WELCOME TO ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH E 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 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2023

5:00 PM Advent Lessons & Carols

Rector

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Assistant Rector

The Reverend Christopher Phillips

Deacon

The Reverend Thom Sinclair

Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Caleb Nelson Amaker

Director of Music

Jeff Kempskie

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

Masks are optional at St. Mark's and you may continue to wear them during the service.

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

H H H

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.

SERVICE OF ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

The congregation is invited to remain seated for the readings and carols and to stand for the singing of hymns.

PRELUDE Praeludium on Veni, Emmanuel

setting by Marilyn Biery (b. 1959)

The people stand as able.

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Dear Friends: In the stillness and quiet of this church we gather at the beginning of the Advent season; a season of waiting with great expectation for the coming of Christ, not only as a baby born to Mary, but as God's response to problems and troubles of the world, and, finally, as a holy presence in our hearts. Let us listen carefully to the readings which prophesy the first coming of Emmanuel, God with us; and may we find within ourselves a renewed sense of Christ's presence.

During this service, may we also pray and look for a new vision of God's relationship to our world. That through our ministries and works—our commitment to the poor and oppressed, the sick and the destitute, prisoners and hostages, the forgotten and outcast—the ancient prophecies may again be fulfilled in our time. May we have ears to hear, minds to perceive, and hearts ready to receive. **Amen.**

And now, to sum up all these petitions, let us pray in the words which Christ has taught us, saying:

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.

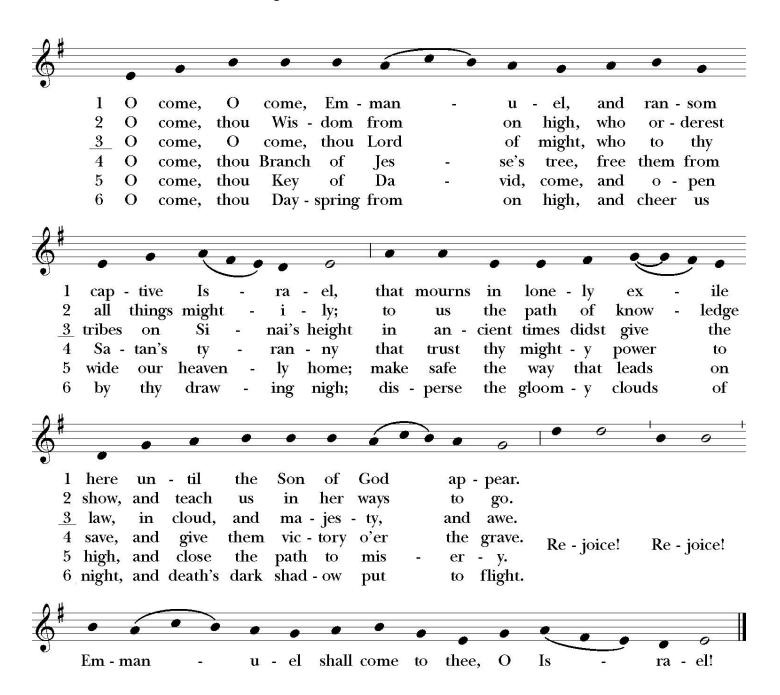
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Almighty bless us with God's grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 56 O come, O come, Emmanuel Veni, veni, Emmanuel

v. 1 all, v. 2 high voices, v. 3 all, v. 4 low voices, vv. 5-6 all



The people sit.

FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:8-14

Adam and Eve rebel against God

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life."

