

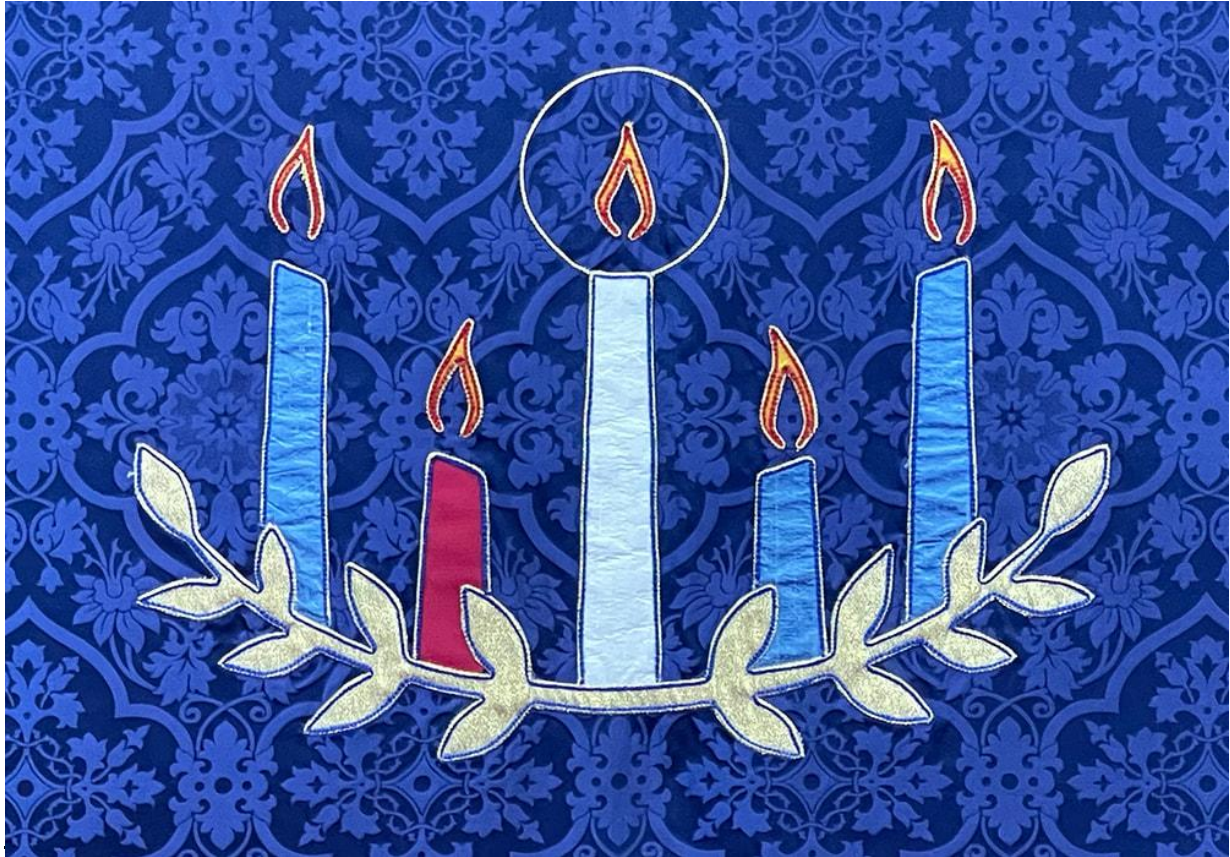


# SAINT MARK'S

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## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**DECEMBER 21, 2025 • HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II • 10:30 A.M.**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



