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 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

September 24, 2023

11:15 AM HOLY EUCHARIST

Rector

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Associate Rector

The Reverend Christopher Phillips

Pastoral Associate

The Reverend Patricia Catalano

Deacon

The Reverend Thom Sinclair

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**, please visit our homepage www.stmarks.net and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

Hearing – Infrared headsets providing amplified sound are in the tract racks by the doors, or ask an usher.

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Land Acknowledgement We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the peoples on whose traditional territory we are located, specifically the Piscataway and Nacotchtank (Anacostan) peoples. We make this acknowledgement mindful of the traumatic events and the ongoing forces of systemic racism and oppression that forced native peoples from their lands. We continue our commitment to learning, growing, and finding a new way forward together for meaningful, mutual healing.

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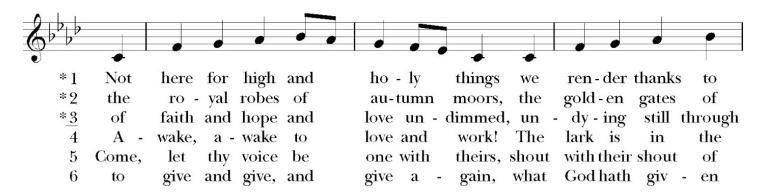
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

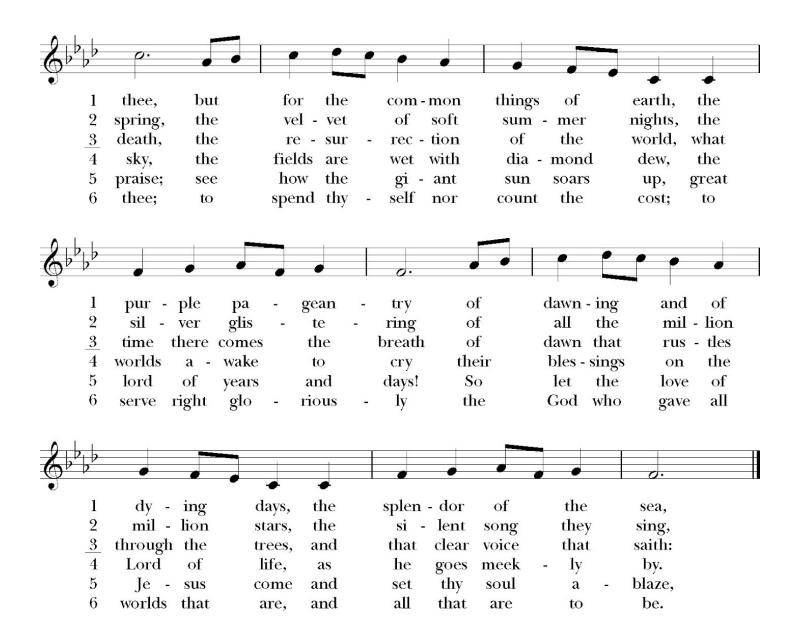
PRELUDE Awake, Awake to Love and Work *Morning Song*, arr. Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Please stand as able.

OPENING HYMN 9 Awake, awake to love and work, vv. 4-6

Morning Song





OPENING SENTENCES

God's grace, mercy and peace be with you. And also with you.

THE COLLECT

The Holy Spirit is upon you!

And also upon you!

Let us pray:

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people sit.

THE READING Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining." And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God."

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

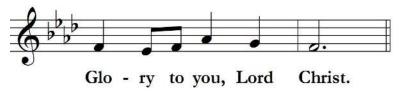
Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

The Gospel of Jesus according to Matthew.



Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of Jesus.



SERMON

The Revered Michele H. Morgan

The people stand as able

THE AFFIRMATION

We believe that God has created us.

We believe that God is born among us.

We believe that God will always sustain us.

We believe that God calls us to bring peace, justice, and compassion into this world.

We believe that in the end of all things, God's love shall prevail. Amen.

CONFESSION

Let us confess where we have missed the mark against God and our neighbor.

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.

A period of silence is observed.

Gracious God, have mercy upon you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Open our minds, Creator, that we may dream a church reconciled, a church that knows only your love so abundantly that it bursts with a passion for ministry, a desire to give completely, and a sense of stewardship that seeks only to give back.

Creator, open our minds.

