amen.

¶ Then the Priest lights a candle from the Paschal candle and presents it to the person saying,

Oliver, receive the light of Christ. You are now Christ's light in this world.

People: Amen.

¶ When all have been baptized, the Celebrant proceeds to the altar with the Baptised and says

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

¶ Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

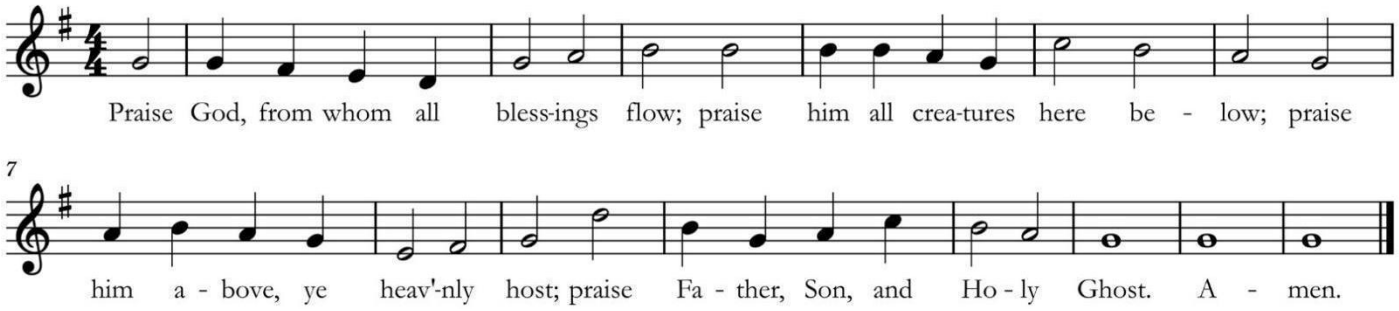
Announcements

The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Anthem

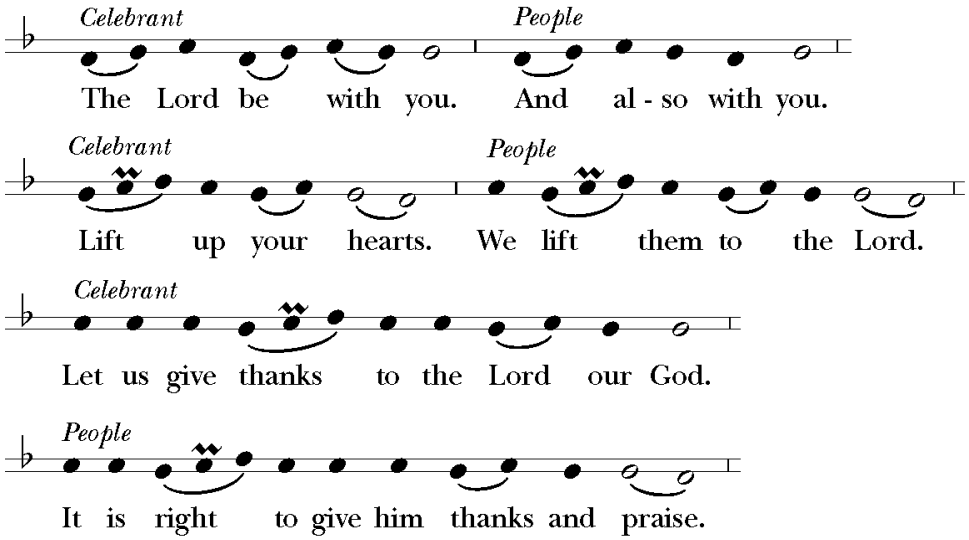
The Lord is My Shepherd — Howard Goodall