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

CAROL Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Elizabeth Poston

Chancel Choir; Marjorie Coombs Wellman, soloist

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green: The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but ne'er can tell The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all; but now I see 'tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile: Under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

SECOND LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11

God comforts his people and calls on them to prepare for redemption

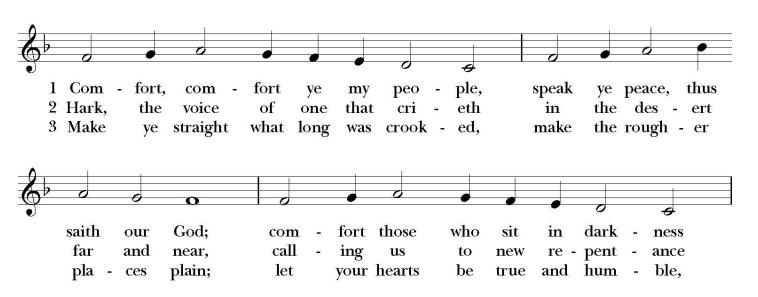
Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" Behold, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

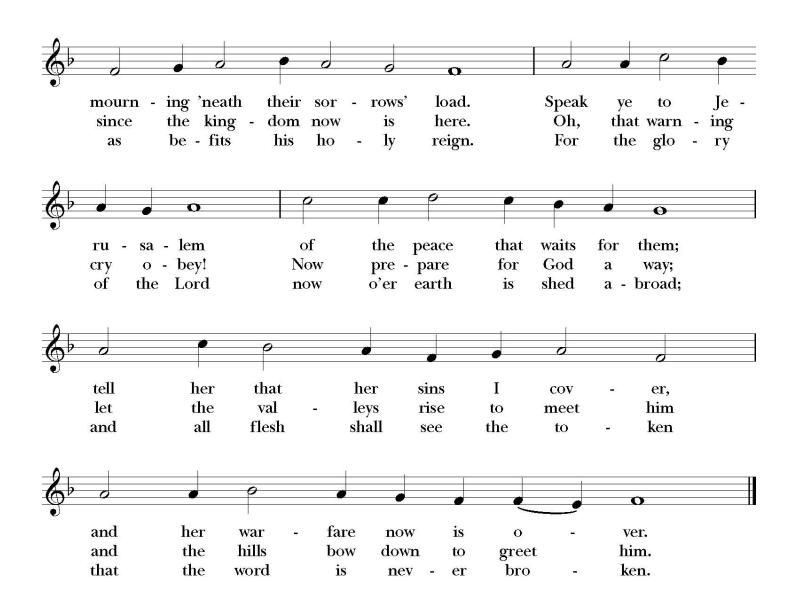
Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 67 Comfort, comfort ye my people

Psalm 42





THIRD LESSON Jeremiah 31:31-34

A new covenant is promised

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

Chancel Choir; Nicholas Simons, Luke Giannini, & Christina Herman, soloists

Drop down, O heavens from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

Turn your anger from us, O Lord, and no longer remember our iniquities: For behold, the city of the Holy One has become a desert, Sion a wilderness: Jerusalem a desolation: this hallowed and glorious house, where our fathers praised you.

We have sinned, and have become like the unclean; we are fallen like a leaf, our iniquities like the wind have swept us away. You have hidden your face from us, and abandoned us to our wickedness.

Behold, O Lord, the afflictions of your people, and send forth the Lamb, the ruler of the earth, From the Rock of the desert, to the mountain of the daughter of Sion, That he may take away the yoke of our captivity.

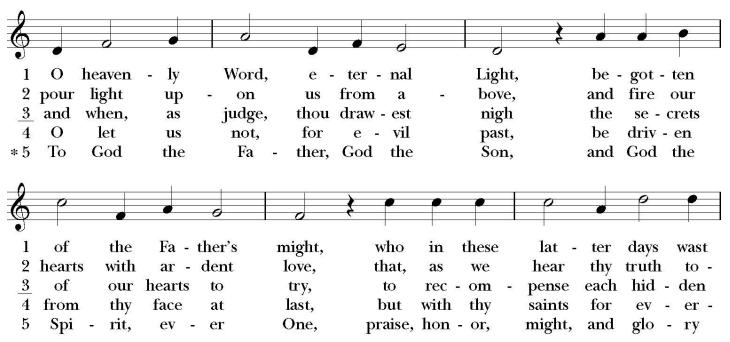
Be comforted, O my people, for your salvation shall quickly come.