Open our hearts, giver of gifts, to be transformed by the mighty outpouring of your compassion, so that our will to serve others with humility, integrity, and urgency is your desired will for us, your servants.

Giver of gifts, open our hearts.

Open our eyes, Sanctifier of Life, to the hurts and needs of others that challenge us to ministry. Teach us to see where our own abilities and resources— and the world's deep hunger—meet.

Sanctifier of Life, open our eyes.

Open our memories, Redeemer of all, as we remember those who have died. Help us to honor the wisdom of those who devoted their Earthly lives to your service, and who generously gave of their time and treasure.

Redeemer of all, open our memories.

Let us pray for those in our lives and for others.

Please add your petitions, either silently or aloud.

Open our hands, O Spirit to be your instrument of witness. Help us to work without caution, serve without recognition, to do justice, to love kindness, and to serve humbly with you, our God.

Spirit, open our hands.

Open our lips, oh Spirit, that we may proclaim your benevolent truth and your call for justice in our congregation, in our communities, and in the world.

Spirit, open our lips.

Together, let us pray:

Nurturing God, your love is free, your compassion unconditional, and your mercy infinite. You give us gifts in abundance. Grant that we may know and trust you, so that we may use these good gifts in joyful service to you and our neighbors. Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

Dance Studio

SCENE FROM THE PLAYERS

Our Town by Thornton Wilder

LITURGY OF COMMITMENT

When people attend St. Mark's, we join in an exploration of our values, choices, and beliefs through various activities, events, and classes.

I now invite all those who wish to affirm their commitment to St. Mark's to join us around the altar. If you want to participate, please come forward now, or do it from your seat. There will be other chances to participate in this liturgy in the spring.

Do you affirm your commitment to this community with your time, talent, and ongoing financial support?

Those affirming their commitment: I will.

Will you seek to live a life of justice, compassion, and love in the world, in your home, in your neighborhood, and your work?

Those affirming their commitment: I will with God's help.

Will you make known to the appropriate persons in this community your praises and complaints?

Those affirming their commitment: I will with God's help.

And will you, if you decide to leave, declare your reasons for doing so as part of a Liturgy of Departure?

Those affirming their commitment: I will with God's help.

To all here gathered, will you support these persons in fulfilling the promises they make today, sustaining them in their lives, and welcoming them as your sisters and brothers?

We will.

I welcome you.

THE PEACE

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

VESTRY GREETING & WELCOME

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

Please consider supporting the work of the church. You may make an <u>online</u> <u>gift</u>, or learn about the <u>other ways to give</u>, by visiting the St. Mark's website, <u>stmarks.net</u>, 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

Offer unto God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows unto the Most High.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

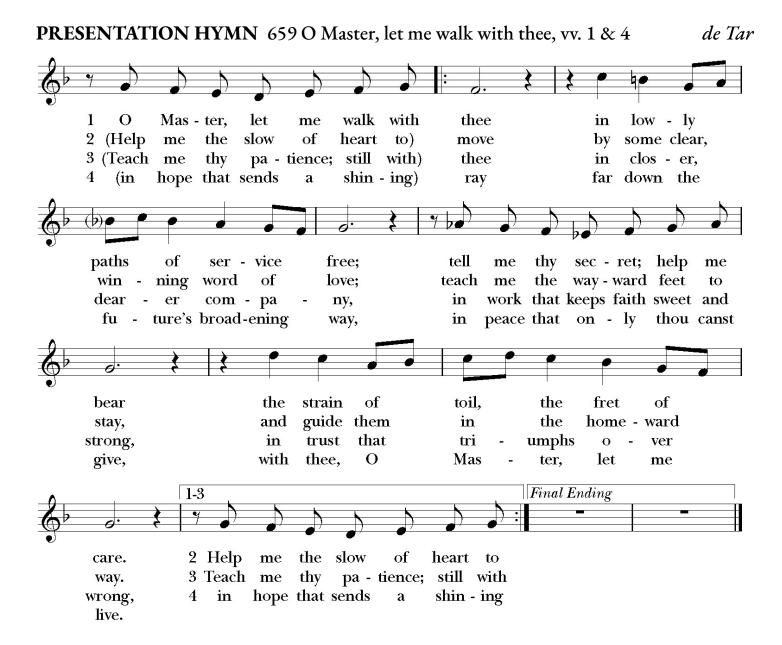
OFFERTORY ANTHEM Cantate Domino

Hans Leo Hassler

Chancel Choir

Cantate Domino canticum novum, Cantate Domino omnis terra. Et benedicite nomini ejus, Annuntiate de die in diem salutare ejus. Annuntiate intergentes gloriam ejus, In omnibus populis mirabilia ejus. Sing to the Lord a new song,
Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord and bless his name,
Proclaim the good news of his salvation
from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations
And his wonders among all peoples.