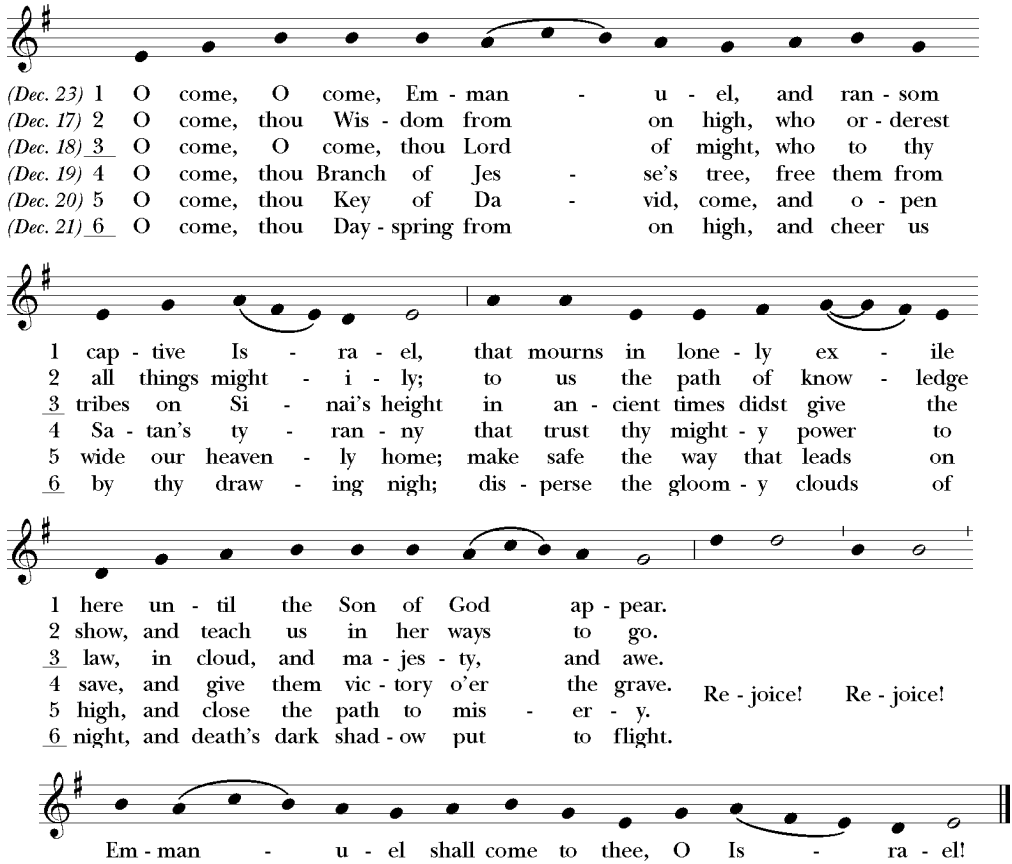
## **WELCOME!**

**We celebrate God's love by welcoming all people  
into a life with Jesus Christ and each other.**

Your presence blesses us, and we pray this service of worship will be a blessing to you. Whether you are a first-time guest, a longtime member, or somewhere in between, welcome to this place! Together we sing, read, pray, listen, and break bread in thanksgiving and praise of the living God whose love brings new life for us and the world.

Our liturgy comes from The Book of Common Prayer. You will find the accompanying page numbers in this bulletin. It includes the liturgy of the Word and the liturgy of the Table. Please add your voice to our worship as we pray together the prayers printed in bold and sing the hymns found in this bulletin or in the blue Hymnal 1982 in your pew.

All baptized Christians – no matter your age or denomination – are welcome to receive communion. If you are more comfortable coming forward for a blessing, please cross your arms and a blessing will be offered over you. Children are a welcome blessing here at St. Mark's. Many depart after the beginning of the service for Children's Chapel.



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.

Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

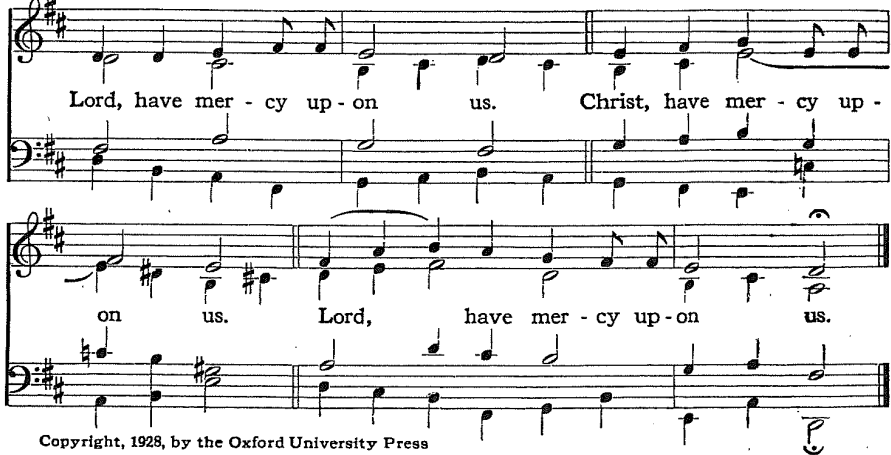
Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.  
Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright: Words: © The Church Pension Fund Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-729915.