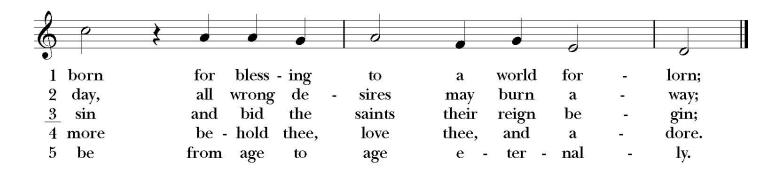
Why have grief and sorrow consumed you?

I will save you: do not fear: for I am the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, your Redeemer.

HYMN 64 O heavenly Word, eternal Light

O Heiland reiss





FOURTH LESSON Micah 5:2-4

The one who is to rule Israel will be born in the village of Bethlehem.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL We Wait for thy loving kindness

William McKie

Chancel Choir; Aaron Tucker, soloist

We wait for thy loving kindness, O God: in the midst of thy temple. Alleluya.
O God, according to thy Name,
So is thy praise unto the world's end.
Thy right hand is full of righteousness: Alleluya.
O Lord send us now prosperity. Amen.

FIFTH LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10

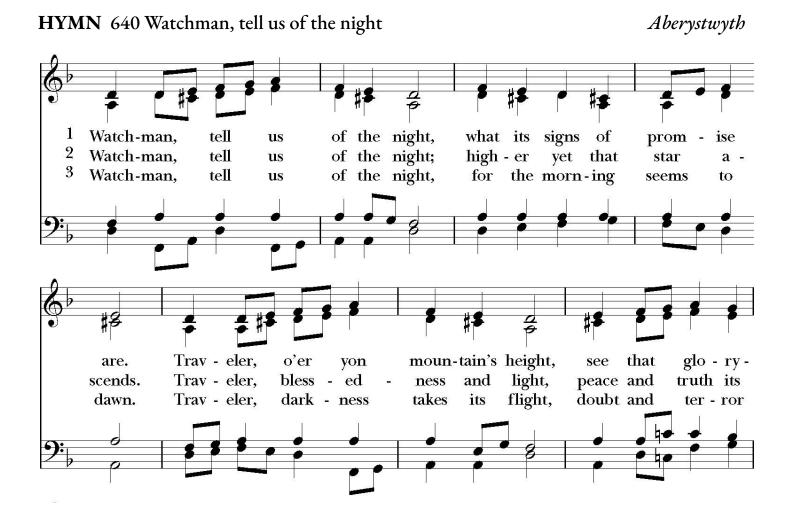
The prophet Isaiah proclaims good news to those in exile

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say

to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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





SIXTH LESSON Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord will be among us; we are summoned to rejoice and sing

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you[a] in his love; he will exult over you with

loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL O Radiant Dawn

James MacMillan

Chancel Choir

O Radiant Dawn, Splendor of eternal Light, Sun of Justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

Isaiah had prophesied, 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.'

Amen.

SEVENTH LESSON Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will bear the Son of the Most High

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called the Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able.

COLLECTS

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous, and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of the bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CLERGY GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

Please consider supporting the work of the church. You may make an <u>online 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 CAROL My King Is Comin' Soon

Words & Music by Kyle Pederson

Chancel Choir; Lou Bayard, soloist

Soloist: When is my king a-comin'? Lord hear my cry.

The king is comin', my king is comin' soon.

Soloist: Lord, I am tired, and heavy is my burden. I'm down in the valley, starin' at the mountain. You split the mighty waters of the Red Sea; Lord, will you split the rising waters all around me?

Well, he showed up for Moses, and he showed up for Daniel, and he showed up for David when he fought Goliath.

