

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 TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST A SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP

November 19, 2023

**5:00 PM HOLY EUCHARIST
& LAYING ON OF HANDS**

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 of the page.

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

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



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.



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING SENTENCES

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

A period of silence is observed.

THE COLLECT

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

Let us pray:

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE READING Judges 4:1-7

The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, after Ehud died. So the Lord sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

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

The people stand as able.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

The Gospel of Jesus according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

The Gospel of Jesus.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people sit.

HOMILY

The Reverend Thom Sinclair

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

A period of silence is observed.

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.

A period of silence is observed.

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 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.

CONFESSION

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

A period of silence is observed.

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.

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.**

Mission Moment

Gun Violence Prevention

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 have but little 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

*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 Thom Sinclair
Verger	Michael Bloomfield
Laying on of Hands	Stephanie Deutsch and Jillian McGreen

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: The Opening Sentences: Common Worship, *The Church of England*. Collect: Opening Prayers (1997), Alternative Collects, Prepared by the Liturgy Task Force, Faith, Worship, and Ministry Committee of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. 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

Tom Getman (2025), and Mary Neznec (2024)

The upcoming Vestry Meetings are held on these dates. Contact Michele for the link if you want to join us: Tuesday 7pm on 11/28 (online), 12/19, (Hybrid) 1/23/24 (Hybrid)

Notes

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

St. Margaret's Parish, DC

Charlie's Place Feeding Program, St. Margaret's Parish

Anglican Communion

Pray for Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

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 • Kate McFadden
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

Additional Prayers

*Pray not for Arab or Jew, for Palestinian or Israeli, but pray rather for ourselves,
that we might not divide them in our prayers, yet
keep them both together in our hearts.*

(The Reverend. Sari Ateek, Rector of St. John's Norwood Episcopal Church in Bethesda
and a Palestinian American.)

Parishioners who have died

Fairfield Butt and Bill Flanders

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*

St. Mark's Annual Stewardship Appeal 2024

What is stewardship?

Stewardship means that we individually and collectively make gifts of financial resources and of time and talents to support the mission and ministries of St. Mark's. In addition to money, time and service given to others are also critical components of stewardship - our church can't function without gifts of money, time, and service.

Why is pledging important?

Each year, we ask you to commit to the practice of financially supporting the parish. The vestry does its best to operate the church on a sound basis, and knowing what the church can expect in income enhances the vestry's ability to plan responsibly. About 77% of our annual income comes from pledging. St Mark's operating budget supports the ministry and mission of the church, it supports our staff, maintenance, and programs as well as the programs of the dioceses and the larger Episcopal Church. Your pledge enables us to tell the good news of Jesus in the world and our commitment to telling the story in a concrete way.

How much should I give? Am I expected to tithe?

The most important thing is to make a pledge and gift that is meaningful to you. The concept of tithing – giving 10% of your income – is rooted in scripture and Episcopal doctrine, yet today, we all receive appeals from multiple organizations and causes, so we may share our “tithe” among multiple organizations, many of which have large and broad donor bases.

Most of us want our financial gifts to make a real impact and since St. Mark's has a potential donor base of 300 households, your gift to St. Mark's makes a very large impact on our ability to fulfill the many important ministries that support our parish and community.

Why should every member pledge?

We give so that we can be part of a community and be in relationship to God. We all expect the church to be here when we need it—baptisms, weddings, funerals, and, of course, every single Sunday of the year. Together, we share responsibility to fund these ministries. We know that the past few years have been challenging for many and that our costs will likely increase in the coming year. We ask that you consider making, and if possible increasing, your pledge this year.

How do I make my pledge?

Fill out and return a pledge card (there is one on the following page). You may also pledge online at <https://www.stmarks.net/get-involved/donate-pledge/>

St. Mark's Annual Stewardship Appeal 2024



St. Mark's depends on donations to sustain its programs and facilities. The annual church operating budget is based on the sum of these pledges, and the number of programs and service and social justice activities that St. Mark's is able to offer depends directly on our collective generosity.

Amount of your Pledge \$ _____

_____ ANNUAL PLEDGE. I/We pledge to contribute to support the work of the church during the year 2024.

_____ NEWCOMER PLEDGE. I am/We are new this year. I/We pledge to contribute something to support the church during the year 2024.

_____ LEGACY POSSIBILITY. Please send information about how to include St. Mark's in my/our will or estate plan.

_____ LEGACY. I/We have already included St. Mark's in my/our estate plan.

Name: _____

Additional names (if pledging as a household):

Address: _____

Apt.: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile /Work/Home

To make a pledge online, please visit <https://www.stmarks.net/get-involved/donate-pledge/>



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 November 19, 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).