

The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 5, 2023

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
(In-Person and 10:30 Live-Streamed on Facebook and YouTube)



St. Mark's Church, begun in 1848

This Service includes information in red for instructions on the actions and words of the Eucharist. It is our hope that the Service will be spiritually meaningful and uplifting for all ages at St. Marks.

Mission

We are an inclusive community of faith, reflecting Christ's love, ministering to all who hunger in body, mind, and spirit.

Vision

Our strength as a faith community depends on our inner vitality, inclusive welcome, and outward action. Grounded in these values, we continue our strong tradition of liturgical worship and education for all ages. We advocate for justice, serving those in need.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

134 N. Division Avenue

Grand Rapids MI 49503

616-456-1684

www.stmarksgr.org

www.facebook.com/stmarksgr

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, 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 sanitize 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.

Parking on Sundays: Limited parking is available in the Parish Lot. If you are an able-bodied person, please, consider not parking in the Parish Lot to enable those less mobile more parking potential. 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: Vouchers for free parking on Sundays and to exit are available from an Usher, a Greeter or on the Resource Table in the north transept. A white voucher is required and must accompany the original parking ticket in order to exit the Ionia Lot.

Rest Rooms are located on the main level of the Parish House under the exit sign at the top of the Foyer ramp. Additional rest rooms are located on the second level of the Parish House as well.

Weekly Worship and Prayer at St. Mark's: Eucharist on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at noon; Compline on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. via Facebook live. All are always welcome!

Children's Formation: Sundays, we offer children's formation during 10:30 services. This includes formation, nursery care and church school. Please contact Evan Knill, Director of Children's Ministry at evank@stmarksgr.org.

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 regular formation gatherings during the school year and service as well as social activities throughout the year. Please contact our Director of Youth Ministry, Jeff Brown, for more information: jeffatgrey@gmail.com.

Adult Formation: During September through May and on selected dates, *Adult Forums* are offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. Seasonal *Saturday Retreats* for adults are offered by the Rector. *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. Please, contact Fr. Christian at christianb@stmarksgr.org for more information. A multi-year seminar, *Education for Ministry* (EFM), is offered during the program year. Please, contact Doug Karsen for more information at karsendc@gmail.com. A *Book Study* is offered for adults. Please contact Carmela McIntire at carmela0067@att.net.

Breakfast Café Ministry, a program of our outreach ministry, is at 8:15 a.m. every Saturday. If you would like more information and to possibly volunteer, please contact Judy Freeman at judyfw@comcast.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.

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
Jamie Interial, D & K Security Representative
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
Ronnie Bowen, Sexton
Craig Mosley, Sexton Associate
Doris Molina, Weekend Sexton

The Gathering of the People

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

Prelude — Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Susan Berry and Janet Van Valey

St. Mark's Bell Choir

Welcome — *Lector I*

Standing as able, 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. 372: Praise to the Living God

Leoni

Welcome and Greeting

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

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

Presider I: Eternal loving God, through your Son you filled the world with the brightness of your one true light.

People: **May the light of Christ illumine our paths and shine in our hearts for ever. Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Gloria (*Spoken at the 8 a.m. Service and sung at the 10:30 a.m. Service*)

John Rutter

1. Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

2. Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

3. Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

4. Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

5. Glory to you, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven, glory to you.

6. Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; We will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Traditional in the Episcopal Tradition is the confessing of sin, asking for forgiveness and seeking reconciliation. Following the Confession, Forgiveness and Absolution for offered on behalf of Jesus.

The Confession

Presider I: Let us confess our sins to God and to one another. (*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.**

The Absolution

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

The Collect of the Day

Presider II: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider II: Let us pray.