Soloist: The world is weary and heavy with its hunger, We wait on your promise no matter how much longer. A child will be comin', the prophets all have spoken; Freeing the captives and healing all that's broken.

When is my king a-comin'? He will come. When are you comin', Lord? My king is comin' so soon!

A period of silence is kept.

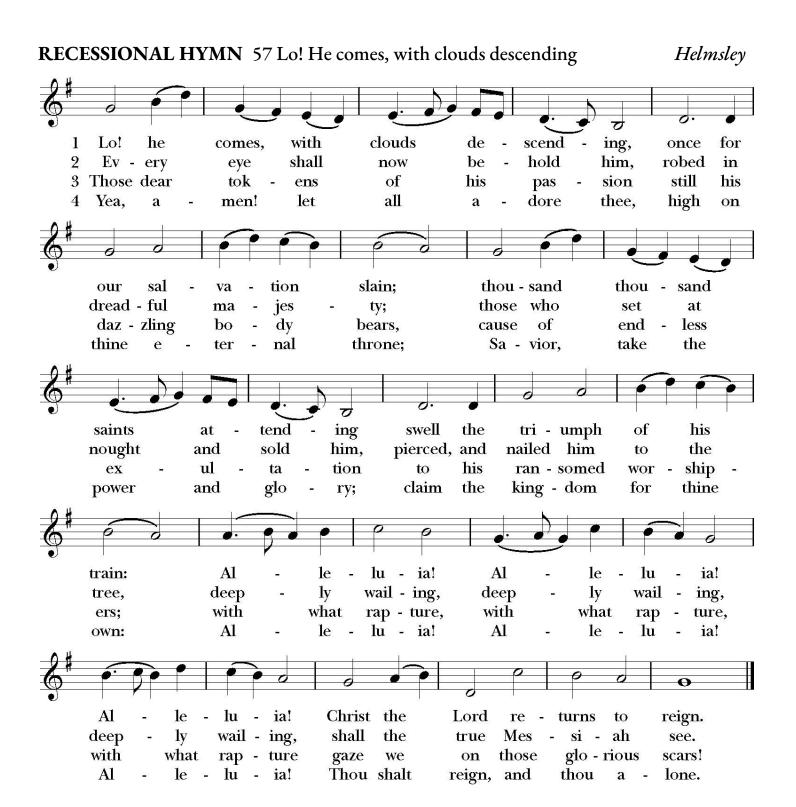
The people stand as able.

COLLECT

O Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Dear God, may the presence of your Spirit lift up our hearts. And may the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit abide with us tonight. **Amen.**



POSTLUDE Chorale Prelude on 'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland'

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

Please join us for a reception in Baxter Hall following the service.

Service Participants

Officiant The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Director of Music & Organist Jeff Kempskie

2023-2024 Chancel Choir Lou Bayard, Eva-Dee Beech, Hayley Brandt,

Katherine Buchanan, Martha Connor-Donnelly

Holly Burkhalter, Charmian Crawford, Anjuli Das, Ellen Frost, Tom Getman,

Luke Giannini, Laura Gladstone, Sarah Headley,

Christina Herman, Hayley Gray-Hoehn,

Cecilie Jones, Kristina Keenan, Marika Klein,

Pam Lacey, Travis Lim, Jordan Meyer,

Claire Monteiro, Walt Moody, Lauren Mueller,

Mary Neznek, David Perry, Meg Platt,

Kathryn Powers, Sydney Register, Nick Rogers, Nicholas Simons, Rebecca Stauber, Cher Stepanek,

Doris Summey, Michael Swift, Jess Szmajda,

Aaron Tucker, David Wellman,

Marjorie Coombs Wellman, Karen Wiedemann

Readers Heather Messera, Ken Allen, Michele Rivard,

Annabelle Swift, Doris Burton, Andrew Stafford

Verger Michael Knipe

Video Director David Deutsch

Video Director Charlie Rupp

H H H

The Advent/Christmas Wreath, which was given to St. Mark's by Scilla Adams in loving memory of her father, Colonel Neil Ramsay, was hand-forged by Richard A. Martin, a metal sculpture in Alexandria, Virginia. This work is made of steel with solid-link chains and hammered drip pans, painted black and measuring three feet in diameter, with a cross hanging beneath the central candle.