Please stand as able.



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

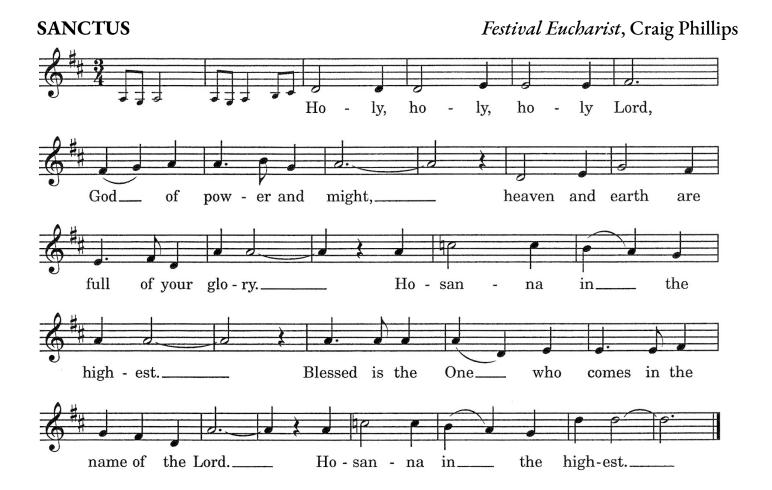
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all of creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

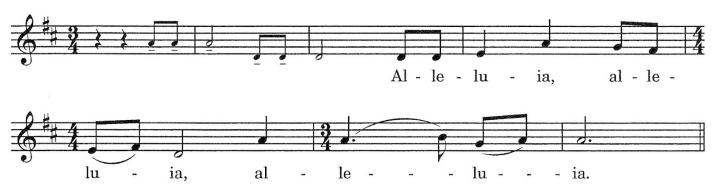
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

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 FRACTION ANTHEM

Festival Eucharist, Craig Phillips



The Choir sings the verse "Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us" after which all repeat the refrain.

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 or do not believe, all are welcome and invited to receive. Amen!

THE COMMUNION

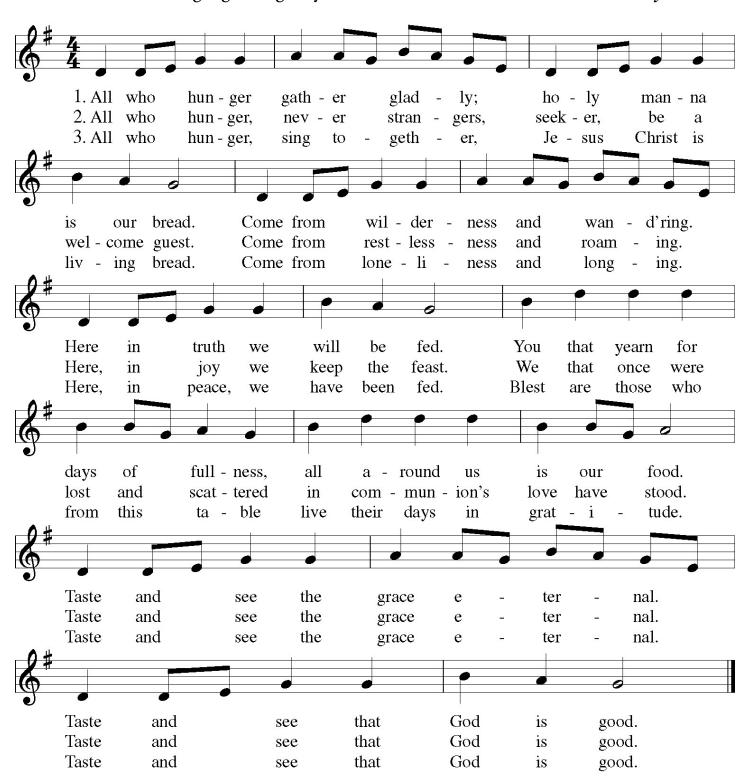
St. Mark's receives communion "in the round" as a symbol of our strong belief in the power of community.

