

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 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 1, 2023

5:00 PM 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

To view the **parish calendar online**, please visit our homepage, www.stmarks.net, and click "Calendar" at the top.

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 acknowledgment 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 for meaningful, mutual healing.

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING SENTENCES

The new day reveals itself in every moment, and by the grace of God, all things are made possible. Come, let us give thanks.

We thank you, blessed, mysterious Life-giver, for one more day to experience the miracle of creation. With every word, we affirm your transforming love for each of us and give thanks.

A period of silence is observed.

THE COLLECT

The Holy Spirit is upon you!
And also upon you!

Let us pray:

**All-seeing God, grant us grace to set aside the consuming of our world. That we follow the way of blessed Francis, that for the love of the creation, we may delight in your whole world, take responsibility for our failures, and work to change how we live.
Amen.**

FIRST READING From The Koran Surah 36, Ya Sin Ayats, vv. 81-83

Is not He Who created
The heavens and the earth
Able to create the like
Thereof? – Yeah, indeed!
For He is the Creator Supreme,
Of skill and knowledge (infinite)!
Verily, when He intends
A thing, His command is,
“Be,” and it is!
So glory to Him
In Whose Hands is
The dominion of all things:
And to Him will ye
Be all brought back.

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

A period of silence is observed.

SECOND READING Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, “Give us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?” But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

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

The people stand as able

THE GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

The Gospel of Jesus according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Gospel of Jesus.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated

HOMILY

The Reverend Christopher Phillips

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Based on the hymn, For the beauty of the earth,

words by Folliot Sandford Pierpoint

For the beauty of the earth, let us pray, saying,
Thanks be to God!

For boundless sky, suns and moons, and stars of night, for depth of sea, ocean's
roar and tides, let us pray, saying,
Thanks be to God!

For breathtaking mount and vale, breath-giving tree and flower, and bountiful
creatures that walk and swim and fly, let us pray, saying,
Thanks be to God!

For the breadth of the hours, day and night, the gift of time to live and to love, let
us pray, saying,
Thanks be to God!

For the blessing of physical sense and inspiration of soul to perceive and receive
the world around, let us pray, saying,
Thanks be to God!

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

Please add your petitions, either silently or aloud.

Together, let us pray,
**With spoken words and with the silent language of our hearts, we offer our
prayers in gratitude to you, our God, trusting that by your love you hear us
and that by your Spirit you strengthen us to do our faithful part to effect all
that we ask and desire. Amen.**

*Those with photos of pets or animals, or whose pets are here today,
are invited to gather around the altar for the Blessing of the Animals at this time.*

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

O gracious God, through your Spirit-breath, you give life to all things, galaxies, stars,
planets in their courses, humankind and, with us, the animals that inhabit earth, sea, and
sky, many with whom we share our life-pilgrimage, taking part in our ways, blessing us with
their presence, granting us the opportunity to render kindly service and care. Your servant,
our friend, Francis of Assisi, recognized this kinship when he called the animals, both wild
and tame, "brothers and sisters." Remembering Francis' love for them, we invoke your
blessing, O God, upon our animal friends.

Fellow creatures, companions on our earthly journey: May God, your Creator and Preserver, bless and keep you, this day and always.

Amen.

Animals and those with photos, or stuffed animals are blessed individually at this time.

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 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

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

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

EUCCHARISTIC 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:

**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.

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

children, 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

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 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

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.



Liturgical Leaders and Worship Participants

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

Preacher & Presider	The Reverend Christopher Phillips
Verger	Michael Bloomfield

The Honduras Cross, above the central altar platform, symbolizes St. Mark's connection with the broader Anglican Communion and our obligations to our siblings worldwide, 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.

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

Acknowledgments 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*.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Capitol Hill

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Office Directory

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Katherine Philipson, Bulletin Coordinator	bulletin@stmarks.net
Lydia Arnts, Seminarian	seminarian@stmarks.net

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, <i>Treasurer</i>	
	Bill Jordan, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>	
	Shay Waye, <i>Clerk</i>	
	Martha Huizenga, <i>Manciple</i>	
	Rosemary Harold, <i>Vestry Counsel</i>	

Diocesan Delegates

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

The upcoming Vestry Meetings are held on Zoom on these dates. Contact Michele for the link if you want to join us: Tuesday 7 pm on 10/ 24

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

St. Francis Church, Potomac

Pray for human treatment of all of God's creatures, especially companion, rescue, and service animals.

Anglican Communion

Season of Creation

The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

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 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 October 1, 2023

Name _____

E-mail _____

Phone No. _____

Zip Code _____

I am interested in learning more about:

- _____ BECOMING A MEMBER
- _____ 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 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).