The Epiphany Star above the altar is a gift from Joya Cox, its creator. It is an icosahedron, a figure with 20 plane surfaces, each of which also serves as the base of a pyramid. As its name indicates, the star was originally commissioned to mark the Epiphany, the Christian feast day commemorating the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, and Jesus Christ's physical manifestation to the world. The imagery of a star, with its light distant but still visible, is also appropriate for Advent, and as a result is now displayed during the season of Advent as well as during Epiphanytide.

* * *

Permissions

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us. Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944). Music: Wachet auf, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Words: © 1982, by Hope Publishing Company. Adam lay ybounden. Words: anon. 15th century. Music: Philip Ledger, © 1980 Oxford University Press. Keep your lamps. Music: Spiritual, arr. Andre Thomas © 1982 & 2003 Hinshaw Music Inc. *Watchman*, tell us of the night. Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: Aberystwyth, Joseph Parry (1841-1903). Comfort, comfort ye my people. Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: Psalm 42, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. Hymnal 1982. Emmanuel - God With Us. Words & Music: Jeffrey Honore, 2019 GIA Publications. Rejoice! rejoice, believers. Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: Llangloffan, melody from Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru, 1865. A Child's Advent Prayer. Words: Lucia Welch. Music: Randolph Currie, © 1987 GIA Publications. Motet for the Annunciation. Words: From Festal Menaion, © 1985 by the sisters of the Order of St. Basil the Great, Uniontown, PA. Music: Frank Ferko, © 1996 E.C. Schirmer Music Company. The angel Gabriel from heaven came. Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924). Music: Gabriel's Message, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943), © 1961 B. Feldman and Co Ltd., trading as H. Freeman & Co. Reproduced by permission of EMI Music Publishing Ltd. O come, O come, Emmanuel. Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt. Music: Veni, veni, Emmanuel, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright: Words: © The Church Pension Fund. All selections: All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-718991.

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
The Reverend Christopher Phillips, Associate Rector
The Reverend Patricia Catalano, Liturgy & Pastoral Associate
The Reverend Thom Sinclair, Deacon
Annemarie Quigley, Deacon Intern
Jeff Kempskie, Director of Music
Caleb Nelson Amaker, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Michael Gravlee, Parish Administrator for Building and Facilities
Annick Milde, Parish Administrator for Finance
Judith Rautenberg, Children's Choir Director
Katherine Philipson, Bulletin Coordinator
Lydia Arnts, Seminarian

michele@stmarks.net christopher@stmarks.net adjunct@stmarks.net deacon@stmarks.net annemarie@stmarks.net jeff@stmarks.net youthdirector@stmarks.net parishadmin@stmarks.net pfa@stmarks.net judith@stmarks.net bulletin@stmarks.net 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 Neznek (2024)

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

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

St. Nicholas' Parish, Germantown
Episcopal Church Women
United Thank Offering
Our brothers, sisters and siblings of Jewish Faith as Chanukah begins
International Human Rights Day (December 10)

Anglican Communion

Pray for The Diocese of Banks and Torres - The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Parish Prayer List

Louise Abbot • Ben Alquiros • Nora Alquiros • Eileen Blumenthal
Pamela Blumgart • Joseph Boone • Greg Burton
Alexander Casadonte • 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
Rector Michele Morgan • 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

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 December 3, 2023
Name		
E-mail		
Phone No.		
Zip Code		
I am interested in lear		
	BECOMING A MEMBER Volunteering during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, A 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)	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).