Presentation Hymn



The Great Thanksgiving

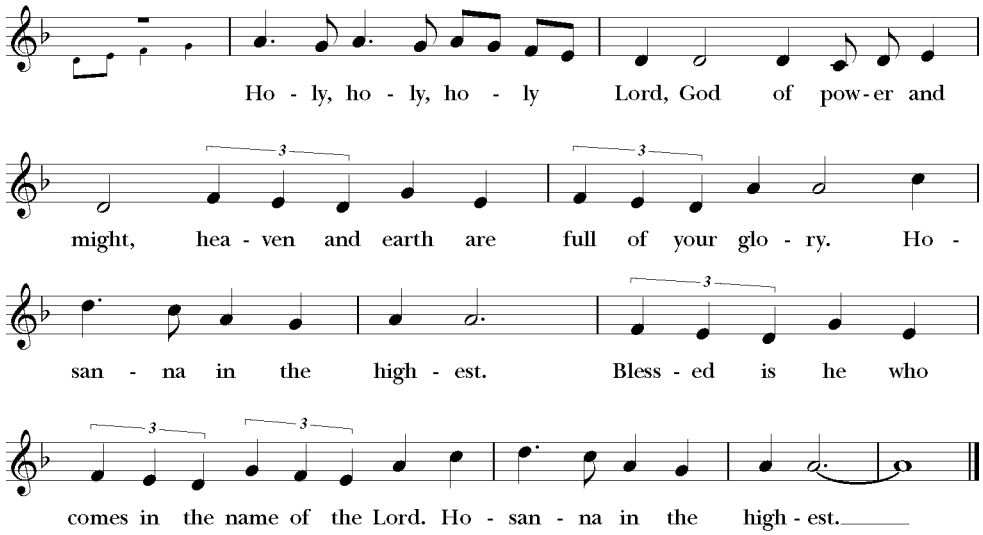
Eucharistic Prayer A



¶ The Celebrant continues with the prayer and the People sing their responses

... who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy, LORD* Blue Hymnal - S129



¶ The People kneel or stand as they are able.

¶ The Celebrant continues

... Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

¶ Celebrant and People

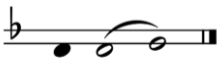
Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

¶ The Celebrant continues

... All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

ALL 

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us we now pray in the language of our heart,

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, forever 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.

