WELCOME TO
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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CAPITOL HILL

ST. MARK'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mark's is an open community, welcoming people wherever they are on their faith journey. We celebrate the gifts of God that empower us to engage boldly in the struggles of life and to care for others with love, justice, and compassion.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

4:55 PM GATHER

5:00 PM
CONTEMPLATIVE EUCHARIST

Rector
The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Deacon
The Reverend Cindy Dopp

Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Caleb Nelson Amaker

Director of Music
Jeff Kempskie

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church ✠ Capitol Hill

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To view the **parish calendar online**, go to our homepage www.stmarks.net and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

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Easter Sermon Series

The Many Directions of Reconciliation

What it means to become God's reconciliation in the world.

Because God's reconciliation is born out of the risen Christ, through whom God "reconcile[s] to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven" (Col. 1:20), God's reconciliation has many directions: Creator-ward, Self-ward, Other-ward, Creation-ward. God's reconciliation also moves us beyond the four principal directions towards the powers and principalities of this world, calling us to become God's reconciliation Margins-ward and Center-ward. In this season of resurrection, what does it look like for us to become God's reconciliation within ourselves, between our neighbors, across creation, under the bridges and in the shadow of the Capitol? **Featuring The Rev. Mark Andrew Jefferson, Ph.D., is Assistant Professor of Homiletics (Preaching) and the Associate Director of the Deep Calls to Deep Preaching Program at Virginia Theological Seminary:***

April 11	Michele:	What does it mean to be God's reconciliation
April 18	Patricia:	Reconciliation Self-ward - the starting point
April 25	Cindy:	Reconciliation Otherward - bringing the flock together.
May 2	Joe:	Reconciliation Creation-ward, reconnecting the vines to the branches to bear the fruit of creation.
May 9	*Mark Jefferson:	Reconciliation Margin-ward: How do we become?
May 16	Michele:	What is the way we need to lean into to have Reconciliation?

THE BUTTERFLY CROSS was created by the children of the Parish for Easter Season 2017. It is a representation of our donation of living plants to help pollinators have a more livable habitat.

Cover Image: Journey with Jesus by He Qi

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING SENTENCES

Alleluia. Christ is risen!
Jesus is risen indeed. Come let us adore him. Alleluia!

A period of silence is observed.

THE COLLECT

The risen One be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.
Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL John 15:1-8

The Gospel of Jesus according to John.
Glory to you Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Gospel of Jesus.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON The Reverend Joe Hubbard

AFFIRMATION

We believe in God the Father:
from whom everyone in heaven and on earth has life and being.

We believe in God the Son:
Who has been raised through transforming love and lives now in our hearts through faith, and calls us to this same loving transformation in our own lives.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:
who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

A period of silence is observed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us lift our voices and pray,

Risen Christ,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings:

For our lives and for those whom we love,
For the beauty of this earth that God has created for us,
For our families and our friendships,
Let us give thanks to the God of Life.

Risen Christ,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for the Church, that it may carry forward the redemptive works of God:

For our clergy and our bishops,
For the many lay people who serve the church,
And serve the world through the church.
For those gather here in worship and prayer.

Risen Christ,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for all who have come back to worship,

that the joy of Easter may ever grow within them, and that the Spirit may guide them in lives of active faith.

Risen Christ,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for the nations and peoples of the world,

that the powers that oppress and destroy may decline, And that justice, peace, and prosperity be lifted up.

Risen Christ,
Hear our Prayer.

Let us pray for those who are sick, those who suffer, those who struggle: and who have died:

Members of the congregation may offer their own prayers

Let us pray together:

That the hope born of Easter give them peace, acceptance and renewal, And that through their struggles they may come into closer communion with the God who redeems and restores.

Amen

THE PEACE

The peace of the risen God be with you!
And also with you.

WELCOME & GREETING

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

To support the work of the church, make an online gift now or learn about the other ways to give.

Pledges to support the church in the future and online gifts can also be made through the St. Mark's website stmarks.net by choosing "Donate or Pledge" at the top.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love as Christ loves us.

We lift an offertory plate acknowledging the online giving
and checks that have been mailed into the office this week.
We are so grateful for your ongoing support.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also 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 our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, Author of all being. Your power sustains, your love restores our broken world. You are unceasingly at work, from chaos bringing order and filling emptiness with life.

Christ, raised from the dead, proclaims the dawn of hope. He lives in us that we may walk in light. Your Spirit is fire in us, your breath is power to purge our sin and warm our hearts to love.

