



**WELCOME TO
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
✠
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.

**THE 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 22, 2019**

5:00 PM HOLY EUCHARIST

Rector

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Deacon

The Reverend Cindy Dopp

Interim Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Caleb Nelson Amaker

Director of Music

Jeff Kempeskie

Cell Phones – Please silence cell phones and other electronic devices any time you are in the Nave.
Hearing Assist – Set your hearing aid to the 'T' setting or see an usher if you would like a headset.

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



To view the **parish calendar online**, go to our homepage www.stmarks.net and click "Calendar" at the top of the page. **Restrooms and water fountains** are available in the foyer and on the lower level. **Lost & Found** is managed by our Parish Administrator. Please contact James (202-543-0053, ext. 306) to see if your item has been found or to turn in an item.

December 15, 2019

Attendance:	288
Pledge & Plate collection:	\$19,350.88

The Advent/Christmas Wreath, which was given to St. Mark's by Scilla Adams in loving memory of her father, Colonel Neil Ramsay, was hand-forged by Richard A. Martin, a metal sculpture in Alexandria, Virginia. This work is made of steel with solid-link chains and hammered drip pans, painted black and measuring three feet in diameter, with a cross hanging beneath the central candle.

About the Refugee Madonna, *through the hand of Tracy Council*

The plight of displaced persons all over the globe is very much on my mind and heart--not least of all the families and children separated and detained at our Southern border. I designed this icon casting Mary and Jesus as refugees, fleeing Herod's genocide. The inscription is from Jesus, teaching us that when we care for any who are poor, hungry and displaced we also care for God our Creator and all that is holy on this earth.



Schedule of Christmas Services

Tuesday, December 24	4 PM	Christmas Eve Pageant & Holy Eucharist
	9:30 PM	Congregational Carol Singing
	10 PM	Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist
Wednesday, December 25	10 AM	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
Sunday, December 29	10 AM	Christmas Lessons & Carols + Holy Eucharist
	5 PM	Holy Eucharist

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING SENTENCES

From you, O Bethlehem, shall come forth the ruler in Israel
His origin is from of old, from ancient days

A period of silence is observed.

THE COLLECT

Let us pray:

God of all hope and joy: your coming will be like a thief in the night, like lightning flashing across the sky. Grant that we may be ready, and our hearts answer. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 1:18-25

The Gospel of Jesus according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of Jesus.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

HOMILY

The Reverend Patricia Catalano

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

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.**

A period of silence is observed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Creator we offer, our hearts and minds, that we may know wholeness in the unity of God and God's Creation and ourselves.

Take a moment to pause and feel God with us.

Holy One, open our hearts to your presence among us. Help us to see your loving-kindness at work in the world.

Emanuel, make us one.

Holy One, we give you thanks for bringing us into this community, where you experience yourself in our humanity. We ask you to fill us with your Spirit that, in us, others may come to know you. Emanuel, God with us,

Make us one.

Holy One, you become flesh and dwell in the midst of this sacred circle through which all your Creation is related. We ask you to bind us together, from the four directions of the earth, as members of the same body. Emanuel, God with us,

Make us one.

In you alone we find wholeness. Help us be gentle, honest, generous, and compassionate, that we may walk our path with joy and love for ourselves, one another, and all your Creation. Bring us into balance with you, with the earth, with each other. Emanuel, God with us,

Make us one.

Help us surrender our pride, our ambition, our power, and our control to you, that we may find peace and comfort in silence. And, when our time on this earth is ended, let us go peacefully, without regrets, into your presence, where, at last, we may all be one. Emanuel, God with us,

Make us one.

Each week we will pray for various facilities in the US where migrants may be detained:

Oh God, you have always been with the traveler, the migrant, and the refugee. Today, we pray for any detainees, and the guards and other staff, at:

Port Angeles Station, Bellingham Station, Colville Station, Curlew Station and Tacoma Northwest Detention Center *in the state of Washington.*

Give those incarcerated courage and hope; give those who work in these places compassion and honor; and help us all to build a better world. **Amen**

I invite your prayers at this time, either silently or aloud.

Members of the congregation may offer their own prayers at this time.

Let us pray together.

Holy One, in this season of Advent, we reflect on the wonder of your choosing to enter into the human condition and walk with us along the path of life from birth to death. Help us to hear afresh the ancient story and the old songs that tell how you came to be known to us. Amen.

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

Together,

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.**

God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself.
Amen.

THE PEACE

May the peace of God be always with you!
And also with you.

All, one with another, exchange a sign of peace.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

*Text "stmarks20003" to 73256 to give to St. Mark's using text messaging.
There may be a slight delay and then you will receive a reply text which will guide
you through the initial set up.*



THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

God is present here.

God is always with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Holy One.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we proclaim:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest!

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us.

He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice:

Incarnate God, reveal yourself to us that we might reflect your loving light.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with Mary, Mark, Elizabeth, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

Please note that during the season of Advent, we will pray with the contemporary translation of the Lord's Prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as Jesus taught us, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread,

And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil,

For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Alleluia, Christ our Passover has 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

Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available; please make your needs known to the minister.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God among us, we have been guests at your table;
come with us wherever we go and be present in all that we share. Summon out of us generosity of spirit to ensure that all the hungry are nourished and earth's barren places are fertile with food, faith, hope and love. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Life is short, and we have but little time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

This is the day that God has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it.

We will not offer to God
Offerings that cost us nothing.

Go in peace to love and to serve;
We will seek peace and pursue it.

In the name of the Trinity of Love,
God in community, holy and one.

Please join us for light refreshments after the service.