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

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

The Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 58:1-9a

Lector I: A reading from the book of Isaiah

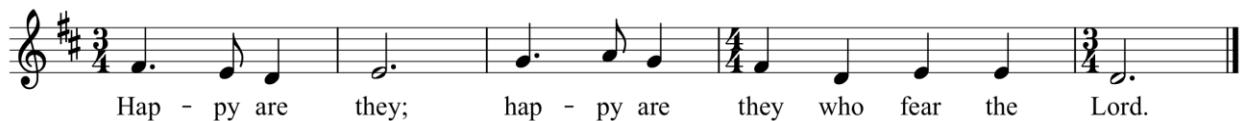
Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. “Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Antiphon



1 Hallelujah!

Happy are they who fear the Lord *and have great delight in his commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Antiphon

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *and their righteousness will last forever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

Antiphon

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

Antiphon

**7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *their heart is right;
they put their trust in the Lord.**

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, *until they see their desire upon their enemies.

Antiphon

**9 They have given freely to the poor, *and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.**

Antiphon

The Christian Scripture

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Lector II: A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew
People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said, “You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato

A brief silence is observed for reflection.

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

(Adapted: The Anglican Church of Canada 2013)

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.

Lector I: God of light and life, our prayers rise before you this day in hope and faith. Hear our prayers as we pray: “O God, hear us.”

Lector II: We pray for your Church throughout the world, for our Diocese, bishops, clergy and all people. Flame of abundant love, be our joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world.

We pray: O God, hear us.

Lector I: We pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith. Light of all creation, guide us to lead, teach and nurture your disciples of all ages. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: We pray, O God during Black History Month, that you guide us to be a people who reflect your character and advocate for the liberation of people who are oppressed by systemic racial injustice and prejudice. May we work for freedom at every turn and know the weight of our responsibility and the graciousness of your mercy. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: We pray for those in need of food, shelter, clothing and of God's healing touch, and those for whom our prayers are especially desired. Comforter of the suffering, warm our hands to loving service. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: We pray for the world, being mindful of where there is trouble and suffering, far away or nearby. Ember of steadfast care, fuel our passion to challenge injustice, racism and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: We pray for the land on which we stand, the Land of the Three Fires, the peoples, creatures, plant life and waters around us. Star of glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home, and to heal the circle of creation and the things which divide us. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: We pray for the sick, all those on our Parish Prayer List found in the bulletin and all those for whom we have promised to pray. We pray for those suffering in Ukraine and other parts of the world impacted by violence, war or natural disasters. *(Pause to add personal intentions silently or aloud.)* We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: We pray for those who have died and those who will die this day unloved or unattended. We especially remember who have died due to gun violence and those who mourn them. May all those who have died rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. *(Pause to add personal intentions silently or aloud.)* We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Presider II: God of radiant light, your love illuminates our hopes before we know them and our needs before we ask. Kindle your flame within us, that in our prayers and service, we may know your transforming presence at work in us and in the world around us. We ask all these things through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider I: May the peace of Christ be always with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Table

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.

The Preparation of the Gifts and Offertory

The Doxology --- Blue Hymnal No. 380 (Stanza 3)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow:
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, O heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP, Church of England, Eucharistic Prayer E

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.

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

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Presider: All honor and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time, we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the Magi, the King of all the world was revealed to the nations. In the waters of baptism, Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Savior sent to redeem us. In the water made wine; the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast, poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy. Therefore, with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, Holy, Holy (Spoken at 8 a.m.; sung or spoken at 10:30 a.m.)

William Mathias

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

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

(The people may stand or kneel as the Presider continues.)

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died, Jesus had supper with his friends, and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended, he took the cup of wine. Again, he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did; in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. We bring before you the bread of life and cup of salvation.

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

Celebrant

There - fore we pro - claim the mys - ter - y of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

God of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. †Look with favor on your people. Gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St. Mark and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

Celebrant

People

A-men.

The Lord's Prayer

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

Presider: 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 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 Reception of the Sacrament

Sometimes called the Fraction Anthem, the consecrated bread is broken and held so that all may see.