**THE WORD OF GOD**

CELEBRANT Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

PEOPLE **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

CELEBRANT Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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From *The Hymnal* 1940. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-729915.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE **And also with you.**

CELEBRANT Let us pray.

CELEBRANT Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*The People may be seated. The Children are invited to depart for Chapel.*

## THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 7:10-16

READER A reading from the book of Isaiah.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel* (Please remain seated as the Choir sings the chant.)

*Plainsong*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

## THE EPISTLE: ROMANS 1:1-7

READER A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

*Descant*

5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: “Christ is nigh,” it seems to say;  
 2 Wak-ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth’s bond-age let us rise;  
 3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;  
 4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,  
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end-ing a - ges run.

1 “Cast a - way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day.”  
 2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn-ing skies.  
 3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;  
 4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.  
 5 with the ev - er - last-ing Spi - rit while un - end-ing a - ges run.

Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt.  
 Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

**THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 1:18-25** (*Please remain standing.*)

GOSPELER The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

PEOPLE **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
 and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

GOSPELER The Gospel of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**THE SERMON**

The Rev. Keith Giblin, *Priest Associate*

**THE NICENE CREED** (*The People stand and join in saying the Creed together.*)

*The Book of Common Prayer* p. 358

We believe in one God,  
 the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth,  
 of all that is, seen and unseen.  
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,  
 eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light,  
 true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 of one Being with the Father.  
 Through him all things were made.  
 For us and for our salvation  
     he came down from heaven:  
 by the power of the Holy Spirit  
     he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
     and was made man.  
 For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
     he suffered death and was buried.  
 On the third day he rose again  
     in accordance with the Scriptures;  
     he ascended into heaven  
     and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
     and his kingdom will have no end.  
 We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
 With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
 He has spoken through the Prophets.  
 We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
 We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
 We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
     and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** *(Form III) (The People may stand or kneel.)*  
*The Leader and People pray responsively*

*The Book of Common Prayer p. 387*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**  
 Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**  
 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.**  
 Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**  
 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.**  
 We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**  
 Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.  
*Silence may be kept. The Celebrant concludes with a Collect.*

## **THE CONFESSION OF SIN**

*The Book of Common Prayer p. 360*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.  
*Minister and People*  
**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.

*The Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on 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 Book of Common Prayer p. 360*

CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
 PEOPLE And also with you.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

arr. Douglas B. King (b. 1954)

*The text of this morning's anthem may be found at Hymn 81.*

### PRESENTATION HYMN "Come, thou long expected Jesus" *(All stand and join in singing.)*

Hymnal 66

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
 from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B *(The People remain standing.)*

*The Book of Common Prayer p. 367*

CELEBRANT The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE And also with you.

CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE We lift them to the Lord.

CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE It is right to give him thanks and praise.

CELEBRANT It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD: SANCTUS *(Sung by all.)*

S 130

The musical score is written for SATB choir in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of eight systems of staves. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The score features various musical notations including whole, half, quarter, and eighth notes, rests, and ties. The lyrics are placed below the vocal staves, with some words spanning across measures.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and  
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,  
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are  
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) | Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.; Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-729915.

*The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant then praises God for the salvation of the world through Jesus Christ our Lord and recalls the institution of the Lord's Supper.*



Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
**We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory.**

*The Celebrant continues...*

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

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 Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

## **FRACTION ANTHEM** *(Sung by all.)*

S 164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

CELEBRANT The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The People sit. Please follow the directions of the ushers. The altar of Saint Mark's Church is God's Table, and all are welcome. If you are more comfortable coming forward for a blessing, please cross your arms and a blessing will be offered over you.*

## **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

*Please join the Choir in singing Hymns 73 and 74.*

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER** *(Spoken by all, standing.)*

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **COMMENDATION OF THOSE TAKING COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND** *(As needed.)*

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth, bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

## **THE BLESSING**



## CLOSING HYMN “People, look East” (*Sung by all.*)

1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown-ing of the  
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed  
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be  
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall  
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to

1. year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the  
2. there: give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may  
3. filled. E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ling time has  
4. brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun and moon to -  
5. earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum-ming with the word, the Lord is

1. ta - ble. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.  
2. flour-ish. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on the way.  
3. cho - sen. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on the way.  
4. geth - er. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on the way.  
5. com-ing. Peo-ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) | Music: *Besançon Carol*, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944) | Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-729915.

