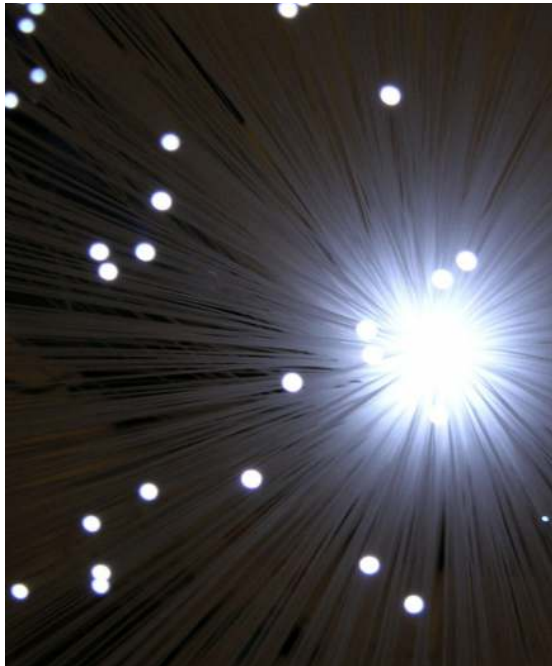


**WELCOME TO
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
✠
CAPITOL HILL**

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 THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

December 12, 2021

5:00 PM

HOLY EUCHARIST

Rector

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Assistant Rector

The Reverend Christopher Phillips

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Caleb Nelson Amaker

Director of Music

Jeff Kempskie

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.



For Advent, we are returning to our roots: we are using Holy Eucharist Rite II, a contemporary service (Rite I uses traditional ‘thee’ and ‘thou’) from *The Book of Common Prayer (BCP)*. The *BCP* sets out forms of service for daily and Sunday worship, as well as for services that mark significant events in parishioners’ lives, ranging from baptism to burial. An online version of the *BCP* can be found at <https://www.bcponline.org>

The present *BCP* was authorized in 1979, replacing an earlier *BCP* that had been authorized in 1928. Earlier versions of the *BCP* had been authorized in 1892 and 1789, the latter having been created for American use, replacing the Church of England’s 1662 *BCP* after the unpleasantness of 1776. The English *BCP* itself followed earlier versions from 1549, 1552 and 1559.

All of these books draw on a wide range of worship sources found in the Western and the Eastern churches over the centuries. The 1979 *BCP*, for instance, contains Eucharistic Prayer D, derived from the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil, named for St. Basil the Great (d. 379 CE), still used in the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Advent III (the third Sunday of Advent)

Confession/Absolution: Confession is an expression of our failure to do the work God calls us to do. The Priest absolves, not because s/he has special powers, but as a sign of God’s unfailing call and presence.



Everyone attending worship at St. Mark’s is expected to sign-in for contact tracing purposes. To support those who may be immunocompromised and those with small children, masks must be worn at all times in the nave. Please know that arriving a little early will help get everyone in.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING SENTENCES

Bless God who forgives all our sins;
His mercy endures for ever.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Together let us pray.

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.

You are invited to hold silence.

THE FIRST READING Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

THE GOSPEL Luke 3:7-18

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must

do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of Jesus.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the church and the world.

Creator God: as we await the coming of your son, remind us of the beauty of your works, and prepare us so that we may preserve and protect them.

And we all say, **Amen**

Loving God: you made all people in your image, and redeemed us through your son, Jesus. look with compassion on the whole Human family; take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts.

And we all say, **Amen**

Gracious God: we ask that you endow all church leaders, lay and ordained, with steadfast commitment to seeing and serving all people, so that they may lead us according to your will and example.

And we all say, **Amen**

Almighty God: we ask you to inspire those who hold positions of power to act with wisdom, charity, mercy, and justice, that they may faithfully serve all people.

And we all say, **Amen**

Compassionate God: we ask that you send your comforting spirit to those in need; those who hunger or thirst or who suffer with injuries both seen and unseen, especially: Collie, Ben, Nora, John, Pamela, Joseph, Fairfield, Martin, Jim, Jan, Elizabeth, Nat, Taylor, Pamela, Burton, David, Joan, Gardner, Eleanor, Margaret and Tom. Grant them, and all who care for them, strength, courage, and patience, and the assurance of your mercy and grace.

And we all say, **Amen**

Eternal God: we pray for the souls of those who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all of the departed.

And we all say, **Amen**

*You may offer your own prayers
either silently, aloud, or in the comments.*

Together, let us pray,

Most merciful God, in your compassion forgive us our failings, to you and to our neighbors, known and unknown, for things done and left undone; and so up hold us by your holy 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.

Take a moment to pause and feel God with us.

THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

Please consider supporting the work of the church. You may make an online gift, or learn about the other ways to give, by visiting the St. Mark's website, stmarks.net, and choosing "Donate or Pledge" at the top.

Gifts to St. Marks can also be made by texting "stmarks20003" to 73256, or by visiting the QR code.



Thank you for your generous support of our collective work.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Walk in love as Christ loves us.

Thank you for your generous support of our collective work.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

God 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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**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.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, Our God,

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mark all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

Amen.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as Jesus taught us, let us 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.

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.

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 this bread and wine as God's food for all.

Therefore, whoever we are, from wherever we have come, and whatever we believe,

All are welcome and invited to receive. Amen!

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE BLESSING

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.



Welcome Newcomers!

We hope you feel a sense of connection, whether you're with us online or in-person.
There are many 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](#).
Those attending in-person may complete the form on the last page. If you have questions,
you can also contact the staff listed on the third to last page.
We will be happy to help you in any way we can.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Capitol Hill

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202-546-3695 (fax)
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Office Directory

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Katherine Philipson, Bulletin Coordinator	bulletin@stmarks.net
The Reverend Patricia Catalano, Adjunct Priest	adjunct@stmarks.net
Joel Martinez, 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	Christoph Berendes, Jeb Ory & Dave Wellman

Officers	Frank Nickerson, <i>Treasurer</i>
	Randy Marks, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>
	Kim Bayliss, <i>Register</i>

Diocesan Delegates

Mary Neznek Raiford Gaffney and Tom Getman

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

St. John's Church, Georgetown
St. John's Preschool, Georgetown
St. John's Church, Lafayette Square
St. John's Church, Norwood

Anglican Communion

Pray for Anglican Church of Canada

Parish Prayer List

Collie Agle • Ben Alquiros • Nora Alquiros • John Barton
Pamela Blumgart • Joseph Boone • Fairfield Butt • Martin De Nys • Jim Frazier
Jan Hoffman • Elizabeth Long • Nat Marks • Taylor Emerson Marks
Pamela Burton Moore • David Peterson • Joan Pierotti • Gardner Van Scoyoc
Eleanor Whitman • Margaret Wood • Tom Zarek

Parishioners and Family Members serving in the military

Chase Allen Ammon

Those Who Have died

Nell Whitman • Julie Grebe • Don Sarles

*In order to keep the prayer list updated, we begin anew semi-annually.
If you would like to request to add a name,
please email the Bulletin Coordinator at bulletin@stmarks.net*



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 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 _____ Sermon Seminar
 _____ 11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 _____ 5 p.m. Contemplative Eucharist
 _____ Special (wedding, funeral, etc.)

on December 12, 2021

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