



St Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
love is our tradition

The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 19, 2021, Rite 2 Year C
Physical and Virtual Service

St. Mark's is a community of believers who express our love for God
by welcoming everyone, serving our community,
and celebrating our Episcopal worship.

**We Love
God**

St. Mark's is a community of people who believe in the power of God's love as expressed through God's son, Jesus Christ.

**We Love
Each Other**

Our love for God compels us to love and welcome others with open arms—regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation or social status.

**We Love
Our Community**

Our love for God compels us to serve our community by being active in service to those in need.

**We Love
Our Faith**

We celebrate our God, for each other and for our community through Episcopal worship that keeps us grounded in our faith.

520 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond VA 23220
804-358-4771 stmarksrva.org

Advent is a strange, contemplative season to be grasped in the language of silence and poetry. It is a time to remember that what we long for and desire has already come and yet is to come in its fullness; a time to remember that we in our day are to be like Mary, to consent to cooperate with God so that God might complete what God began long ago.

---John Westerhoff

Basic Liturgics

Liturgy: "Liturgy" comes from the Greek word *leitourgia*, which literally means "work of the people." It was used to refer to a public work done at private expense and could be used to classify projects like a privately-financed bridge that was being built for the use of a whole town. The public libraries built by Andrew Carnegie could also be considered a *leitourgia*. In church usage, **liturgy** is the act of worship that we do on behalf of ourselves, the wider Church, and the world.

Eucharist: The word Eucharist comes from the Greek word *eucharistia*, which means "thanksgiving." For this reason the Prayer Book also calls the Eucharistic Prayer by the label "The Great Thanksgiving." The service of Holy Communion is our great act of thanksgiving to God.

The Structure of the Eucharistic Liturgy:

The Eucharistic Liturgy is divided into two main parts:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| (1) The Liturgy of the Word | (2) The Holy Communion or The Liturgy of the Table |
| - The Gathering Rite | - The Offertory |
| - The Lessons & Sermon | - The Eucharistic Prayer |
| - The Creed | - The Lord's Prayer |
| - The Intercessions and Confession | - The Fraction or The Breaking of the Bread |
| - The Peace | - Holy Communion |
| | - The Post-Communion Prayer |
| | - Blessing and Dismissal |

Terms for Those Who Help With Worship:

Celebrant, Presider, Officiant: A priest, bishop, or deacon who presides at the liturgy.

Deacon: A person ordained to the diaconate can help with reading the gospel, leading the Prayers of the People, leading the Confession, setting the Altar at Offertory, distributing Communion, cleaning up after Communion, or the Dismissal.

Crucifer: Someone who carries the processional cross.

Acolyte: Literally this means "torch-bearer."

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Lay people who have been authorized by the Bishop and the Rector to help distribute Communion, usually by being *chalice-bearers*.

Book-bearer: The person who carries the Gospel Book in procession and holds it during the Gospel Reading.

Preacher: A person who gives a sermon or homily.

Lector: A person who reads a lesson from the Bible.

Intercessor: A person who leads the Prayers of the People.

Oblation-bearers: Those who bring up the gifts of bread and wine at Offertory.

Ushers: Those who help people find their seat and the bulletin, who collect the offering and present it, and who help direct people during Communion.

Greeters: Those who, after the Dismissal, welcome new people and invite them to coffee and social time.

Altar Guild: The team of people who help prepare the Altar area and are responsible for cleaning the vessels and linens.

Floral Guild: Those who create the floral arrangements for worship.



The Baptismal Font

Through the sacrament of baptism we become members of Christ's family – the church. The presence of the baptismal font in the church is a reminder of our own baptism and the commitments that we made or that were made on our behalf.

Holy Eucharist-Rite Two

The Word of God or The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude/Gathering Music

Comfort, comfort ye, my people

- setting by J. G. Walther

(Please stand as you are able)

Opening Acclamation

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

***All:* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. AMEN.**

Collect for Purity

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 Collect of the Day

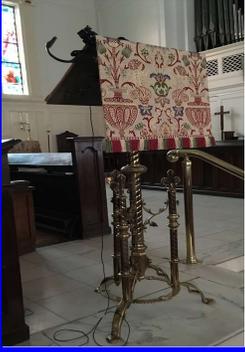
Presider: The Lord be with you.

