

# **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 12, 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 Kempkie

# Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church ☩ Capitol Hill



To view the **parish calendar online**, please visit our homepage [www.stmarks.net](http://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](http://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 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.



# 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:

**O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE READING Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight.

He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.”

But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the Lord, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand as able.*

**THE GOSPEL** Matthew 25:1-13

The Gospel of Jesus according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of Jesus.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people sit.*

## HOMILY

The Reverend Christopher Phillips

## 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.**

## **CONFESSIO**

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.**

## **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](mailto:Christopher@stmarks.net)*

**Presider and Preacher**      The Reverend Christopher Phillips

**Verger**                              Malissa Zimmerman

**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](mailto: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

301 A Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

202-543-0053  
www.stmarks.net

## Office Directory

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan, Rector	michele@stmarks.net
The Reverend Christopher Phillips, Associate Rector	christopher@stmarks.net
The Reverend Patricia Catalano, Liturgy & Pastoral Associate	adjunct@stmarks.net
The Reverend Thom Sinclair, Deacon	deacon@stmarks.net
Annemarie Quigley, Deacon Intern	annemarie@stmarks.net
Jeff Kempskie, Director of Music	jeff@stmarks.net
Caleb Nelson Amaker, Director of Youth & Family Ministries	youthdirector@stmarks.net
Michael Gravlee, Parish Administrator for Building and Facilities	parishadmin@stmarks.net
Annick Milde, Parish Administrator for Finance	pfa@stmarks.net
Judith Rautenberg, Children's Choir Director	judith@stmarks.net
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*

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# 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 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](mailto: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 12, 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/](http://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](mailto:rgaffneydc@gmail.com)).*