David Hurd



The musical notation is in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are:

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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: The Eucharist contains both consecrated bread and wine. An intinction cup of consecrated wine is also available. Gluten free consecrated bread is available which does not contain wine. Those who prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest. Please, follow the guide of the Ushers. All are welcome at this 'Table of the Lord'.

Communion Music — My Lord, What a Mornin'

Berry and Van Valey

Post-Communion Prayer (*Standing as able*)

Presider II: Let us pray.

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

The Blessing

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

(1 Thessalonians 5:13-22)

Hymn of Sending Forth — Green Hymnal No. 782: Gracious Spirit, Give Your Servants Abbot's Leigh

Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.

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

Postlude — Canzona

Andrea Gabrieli

You are invited to participate in the tradition at St. Mark's to remain seated until the postlude has ended to conclude our worship together and join us in the Parish Hall for further fellowship. Thank you.

A reminder that when the Rector preaches, his homily is available on the Resource Table of the North Transept. All 10:30 a.m. Services are live-streamed on Facebook and can be found at www.stmarksgr.org and on YouTube at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, MI.

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

- 1) Place check or cash in the offering plate
- 2) Electronic giving (email)
- 3) Vanco Mobile App from any mobile device
- 4) Pay by text – text 616-205-9714 from your phone to send a payment
- 5) Mobile App Square Cash – Cashtag: \$stmarksgr Web address: 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 2023 \$788,329

Pledged Amount for 2023 \$524,354

Received **Year-to-date** (Pledges, Gifts and Income) \$ 87,322

The 2022 shortfall of \$10,550 (pledged amounts not received in 2022) would be greatly appreciated.

2023 Pledge Offering Envelopes: Offering envelopes are available on the Resource Table in the Sanctuary's North Transept. Thanks again to all who have made their 2023 pledge. Please know that additional pledges may be received at any time.

Thanks to all who financially support the Ministry of St. Mark's. All questions may be directed to 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
Angela Brocato Hood
Judy Coby
Anthony DeMello
Colene Hayes
Jamie Interial
Jennifer Julius
Tom Klein
Anais Laurent
George Linde
Jean McCormick
Carmela McIntire
John Oatley
Marie Pearthree
Rev. David Pike
Cat Rogg
Mary Rollins
Craig Timm
Dale VanKley
Wendy Wenner
Jeanne Zylstra

Inbound Parishioners

Sue Allen
Susan Andrews
Nita and Chuck DeGraaf
John Gracki
Irene Haizman
John and Jennifer Oatley
Cat Rogg
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Roma Warmington
Jean Zylstra

Members of the Vestry

Dawn Buller, Jr Warden
Judy Freeman
Joshua Gonzales
Chuck Hoyt
Gloria Lara
Jon Anderson
Amy Richards-Duncan
Brian Topolewski, Clerk
Marc VanderVelde, Treasurer

Newly-Elected Vestry Members

Laura Kozminski
Penny Larsen
Dan McDonald

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. Diedre Piechocki, USA

Discernment for Ordained Ministry

Rachel Ravellette
Cathy Stevens

Parish Notes

eNews: Please visit our website at www.stmarksgr.org and click on the scroll that says "Newsletter" for our weekly announcements, opportunities and news. You may also subscribe to St Mark's weekly eNews by filling out one of our Welcome Cards and placing it on the Reception Desk located next to the front entry doors.

Climate Witness Project: TODAY, 12:15 p.m. Bring your coffee and join parishioner Steve Mulder for a session on how St. Mark's can better witness to climate changes. The session will take place in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!

