



SAINT MARK'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 • HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II • 10:30 A.M.
THE FIRST 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.



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) | Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778);
harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.
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THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION AND COLLECT FOR PURITY

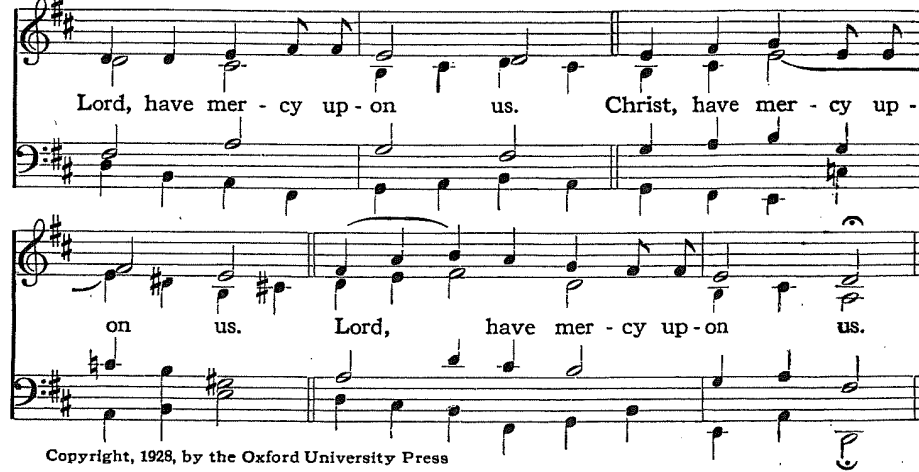
CELEBRANT Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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.*

The Book of Common Prayer p. 355

2



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 Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and 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 2:1-5

READER A reading from the book of Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 122 LAETATUS SUM *(Please remain seated as the Choir sings.)*

Plainsong Chant

- 1 I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
2 Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
3 Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
4 To which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the LORD.
5 For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.
6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you.
7 Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.
8 For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.
9 Because of the house of the LORD our God, *
I will seek to do you good."

THE EPISTLE: ROMANS 13:11-14

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

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

READER The Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN "O come, o come, Emmanuel" *(Please stand and join in singing stanzas 1 and 6)*

Hymnal 56

(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(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
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!
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.; © The Church Pension Fund
Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890)

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 24:36-44 *(Please remain standing.)*

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

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

GOSPELER The Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Tracie Middleton, *Deacon*

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 Book of Common Prayer p. 387

The Leader and People pray responsively

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 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Come, thou long expected Jesus
born to set Thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

David Ashley White (b. 1944)

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by Thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

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. 366

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

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.



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.

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 Hymn 61.

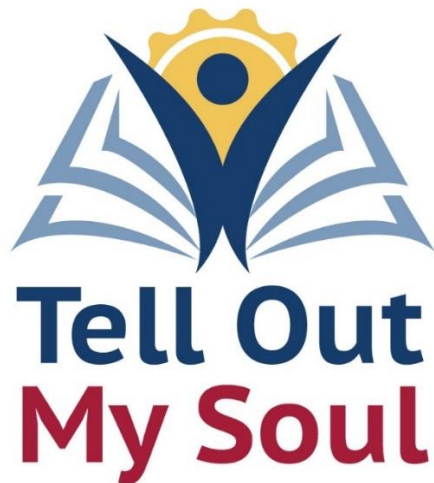
POST COMMUNION PRAYER *(Spoken by all, standing.)*

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



2025 SNAPSHOT
128 PLEDGES
\$684,500

2026 TO DATE
88 PLEDGES
\$497,465

PLEDGE NOW AT WWW.STMARKSEAUMONT.ORG

CLOSING HYMN “The King shall come with morning dawns” (*All join in singing.*)

Hymnal 73

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt.
Music: *St. Stephen*, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.; Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-729915

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE “Savior of the Nations, Come”

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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A MUSIC NOTE

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.



Advent at St. Mark's

ADVENT WREATH MAKING

NOV 30 | 9:15 AM

Join us in Payne Hall for a light breakfast and fellowship. We will prepare for the Advent season by making a fresh Advent wreath.

Wreath making supplies provided.

5TH SUNDAY POTLUCK

NOV 30 | 12PM

Enjoy a potluck lunch with delicious dishes! Please bring a something to share. St. Mark's will provide the main dish!

ORNAMENT MAKING

DEC 7 | 9:15 AM

All ages are invited for this fun morning of breakfast, fellowship, and ornament making in Payne Hall.

KIDS NIGHT OUT

DECEMBER 12 | 6PM

Leave the kids with us and do a little Christmas shopping! Movie, dinner, games, crafts included. Cost is \$15/child. For more info please contact Lauren at 409-832-3405.

LA POSADA

DEC 14 | 5 PM

Travel with Mary and Joseph on their journey to find lodging before the birth of Jesus. After, we will head upstairs to Payne Hall for dinner, music, and pinatas!

STOCKINGS FOR SENIORS

DEC 21 | 9:15AM

Everyone is invited to Payne Hall to stuff stockings for homebound seniors.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

DEC 21 | 5PM

The Choir leads us in a beautiful service of scripture and song.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

DEC 24 | 4 AND 7PM



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, November 30

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I (*Spoken*)
9:00 a.m. Coffee & Conversation (*The Cloister*)
9:15 a.m. Advent Wreath Making
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II (*With Music*)
11:45 a.m. 5th Sunday Parish Potluck

Monday, December 1

12:00 p.m. AA

Tuesday, December 2

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

Wednesday, December 3

12:00 p.m. AA
5:45 p.m. Handbells
6:45 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 4

10:00 a.m. Al-Anon

Friday, December 5

8:00 a.m. Friday Morning Ministry

SAVE THE DATE

December 14 La Posada at 5 p.m.
December 18 Longest Night Service (at FUMC) at 6 p.m.
December 21 Lessons & Carols at 5 p.m.
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.

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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