

**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 life's struggles and to care for others with love, justice, and compassion.



**THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

September 13, 2026

5:00 PM HOLY EUCHARIST

**Following the Service
PARISH COOKOUT**

Rector

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Associate Rector

The Reverend Caitlin Frazier

Pastoral Associate

The Reverend Patricia Catalano

Director of Music

Jeff Kempskie

Children, Youth, & Family

Ministry Director

Lisa Ramish



To view the **parish calendar online**, go to 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. St. Mark’s is also equipped with a hearing loop. This allows many hearing aid wearers to use their hearing aids’ telecoil, or *T-coil*, setting to transmit speech picked up by the microphones directly to their aids. Enabling this setting on your hearing aids may make it easier to hear and understand people using wireless mics or speaking at the podiums.



Restrooms are available in the foyer, with more downstairs.

Land Acknowledgment – 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

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness:
let the whole earth stand in awe

A period of silence is observed.

THE COLLECT

God be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray,

Compassionate God, whose mercy is without measure, forgive us our trespasses and move our hearts to forgive as we have been forgiven; grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may release others from the debts they owe us and extend mercy freely; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A period of silence is observed.

THE FIRST READING Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

The Gospel of Jesus according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of Jesus.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

THE AFFIRMATION

I believe in the Source Eternal, the creator of the universe, who spoke, “Let there be light!” and there was light, setting in motion all of creation and blessing it to this day.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Light that shines in the darkness; the darkness cannot overcome him. He manifests God in our midst, suffered under sin on the Cross, and lives as God’s saving grace.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the guiding light of God in our world, who conquers the darkness of human sin, helps people grow and become the images of God we are meant to be. I believe in the power of transformation, here in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray that those who died in the attacks of September 11, 2001, and all those who are still mourning their loss may find peace in God.

God of compassion, be present.

Let us pray that we may grant healing to the wounds of all those who survived the attacks and to those whose lives were deeply changed on that day, giving them strength for every new day.

God of compassion, be present.

Let us pray that, in remembering September 11, we may do so with humility and gratitude, seek justice balanced by mercy, and continue our steadfast effort towards peace.

God of compassion, be present.

Let us pray that God may protect all those who live in the shadow of war, terrorism, persecution, or hatred and may bring the innocent victims of violence around the world to places of safety and peace.

God of compassion, be present.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Members of the community may now offer petitions, ending with
"This is my prayer," to which all will respond, "Amen."*

Together, let us pray.

Holy God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is observed.

Together,
Forgiving God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

God forgives you, forgive yourself and go in peace.
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

Love others the way Christ loved us. He willingly gave of his life as an offering.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

God 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.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God;
through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created
all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out
from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.
Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as
we shout with joy:

**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.**

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a
people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them
to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to
proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life,
reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had
given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body,
broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:

“Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ’s coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit’s power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN

THE LORD’S PRAYER

And now, as Jesus taught us, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. 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 put out your hands to help guide the cup to your lips, and drink.

If you do not wish to receive the wine, please cross your hands over your chest. Please refrain from intincting (dipping) the host (the bread) into the wine.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray,

Eternal God, comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken, you have fed us at the table of life and hope: teach us the ways of gentleness and peace, that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Worship Participants

Ministers	All the Members of St. Mark's
Presider & Preacher	The Reverend Michele H. Morgan
Verger	Michael Bloomfield

Acknowledgments: Opening Sentences: adapted from Psalm 96.9. The Collect: Morgan Prayers of the People: *Book of Common Prayer (USA)* and Morgan & Ecklo The Affirmation: *Book of Common Prayer (Scotland)*.: *The Book of Common Prayer*. The Confession: *The Church of England Forms of Penitence*. Eucharistic Prayer: Prayer 3 from *Enriching Our Worship*. Post-Communion Prayer: *Church of England Common Worship*. The Blessing: based on a quote by Henri-Frédéric Amiel

Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

The Church of the Holy Communion, DC • Holy Cross Day (Sep 14)

Pray for church musicians and choirs

Anglican Communion

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Parish Prayer List

Ben Alquiros • Nora Alquiros • Pam Baugh • Alex Beau • Diane Burke
Jackie Boddie • Joseph Boone • Suzanne Burnette • Mark, Karen, Abby & Aimee Dahl
Martin & Mary De Nys • Charley Donnelly Leonard "Toby" Ellison • Karen Falk
Eddie Garnett • Jack Guza • Dianne Hall Michael Henely • David Hoffman
Jack Howell • Gale Johnson • Shadi Khoury Hatcher Byrd Kincheloe • Sara L.
Pat Latin • Mary Law • Marwan Ibrahim Maadi • Lila Marks • Nat Marks
Taylor Emerson Marks • Sis McKay • Walt Moody • Elizabeth Molyé
Fred Muller (and family) • Bruce Noble • Barbara Page • Malik Robinson Jr
T.H. Salmon • Ben Schaibly Bob Schaaf • Stephanie Seely • Elin Whitney Smith
Richard Smith • Helen Soheilli • Martha Kincheloe Spain • Barbara Starkey
Deb Sullivan • Anthony Sullivan • Yasser & Jawaher Toshtash • David Thacker
Carol Thornhill • Stephanie Toth • Kevin White • Karen Clarke Wiedemann
Stephen Wolf • Geoffrey Wood • Tom Zarek

For Those Who Have Died

Tracy Councill • Bob Beauchamp

For New Arrivals

Lucy Florence Kempskie

Parishioners and Family Members Serving in the Military

Clint Billings • Jason Earnest • Noah Landen
Ensign Andrew Loevinger • Lt. Tyler Gray-Hoehn • 1st Lt. Colin Gray-Hoehn

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

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Office Directory

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Jeff Kempskie, Director of Music	jeff@stmarks.net
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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

The Vestry

Senior Warden	Alix Pereira	srwarden@stmarks.net
Junior Warden	Martha Huizenga	juniorwarden@stmarks.net
Class of '27	Elizabeth Becker, Kristina Keenan, Doug Padgett	
Class of '28	Mary Ellison, Ben Flowers, Katherine White	
Class of '29	Laura Gladstone, Randy Marks, Bo Ranney	

Officers

Doug Ammon, <i>Treasurer</i>	Ryan Baugh, <i>Clerk</i>
Roy Phillips, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>	Karen Wiedemann, <i>Vestry Counsel</i>
Nick Simons, <i>Risk Manager</i>	

Diocesan Delegates

J.R. Randall (2027), Mary Neznok (2027), Jan Lipscomb (2028), Michael Knipe (2029)

Upcoming Vestry Meetings will be held on September 29 at 7:00 PM in Person only in Baxter Hall. If you have questions, contact the Vestry Clerk at clerk@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. If you have questions, please speak with the clergy or one of the greeters after the service.

To complete this form online, or sign up for our weekly newsletter, use this QR code:



I attended: _____ 5:00 p.m. Worship Service on September 13, 2026

Name _____

E-mail _____

Phone No. _____

Zip Code _____

I am interested in learning more about:

- _____ Becoming a member
- _____ Service and Social Justice
- _____ Adult education classes and prayer groups
- _____ Volunteer during worship (Greet, Lay Serve, Altar Guild, Read, etc.)
- _____ Baptism/Confirmation (child, adult)
- _____ Music (choir, lessons)
- _____ Children/youth classes & programs including Sunday School
- _____ Affinity groups (20s/30s, Men's Group, Women's Group)
- _____ Getting married at St. Mark's
- _____ Meditation Center
- _____ Yoga classes
- _____ Dance classes
- _____ St. Mark's Players (theatrical productions)

Anything else you would like to share?

Thank you for visiting St. Mark's today. *Go in peace and return often!*