As children of your redeeming purpose, freed by him who burst from the tomb and opened the gate of life, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending glory:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Praise and thanksgiving be to you, Lord of all, for by the Cross eternal life is ours and death is swallowed up in victory. In the first light of Easter glory broke from the tomb and changed the women's sorrow into joy.

From the Garden the mystery dawned that he whom they had loved and lost is with us now in every place for ever. Making himself known in the breaking of the bread, speaking peace to the fearful disciples, welcoming weary fishermen on the shore, he renewed the promise of his presence and of new birth in the Spirit who sets your sons and daughters free.
Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the enslaved walked free, at supper with his disciples he 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."

After supper, he 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 recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for his coming again. Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves a single, holy living sacrifice.

Most merciful Creator, send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that they may be the Body and Blood of your Son and that we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed in our service to you.

Help us, who are one in the fellowship of Christ, 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 our heritage in the company 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 honour and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Throughout the season of Easter we are using the traditional translation of the Lord's Prayer.

And now, as Jesus taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.
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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We recognize this as God's table set before us and for all and this bread and wine as God's food for us and for all. Therefore whoever we are, from wherever we have come, and whatever we believe,
All are welcome and invited to receive. Amen!

THE COMMUNION

If you have bread and wine in your home you are welcome to consume it now. If you would like us to deliver a blessed communion wafer to you, please contact Michele@stmarks.net

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Glory to God,
All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more
than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

May God give you Grace never to sell yourself short. Grace to risk something big for something good. Grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but Love. The Blessing of a gracious God: the Creator, Redeemer and, and Sanctifier, be upon you this day and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Alleluia, Alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ, the risen one.
Thanks be to God; Alleluia, Alleluia!

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Welcome Newcomers!

We hope you feel a sense of connection as we share this time together online.
There are many other opportunities to get involved with St. Mark's, even remotely.

If you are a newcomer and want us to get to know you better, please fill out this form. If you have questions, you can also contact the staff listed on the last page.
We will be happy to help you in any way we can.

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Presider	The Reverend Michele H. Morgan
Preacher	The Reverend Joe Hubbard

Liturgy Request

At St. Mark's, we plan the liturgy periodically. If you would like to join in one of our Community Liturgy Planning sessions, please contact our Rector, Michele Morgan, at michele@stmarks.net.

Acknowledgements & Permissions

The Collect, Dismissal, and the Eucharistic prayer: *The Book of Common Prayer* of the USA, adapted by Andrew Schmidt & Scott Lipscomb. The Creed: *New Patterns for Worship,* The Church of England. The Prayers of the People: St. Lukes, Ewing NJ. Post-Communion prayer, the Canadian Book of Alternative services. The Blessing: William Sloane Coffin, adapted by Michele Morgan.

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

St. Monica and St. James, DC

Anglican Communion

Pray for The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem
& The Middle East

Parish Prayer List

Louise Abbot • Collie Agle • Ben Alquiros
William Aycock • Bernard • John Barton
Robert Baugh • Sean Bishop • Pamela Blumgart
Joseph Boone • Fairfield Butt • Martin De Nys
Taylor Emerson • Jean Eveleth • Elizabeth Fowler
Carnie Hayes • Jan Hoffman • Gale Johnson
Jocelyn Kovalenko • Kate Leisch • Carol Lewis
Barbara Marks • Nat Marks • Jane Miller • Don Mosher
Joan Pierotti • Joe Summers • Rick Rutherford
Mary Welker • Nell Whitman • Margaret Wood • Tom Zarek

Parishioners and Family Members serving in the military

Chase Allen Ammon • Clint Billings • Jason Earnest

Please send any names you would like to add to bulletin@stmarks.net.

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The Reverend Patricia Catalano, Adjunct Priest	adjunct@stmarks.net
The Reverend Joe Hubbard, Seminarian	seminarian@stmarks.net

The Vestry

Senior Warden	Linell Grundman	seniorwarden@stmarks.net
Junior Warden	Jim Pittman	juniorwarden@stmarks.net
Class of '22	Andrew Stafford, Shay Waye, & Kit Arrington	
Class of '23	Brent Bickley, Fritz Henn, & Edna Boone	
Class of '24	Chris Berendes, Jeb Ory & Dave Wellman	
Officers	Frank Nickerson, *Treasurer*	
	Randy Marks, *Asst. Treasurer*	
	Kim Bayliss, *Register*	
	Mary Thuell, *Counsel*	

Diocesan Delegates

Caitlin Frazier Sandy Padgett Susanne Allen