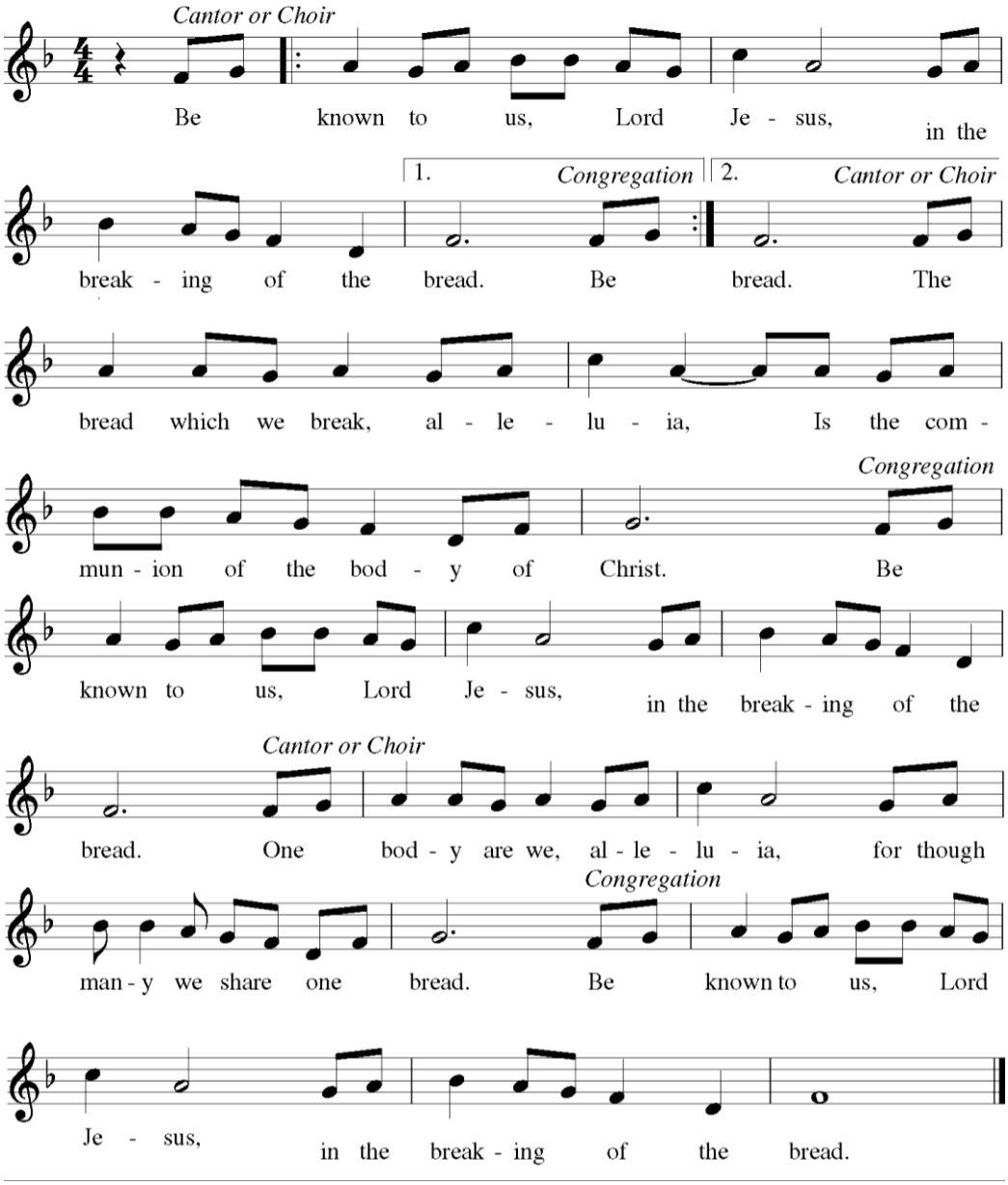
The Breaking of the Bread

¶ The Celebrant breaks the bread.

¶ A period of silence is kept.

The Fraction

Be Known to Us Lord Jesus Green Hymnal - 875



The Invitation and Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

People We behold what we are. Let us become what we receive.

¶The People sit.

¶ All are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist. You may receive either the Common cup or by intinction (dipping). Indicate your desire for intinction by holding up your host after it has been given to you. You may indicate your desire to drink from the common cup by consuming the host immediately after it is given to you. Gluten-free bread is available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. Follow the Ushers' direction to the communion rail and fill in from right to left.

¶ When present in the South Transept, healing ministers offer a brief and simple prayer.

Communion Hymn *As Longs the Deer* Blue Hymnal - 658

¶ The People stand as they are able.

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray:

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant May God's Blessing be with you, Christ's Peace be with you, the Spirit's outpouring be with you now, and forever more.

People Amen.

Closing Hymn *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers* Blue Hymnal - 68

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Fuga "alla Handel" in F Major, Op. 49, No. 4* Alexandre Guilmant

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

Plenty Good Room

An All Saints Reflection

On All Saints Day, we celebrate the great cloud of witnesses who have gone before us, and we rejoice that we are joined with them in one communion and fellowship. The saints remind us that God's love transcends time and space, death and life, heaven and earth. We are never alone – there is plenty good room in the household of God.

The spiritual Plenty Good Room invites us to imagine that great, heavenly banquet where all are gathered. The table stretches endlessly, and there is a seat for each of us. The saints – known and unknown, named and unnamed – are already seated, and Christ himself is the host. All Saints' is the Church's reminder that the Kingdom is not a closed circle but a widening embrace.