Dismantling Racism Ministry: February 9, 2023: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Dr. Anton Treuer, Professor of Ojibwe at Bemidji State University, author, and recipient of over 40 awards, will perform in the Kretschmer Recital Hall in the Art and Music Center at Aquinas College. Dr. Treuer has presented internationally on his book Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask; Cultural Competence; Equity; Strategies for Addressing the "Achievement" Gap; and Tribal Sovereignty, History, Language, and Culture. The event is free and open to the public. More information at: <https://www.aquinas.edu/event/2022/06/03/contemporary-writers-series-anton-treuer>

Newcomers' Welcome and Social Hour: February 12, 12:00 p.m. If you are new to St. Mark's over the past year, the Parish is hosting a special welcome to you during Social Hour following the 10:30 a.m. Service. Please, join us if you can. If you are unable to join us, please know that you are most welcome at St. Mark's, and we look forward to seeing you at other times. All parishioners, new and not-so-new, are encouraged to wear their name tag each week to help newcomers get to know everyone more quickly and easily. ~ *Kathryn Marmion and Welcome Ministry*

All Things Episcopal — An Inquirer's Journey: Continues with the next session **Sunday, February 12 at 12:15** in the Canterbury Room. The schedule for future sessions is posted on the bulletin board in the Foyer and bound guides available in the bookcase of the Canterbury Room. Hard copies of the texts are available for those who signed up for the program. Please, know that anyone can attend any of the sessions as an adult formation opportunity. All are welcome. ~ *Christian+*

Downtown Food Pantry Souper Bowl of Caring: Sunday, February 12. The Pantry will distribute 4,000-6,000 cans of soup in 2023. Soup is a staple for many of our Heartside neighbors. It's delicious, nutritious, easy and can be mixed; often it can be opened without a can opener! Donations are a huge help! We can purchase soup through Feeding America for a fraction of the cost. Please bring to church your cans/cases of soup, cash or checks to assist the pantry in its mission to feed the hungry and assist our neighbors, or scan this QR code to give online:



Kaufman Interfaith Institute at GVSU: Art Exhibits Highlight Jewish Resilience Against Adversity. Please, see this link and invitation from the Kaufman Interfaith Institute and consider this opportunity to learn more about Jewish resilience. The exhibit runs through February 15. <https://www.gvsu.edu/forum/view.htm?articleId=B670595F-9E9E-E009-D254F1869EE07D80>

We are holding **Eucharist for All Ages Sunday, February 19th** during the 10:30 service. What is Eucharist for All Ages? It is a special service geared towards the children and youth in our church — yet open to all — giving children the opportunity to fill the roles generally held by adults to teach them what it truly means to worship God in our space. If you or your child would like to be a part of our service on the 19th of February, please contact our director of Children's Ministry, Evan Knill. evank@stmarksgr.org

Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday: February 21, 5:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Please plan to join us for fun, a delicious dinner of Jambalaya, Mac and Cheese and festive drinks provided by St. Mark's as we celebrate prior to the beginning of Lent. Please, bring a dessert to share (sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk). Bring your old palms to Church over the next several weeks We will collect them and burn them at the celebration and will also 'bury' the Alleluia Banner for the Season of Lent. At 7:30, Ashes will be imposed in the Sanctuary for anyone who wishes to receive them. **February 22:** Ash Wednesday Services will be at noon and at 7:00 p.m. with Ashes also offered in the Parking Lot from 12:45 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Man Cave: February 25, 2023. St. Mark's "Man Cave" is for our male neighbors in the homeless community. Guests will be invited to spend the day in the Parish Hall, where they may receive a haircut, attend the foot care clinic, select clothing items and enjoy a home-cooked meal. If you have gently used men's winter clothing items, please consider donating them for use at Man Cave. Jeans, sweatshirts and winter shirts are especially welcome. Donations may be left in the cloakroom. If you are interested in volunteering that day, please sign up at the Welcome Desk or speak to Mother Sue or Sharon Bossemeyer.

Social Hours at St. Mark's — We are looking for Social Hour hosts either after the 8:00 or the 10:30 service on Sunday mornings. Coffee is always provided; the responsibility is to provide and set out snacks which can be as simple as cookies, cheese and crackers. With receipts, costs are reimbursed by Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager. A sign-up sheet is located on the Welcome Desk of the Parish House. Please consider offering your gifts for this important ministry at St. Mark's. ~ *Christian+*