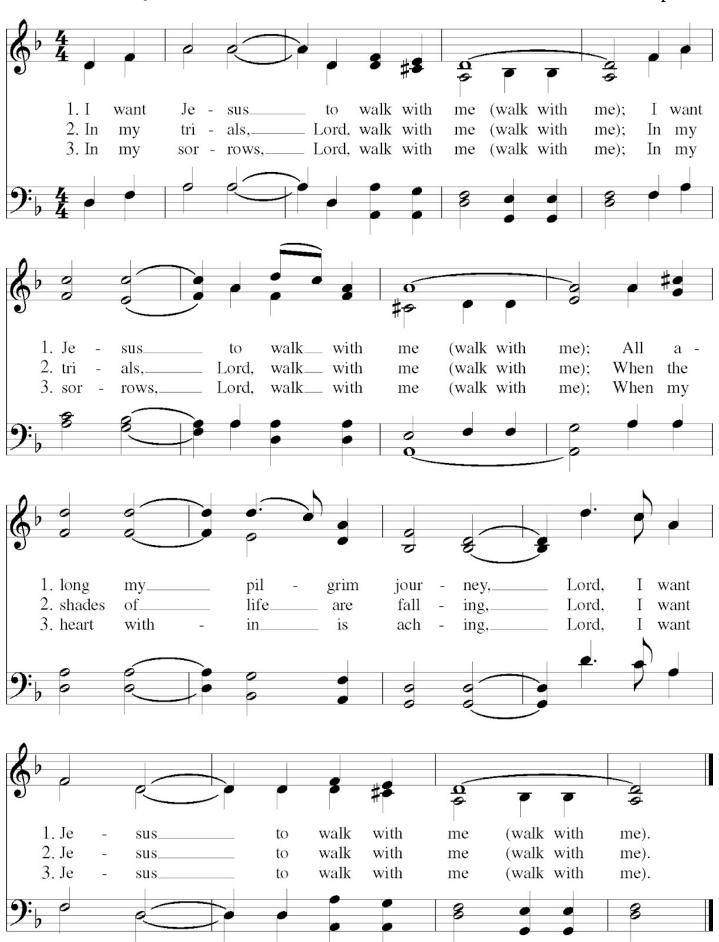
You will be offered bread by a celebrant, and invited to drink from the common cup. Please refrain from intincting (dipping) the host (the bread) into the wine.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

WLP 761 All who hunger gather gladly

Holy Manna





POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray:

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.



THE BLESSING

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey 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

Let us go forth caring for the world as God cares for us.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Toccata and Fugue

Anonymous Italian (18th century)

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Liturgical Leaders and Worship Participants

If you're interested in serving in the liturgy in any of the following roles, we'd love to talk to you! For more information, contact our Associate Rector Christopher Phillips, Christopher@stmarks.net

Presider The Reverend Christopher Phillips
Preacher The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Director of Music Jeff Kempskie

Verger Jan Lipscomb

Readers Linda Ewald & Jackie Bodde

Altar Guild Anne Headley & Bob Headley

Acolytes Maddie Thorpe

Bread & Wine TBD

Video Director Elin Whitney-Smith

Technical Director Chris Berendes

The Honduras Cross, above the central altar platform, symbolizes St. Mark's connection with the broader Anglican Communion and our obligations to our sisters and brothers around the world, particularly with our sister congregations in the San Marcos Cluster in Honduras. Eileen Blumenthal and the 2000 Mission to Honduras designed the cross, and Eileen commissioned its construction in Honduras as a gift to the St. Mark's community.