Liturgical Leaders and Worship Participants

Verger

Jennifer Cate

The Advent Vestments and Hangings, made by Tracy Councill and Doris Burton, were a gift of the St. Mark's Arts Council in 2002. The design themes are from Isaiah. One chasuble, taken from the prophecies about a new Jerusalem, is intended to suggest anyone/everyone's journey as lit by the Star of Bethlehem. The other chasuble represents the Jesse Tree: a dead stump putting forth living branches that become a home for the spirit of God.

The chalice veil repeats the Jesse Tree image and incorporates the star/cross from the chasuble. The presider's stole introduces the theme of swords made into plowshares, here represented by a disused sword overtaken by morning glory vines, which symbolize love. The pulpit falls illustrate four images of the Peaceable Kingdom: a child playing around the adder's den; the lion and lamb together; swords turning into plowshares; and justice for all people.

Two stoles and the bread cover, woven by Doris Burton, are reminiscent of homespun fabrics commonplace in the Holy Land. They include pink threads to acknowledge Advent III.



Liturgy Request: At St. Mark's, we plan the liturgy periodically. If you would like more information on how we do this as a community, please contact Rector Michele Morgan at michele@stmarks.net.

Acknowledgements: Opening Sentences: paraphrase of (Micah 5:2). The Collect: *The Book of Common Prayer of the Anglican Church of New Zealand*. The Creed and Confession *The Book of Common Prayer* The Absolution: St. Johns' Episcopal Church Minneapolis Minnesota. Eucharistic Prayer, *Enriching Our Worship*, volume 1, adapted. Prayers of the People: Joe Hubbard and Nat White. Blessing attributed to Henri-Frédéric Amiel. Post Communion Prayer and Dismissal: *Iona Abbey Worship Book*.

Liturgy Planning Team: Doris Burton, Joe Hubbard, Nat White, Cindy Dopp and Michele Morgan

Notes:

Notes:

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Capitol Hill

301 A Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

202-543-0053 (phone)
202-546-3695 (fax)
www.stmarks.net

Office Directory

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan, Rector	michele@stmarks.net
The Reverend Cindy Dopp, Deacon	cindy@stmarks.net
Jeff Kempskie, Director of Music	jeff@stmarks.net
Caleb Nelson Amaker, Interim Director of Youth & Family Ministries	youthdirector@stmarks.net
Patricia Braley, Finance Manager	patricia@stmarks.net
James Rostron, Parish Administrator	parishadmin@stmarks.net
Katherine Philipson, Bulletin Coordinator	bulletin@stmarks.net
The Reverend Patricia Catalano, Adjunct Priest	adjunct@stmarks.net
Joe Hubbard, Seminarian	seminarian@stmarks.net

The Vestry

Senior Warden	Ryan Baugh	seniorwarden@stmarks.net
Junior Warden	Jim Pittman	juniorwarden@stmarks.net
Class of '20	Tracy Councill, Jim Brooks, & Alix Pereira	
Class of '21	Christina Herman, Brandon Dunn Knight, & Amber Macdonald	
Class of '22	Andrew Stafford, Shay Waye, & Kit Arrington	
Officers	John Edwards, <i>Treasurer</i>	
	Kim Bayliss, <i>Register</i>	
	Rosemary Harold, <i>Counsel</i>	

Diocesan Delegates

Cecilia Monahan Caitlin Frazier Peter Nye

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

Church of St. Stephen and the Incarnation /San Estaban y La Encarnación, DC
St. John's Church, Zion Parish
St. John's Church, Broad Creek
St. John's Church, Mt. Rainier
Christmas Day (December 25)

Anglican Communion

Pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement
His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome
His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch
The Revd Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches
Bishop Ivan M Abrahams, General Secretary World Methodist Council
The Reverend Chris Ferguson, General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches

*In an effort to keep the prayer list up-to-date, we have restarted the list.
Please send any names you would like to add to bulletin@stmarks.net.*

Parish Prayer List

Ben Alquiros • William Aycock • Pamela Blumgart
Mickey Bolek • Joseph Boone • Taylor Emerson • Elizabeth Fowler
Alice Gunderson • Carol Lewis • Nat Marks
Linda Wade • Mary Welker • Nell Whitman

Parishioners and Family Members serving in the military

Chase Allen Ammon • Clint Billings • Preston Brooks • Jason Earnest

Welcome Guests!

We'd like to get to know you better!

We invite you to fill out this page, tear it off, and drop it into the offering plate or hand it to one of the greeters as you leave. Please take the rest of this service bulletin with you, so that you can refer to the service schedule, and office directory.

We hope you feel at home with us. If you have questions, please speak with the clergy or one of the greeters after the service. You can also call the office at any time and we will be happy to help you in any way we can.

Thank you for visiting St. Mark's today.
Go in peace and return often!

After completing, please remove this page and place in the offering plate or give to a greeter.

I attended: _____ 9 am Holy Eucharist
 _____ 10 am Sermon Seminar
 _____ 11:15 am Holy Eucharist
 _____ 5 pm Contemplative Eucharist
 _____ Special (wedding, funeral, etc.)

On December 22, 2019

Name _____

E-mail _____

Phone No. _____

Zip Code _____

I am interested in learning more about:

- _____ Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Altar Guild, etc.)
- _____ Baptism (child, adult)
- _____ Getting married at St. Mark's
- _____ Music (choir, lessons)
- _____ Children/youth classes & programs
- _____ Adult classes
- _____ Senior programs/activities
- _____ Outreach/community service
- _____ Environmental issues
- _____ Yoga classes
- _____ Dance classes
- _____ St. Mark's Players (theatrical productions)

Would you like to be contacted by a clergyperson? _____ Yes _____ No

You can stay up to date on St. Mark's news by signing up online for the weekly Gospel e-newsletter at www.stmarks.net/contact-us/. If you'd like to join the St. Mark's Yahoo group, please contact Raiford Gaffney at rgaffneydc@gmail.com and ask to be added.