Scarcity whispers that death has the last word, that love is limited, that holiness is reserved for a chosen few. But the witness of the saints proclaims a greater truth: God's grace is abundant, holiness is contagious, and there is room enough for every soul in the kingdom of heaven. We honor the saints not because they were perfect, but because they bore witness to God's generosity in their time and place.

All Saints also reminds us of our own call to stewardship. We, too, are part of this communion, and our generosity today becomes part of the legacy of faith for tomorrow. Every pledge we make, every gift we offer, every act of love we share builds up the body of Christ for future generations. Just as we inherit the blessings of those who came before us, we are called to leave blessings for those yet to come.

On this feast, we remember that the Church is bigger than any one of us, bigger than any one moment, bigger even than death itself. There is plenty good room for all the saints – for us, for those we love and miss, for those yet to be born.

"After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." — Revelation 7:9 TENS.org

Questions for Reflection:

Who are the saints in your life or in your church who inspire your generosity?



J. Davey Gerhard is the Executive Director of TENS and believes in God's all-inclusive invitation to find Love when we are gathered together. He lives, works, and worships in San Francisco, California.

THE EPISCOPAL NETWORK FOR STEWARDSHIP

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

We thank you for all the ways in which you support the work of the Gospel at St. Mark's.
If you would like to make a financial offering, there many ways to do so

- Place check or cash in the offering plate.
- Mail a check to the church.
- Gifts or transfer of stock. (Speak with a member of the vestry or Rector after the service)
- Remember St. Mark's in your estate planning. (A brochure is available on the Resource Table.)

OR, conveniently with your phone:

- Scan the QR code to give.

St. Marks Prayer List

The Sick and Other Needs

Alisa Almonte
Jayne Austin
Doug Karsen
Barbara Gordon
Phil Gleason
Larisha Mazzola
Allyson Nichols
Audrey Nwak
Linda Radke
Jean Reale
Ruth Schoff
Meghan VanderMale
Guillermo Venecia
Roger York
Jaimie Interial
Mark Schuurmans
Bill Nasser
Cat Rogg
Charles Brown
Sue Allen
Jennifer Julius
Susan Andrews
Kerry Morey
Nita DeGraff
Mary Rollins
John Graki
Joan Schmidt

In Military Service

Timothy Brower, Sr.
Cailen W. Donahue-McLean
Nathan Gagin
Kayla Gilardi
Jayden Karsen
Charles Lewis
Todd Murray
John Nicholson III

Members of the Vestry

Ben Busman (Sr. Warden)
Rex Miller (Jr. Warden)
Emily Krueger (Clerk)
Gloria Lara (Treasurer)
Steve Bell
Christina DeKoekKoek
Scot Gugle
Rich Hiskes
Cindy Kok
Carmela McIntire
Michael York
Michael Reale



Music Ministry News

Dr. Gary Gordon, Director of Music
garyg@stmarksgr.org – cell: 214-629-8926

Tonight at 5:00 PM - Evensong Honoring Bishop Anne
This Evensong is provided as a Diocesan event as we mark the end of Bishop Anne's service with us.
Please note this service will include light incense.

Make a Joyful Noise 9:15-9:35 AM - Choir Room
All Children/Youth are invited for a time to learn music we can share in our services, learn more about the Liturgical calendar, and learn how hymns support our faith.

Instrumental Music
If you are learning an instrument in school, taking private lessons, or have been playing for many years, I cordially invite you to share your talents in our services. Please speak with me after any service or send an email to garyg@stmarksgr.org and let me know more about your instrument and level of skill.