Cover Image: Scottish Stained Glass scottishstainedglass.com

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 at michele@stmarks.net

Acknowledgements & Permissions The Opening Sentences: Common Worship, The Church of England. Collect: Randy Marks and Christopher Phillips. Prayers of the People: The Reverend Devon Anderson, Women's UnCommon Prayer (2000). Post-communion prayer: Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006). Blessing: Based Henri -Fredrick Amiel's writings. Eucharistic Prayer: Enriching our Worship Church Publishing. The Peace, Confession, Absolutions and Apostle's Creed The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Invitation to Common, Common Usage St. Mark's Episcopal Church. The Dismissal: (adapted) The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. | Not here for high and holy things. Words: Geoffrey Anketel Studdert-Kennedy (1883-1929). Music: Morning song, melody att. Elkanah Kelsay Dare (1782-1826); harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944). Copyright: Words: By permission of Hodder and Stoughton Limited. Music: © The Church Pension Fund. Gospel Responses. Music: Jeff Kempskie, used with permission. Cantate Domino. Music: Hans Leo Hassler. Public domain. O Master, let me walk with thee. Washington Gladden (1836-1918). Music: de Tar, Calvin Hampton (1938-1984). Copyright: Music: Copyright © 1973 Concordia Publishing House. Used with permission. Sanctus & Benedictus, & Christ Our Passover. Music: Festival Eucharist, Craig Phillips (b. 1961), © 2006 Paraclete Press, Orleans, MA. Used with permission. All who hunger gather gladly. Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993). Music: Holy Manna, from The Southern Harmony, 1835; alt. harm., Columbian Harmony, 1825. I Want Jesus to Walk with Me. Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Carl Haywood (b. 1949), from The Haywood Collection of Negro Spirituals Copyright: © 1992 Carl Haywood. Come, labor on. Words: Jane Laurie Borthwick (1813-1897), alt. Music: Ora Labora, Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953). All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. All selections: All rights reserved. Reprinted and livestreamed under OneLicense.net A-718991.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Capitol Hill

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The Vestry

Senior Warden	Jim Brooks	srwarden@stmarks.net	
Junior Warden	David Wellman	juniorwarden@stmarks.net	
Class of '24	Christoph Berendes, Katherine Buchanan, and Jeb Ory		
Class of '25	Harrison Donnelly, Jan Lipscomb, and Nick Rogers		
Class of '26	Travis Beaty, Meg Platt, and Todd Thorpe		
Officers	Randy Marks, Treasurer		
	Bill Jordan, Asst. Treasurer		
	Shay Waye, Clerk		
	Martha Huizenga, Manciple		
	Rosemary Harold, Vestry Counsel		

Diocesan Delegates

Maureen Shea (2026), Tom Getman (2025), and Mary Neznek (2024)

The upcoming Vestry Meetings are held on Zoom on these dates. Contact <u>Michele</u> for the link if you want to join us: Tuesday 7pm on 9/26

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Adelphi
Pray for church musicians and choirs
Pray for international human rights and all organizations and individuals that promote peace and justice worldwide

Anglican Communion

The Church of Ireland

Parish Prayer List

Louise Abbot • Ben Alquiros • Nora Alquiros • Eileen Blumenthal
Pamela Blumgart • Joseph Boone • Greg Burton • Fairfield Butt

Alexander Casadonte • Presiding Bishop Michael Curry • Shadi Khoury • Martin De Nys
Mary De Nys • Charley Donnelly • Pete Eveleth • Candance Golladay
Gale Johnson • Pat Latin • Nat Marks • Taylor Emerson Marks
Mac McLaughlin • Pam Burton Moore • David Peterson • Sylvia Peterson
James and Wanda Pittman • Deb Sullivan • Olga, Tony & Anthony Sullivan
Eleanor Whitman • Joel Wilson • Rita Wolfinger
Geoffrey Wood • May Yazawa • Tom Zarek

Parishioners and Family Members Serving in the Military

Chase Allen Ammon • Clint Billings • Jason Earnest • Noah Landen

If you would like to request to add or remove a name, please email the Bulletin Coordinator at <u>bulletin@stmarks.net</u>

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!

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 September 24, 2023
Name		
E-mail		
Phone No.		
Zip Code		
I am interested in lea		
	BECOMING A MEMBER Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Ser 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)	ver, Altar Guild, etc.)

You can stay up to date on St. Mark's news by signing up online for the weekly eGospel newsletter at www.stmarks.net/contact-us/. If you'd like to join the St. Mark's egroup to interact with other parishioners, please contact Raiford Gaffney (rgaffneydc@gmail.com).