## DISMISSAL

DEACON Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE Improvisation on “People, Look East”

## MUSIC NOTES

Our beloved Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ (Opus 1391) is “away” undergoing a complete restoration. We expect it to return in early 2026. We are grateful to the parishioners, community members, and foundations who have come forward to graciously support our preservation of this historic instrument. Our project is now fully funded, thanks be to God. We anticipate the organ will be complete in time for Easter!

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**COME BACK FOR LESSONS & CAROLS  
TONIGHT!**

# A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS

**DECEMBER 21, 2025 | 5PM**

**ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
680 CALDER | DOWNTOWN BEAUMONT**

**FREE | RECEPTION FOLLOWS | NURSERY PROVIDED**





# CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARK'S

## **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 | 4PM CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST**

A family service featuring Children's Sermon and beautiful music with Choirs and Organ.  
*Nursery provided. Livestreamed.*

## **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 | 7PM CHRISTMAS EVE HOLY EUCHARIST**

A joyous, festival service with Parish Choir and Organ.

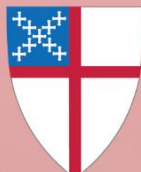
## **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 | 10AM CHRISTMAS DAY HOLY EUCHARIST**

A reflective, spoken service to celebrate Jesus' birth.

## **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28 | 10:30AM CHRISTMAS CAROLS & HOLY EUCHARIST**

End the year at St. Mark's with your favorite carols!

**ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
680 CALDER | DOWNTOWN BEAUMONT**





## **THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S**

### **Sunday, December 21**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (*Spoken*)  
9:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation (*The Cloister*)  
9:15 a.m. Stockings for Seniors  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (*With Music*)  
5:00 p.m. Lessons & Carols

### **Monday, December 22**

12:00 p.m. AA

### **Tuesday, December 23**

10:00 a.m. Al-Anon  
12:00 p.m. Healing Service  
12:00 p.m. AA

### **Wednesday, December 24**

12:00 p.m. AA  
4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve: Family Service  
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve: Festival Service

### **Thursday, December 25**

10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service (*Spoken*)

### **Friday, December 26**

*Parish Office Closed*

## **SAVE THE DATE**

December 24 Christmas Eve Services at 4 & 7 p.m.  
December 25 Christmas Day Service 10 a.m. (*Spoken*)  
December 28 Christmas Carol Sing at 10:30 a.m.  
January 11 Burning of the Greens at 5 p.m.  
January 25 Quarterly Parish Meeting at 9:15 a.m.  
January 30 Treasure House Jubilee at 6 p.m.

## **CLERGY AND PROGRAM STAFF**

The Rt. Rev. C. Andrew Doyle, *Bishop of Texas*  
The Rev. Dr. James M. Pevehouse, *Rector*  
The Rev. Christopher Hilton, *Curate*  
The Rev. Keith Giblin, *Priest Associate*  
The Rev. Tracie Middleton, *Deacon*  
Jordan Williams, *Organist-Choirmaster*  
Genevieve Brassard, *Assistant Director of Music*  
Jerome Wells, *Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus*  
Lauren Johnsen, *Director of Family Ministry*  
Paula O'Neal, *Director of Outreach*

## **Vestry**

Josh Allen, *Senior Warden*  
Ryan Schiesler, *Junior Warden*  
Jan Blessing, *Treasurer*  
James Black, *Chancellor*

### **2026**

Josh Allen  
Rebecca Boone  
Scootie Clark  
Ryan Schiesler  
Becky Underhill

### **2027**

Gail Davis  
Floyd McSpadden  
Pat Sherwood  
Ed Stedman  
Charles Teel

### **2028**

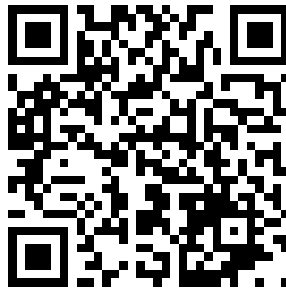
Bob Birdwell  
Ali Corcoran  
Josh Crawford  
Maris Mehaffy  
Laurel Shrontz



**SAINT MARK'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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**I'M NEW!**



**GIVE TO ST. MARK'S**