Praise God in his holy house of worship, praise him under the open skies;
Praise him for his acts of power, praise him for his magnificent greatness;
Praise with a blast on the trumpet, praise by strumming soft strings;
Praise him with castanets and dance, praise him with banjo and flute;
Praise him with cymbals and a big bass drum, praise him with fiddles and mandolin.
Let every living, breathing creature praise God! Hallelujah! – Psalm 150

Hand Bells – Wednesdays, 6:15-7:15 PM (bi-weekly) Next rehearsal Nov 11th .
We'd love to welcome you to our ensemble. Playing experience isn't required but some familiarity with the musical staff and sight-reading ability will be helpful. This ensemble meets bi-weekly and performs occasionally throughout the year. For more info contact garyg@stmarksgr.org.

Michigan Arts and Culture Council
We are grateful for generous financial support from **MACC** which supports our Sacred Sounds Series and makes occasional performances by the Grand Rapids Symphony at our Breakfast Cafe possible.

Announcements

Advent Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation

Fr. Jed's exploration of the Shape of the Liturgy at 9:30 am on Sunday morning concludes on November 22. Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation will resume on December 2, the Second Sunday of Advent. Rev. Steve Manskar will lead discussion of the Old Testament Lessons appointed for the 2 nd , 3 rd , and 4 th Sundays of Advent: Isaiah 40:1-11; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; and 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16. All are invited to come and join this time of reflection and discussion in the Parish Hall, 9:30 am – 10:15 am.

Wednesday Evening Adult Faith Formation in Advent

Advent will be here soon! Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. It is a season of waiting and preparation. Christians wait and prepare for the future coming again, of the risen Christ. This preparation is informed by looking to the past and celebrating Christ's birth and the season of Christmas. You are invited to gather in the parish hall on Wednesdays in Advent, December 2, 9, 16, for a simple meal and time of reflection, discussion, and prayer centered in the meanings of the season found in the Psalms for the Sundays of Advent (Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Luke 1:46-55). The Wednesday program begins at 5:30 pm with a simple meal. Reflection and discussion begins at 6:00 pm and concludes at 6:45 pm. We will conclude the evening with praying Compline. Dismissal and blessing will be at 7:00 pm. To help us know how much food to prepare for the meal, please sign up on the sign-up sheet found at the Welcome Desk. We look forward to seeing you there!

Partners In Ministry

Partners in Ministry, of which St. Mark's is a member, is open for the second year serving our neighbors. The Center offers a place to get warm in the winter, have a meal at noon, and find help with finding housing, healthcare and other social services, enjoy a shower, and socialize with friends.

St. Mark's is committed to providing some volunteers to help serve snacks, meals, play games, just talking to people, listening to their stories, helping with the art area or offering a gift you would like to share. You can sign up for the days and times you are available.

The training is prerequisite to the first volunteer shift. There are 5 mid-day times to choose from (Nov 6, 10, 13, 18, 25). The volunteer training will be held at LaGrave, and then we will migrate over to Westminster for the tour portion. The training includes an introduction to the center, how to enroll as a volunteer, information about de-escalation and how to engage others through a trauma-informed lens, and how to sign up for specific volunteer shifts using Mel Trotter's portal.

The direct link to the sign up for training/tour is in the Enews. Those who took the training last year do not need to attend again, although they are most welcome to come for a refresher. On the sign-up, there is also an option to only come to the tour, for those who may be interested in learning about the center but not volunteering.

For more information or to join our St. Mark's team talk to Deacon Jan or Tom Woudstra.

Sunday Youth Group Meetups (6th—12th grade)

All Youth Group meetups this fall will be on the 1st and 3rd Sundays from 4-6 pm at St. Mark's. See you on November 1 and 15, and December 6 and 20.

Disciples & Dragons-1st Wednesdays (3rd—12th grade)

Disciples & Dragons will return on the 1st Wednesday of the month, beginning in November, and will run from 6-8 pm on Zoom. You can find registration details and more information in the e-newsletter.

Annie Civic Theatre Parish Life Event

Parish Life is hosting the traditional Holiday trip to the Civic Theater to see the musical *ANNIE* on Sunday, *December 13* for the *2:00* matinee. A signup sheet is available at the information desk. Tickets are $20.00 for students and $33.75 for adults. That is a savings of $11.75. Your check is your reservation. Please make your check payable to St. Mark's. You can give your check to Judy Fetterhoff or put in Pam Stevensons mailbox. We will park in our lot, and all walk together to the theater. Group rate is for a group of 20 or more. Get your reservation early as Annie will sell out very fast.

Diocesan Virtual Youth Group-3rd Wednesdays (6th-12th)
These meetups will take place via Zoom on the third Wednesday of the month from 6 to 8pm, from October through May. Participation is open to 6th-12th grade students and their mentors in the current school year. During our time together, we will explore Storymakers NYC's Relationships: Teen Zine Vol. 4, which invites teens to explore the diversity of relationships—with God, themselves, family, besties, neighbors, or strangers across the globe. There will also be time for sharing, devotions, games, and Compline. We hope you can join us! Please check out the link in the e-news or on the diocesan website.

Food Pantry Donations
St. Mark's partners with the Downtown Food Pantry to help supply needed food to neighbors in the downtown area. For the month of November, canned meat and stew would be much appreciated, although all gifts would be gratefully received. Each item you donate makes somebody's life a little easier.

Downtown Food Pantry
Thanksgiving is coming and so is our annual Ingathering of food for the Downtown Food Pantry! We traditionally collect food on the Sunday before Thanksgiving - this year it will be on November 22! On Sunday, November 15, bags with a suggested list of needed items will be distributed to parishioners as they leave the worship services. Let's fill our sanctuary with good things for our neighbors in need! If you'd like to help load these goods and help us deliver them to Westminster, please see Sue Poll or email her at suepoll@gmail.com. Thanks so much!

Outreach needs your help! Gender neutral clothing needed
The Outreach ministry would like to thank St. Marker's for their generous clothing donations for our unhoused guests at the Breakfast Cafe. To better serve our guests, we ask that such clothing be gender neutral items such as jeans, t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, tennis shoes, and coats. We also appreciate donations of new socks and underwear. Items can be placed in the basket in the north transept.

Capital Campaign/Construction Update
To date, we have raised nearly $5,200,000 towards our planning for the future at St. Mark's. Our original goal for the campaign as we started this effort was $5,800,000. We can feel great about what we all have done to meet those goals. As you can imagine, due to rising labor and materials costs, tariffs and the lack of capacity for construction at the present time, the costs have risen by at least another million dollars. Our construction team is meeting with vendors and talking about lowering their bids for us to proceed.
With that in mind, they will put the bids for Phase Two out early in 2027. It is at that point that we will find the latest cost figures for completion. In the meantime, we are experiencing delays in the procurement of necessary materials for the completion of Phase One as well. One example of this is that the dividers for the new restroom stalls are back ordered and should be delivered in about eight weeks. We were expecting the opening of the elevator and new bathrooms in November and now it is projected to be in January. We will celebrate every next step and feel blessed to have such great professionals guiding this work for us. We also feel blessed to have such amazing support from our congregation. Together we can indeed Foster Greater Belonging for our future.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

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... a vibrant community of faith, gathered for worship since 1836.

St. Mark's Staff

The Rev. Zachery Nyein	Bishop-Elect
The Rev. Jedediah Fox	Rector
The Rev. Jan Gockerman	Deacon
Dr. Gary Gordon	Director of Music
Pam Stevenson	Financial Manager
Jeff Brown	Director of Faith Formation
Mike Armour	Operations Manager
Ronnie Hammond	Sexton
Craig Mosley	Sexton, Videographer, Photographer
Judy Buitenhuis	Weekend Sexton

St. Mark's recognizes that our property sits on land of the Anishinaabek peoples of the Three Fires: Ojibwe, Odawa and Bodéwadmi. It is our privilege to occupy this land while recognizing and acknowledging with sadness the deep wounds that continue to exist by that occupation, and we pray and work for reconciliation.