***All:* And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Presider: 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 Lectern



The lectern is the stand from which the Hebrew Scripture (First or Old Testament), the Psalm, and the Epistle (New or Second Testament) are read. It is a visible expression of the significance of Holy Scripture to the life of the church. In colonial churches, the lectern was often incorporated as the middle level of a multi-tiered pulpit.

(Please be seated)

The Lessons

A Reading from the Book of Micah

Micah 5:2-5a

Douglas D'Urso

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; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7

Qui regis Israel

Douglas D'Urso

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.

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

The Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke

All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Christ.

Children ages 4-11 are invited to join Malinda & Bill downstairs for Childrens' Worship.



The Pulpit

The pulpit is reserved for the sermon suggesting the important role of reflecting on scripture. The canopy is designed to reflect sound and comes from the time when that was the means of amplification to the congregation.

(Please be seated)

The Sermon

Karen Hardison, Worship Chair

(Please stand as you are able)

The Nicene Creed

**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.

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

Prayers of the People

Peter Walker

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

All: That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

All: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for the ministries of St. Mark's; for all the baptized in their daily life and work; for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Susan, Jennifer, and Porter our bishops; for the congregations and clergy of St. Asaph's, Bowling Green; St. James, Montross; and St. Paul's, Montross; for all laity, bishops, priests, and deacons.

All: 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.

All: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For healthy relationships; for constructive, safe, and caring households for the bringing up and nurturing of children and caring for the elderly. We pray for the strength and safety of first responders, care personnel, and those with COVID-19, and for the well being of those who continue to serve the needs of the community.

All: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others, especially Steve, Tamara, Sam, the Kutteroff family, David, Kevin, Lisette, Sam and his family, the Heady/Downey family, Margaret, Gray, Phyllis, Julette, Diane, David, Samantha, Bill, Doris, Janet and the Kirkpatrick family, Richard, Jim, Deb, the Meacham family, Tammy and the Murphy Family, Nigel, Mary, Sally M., Justin K., Nancy, Eric, Laurie, Matt, Nelson, Mark G., Norma, Adam, Cheryl, Presley, Justine, Betty, Norm, Freida, Betty and the Davis Family, Susan, Abby, Hollis, Michael, Carl, Nick, Matthew, Sean, Claudia, Beach, Griffen, Katie, and Donna. Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble, especially those ill with COVID-19.

All: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to all the departed eternal rest, especially the victims of the pandemic.

All: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.

All: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We offer our prayers for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Diane, Odin, Peter, Andrew, Charles, Brent, and Tommy, and for those celebrating anniversaries.

Let us pray for our needs and those of others.

(Silence)

Concluding Collect

The Confession

Presider: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**All: 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 Absolution

Presider: 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.**

(Please stand as you are able)

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Invitation to Communion

Presider: The central act of faith and worship in the Episcopal Church is Holy Communion
This is the table, not of the church, but of the Lord
It is made ready for those who love God and for those who want to love God more.
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;
You who have been here often and you who have not been here long;
You who have tried to follow and you who have failed.
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is God's will that those who want God should meet here.

Offertory

Comfort, comfort ye, my people (Partita #4)

- setting by Georg Boehm



The Altar or Holy Table

The altar is a table on which the bread and wine used for the Eucharist (or Holy Communion or the Lord's Supper) are consecrated.

The Holy Communion or The Liturgy of the Table

(Please stand as you are able)

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharist Prayer B

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every where 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:

***All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

Presider: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

(Continued Next Page)

The Communion Vessels



The Eucharist (from the Greek meaning Thanksgiving), or Holy Communion, is a sacrament at the center of Episcopal worship. A sacrament is “an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace” in the words of *The Book of Common Prayer*. The vessels used are a chalice for wine, a paten for bread (or “host”), and a flagon for additional wine. They are placed on a square white linen cloth called the corporal.

After supper he 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 shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

All: We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Presider: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Mark and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Presider: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

All: 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 Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Holy Communion

In accordance with COVID-19 protocols, Holy Communion is distributed and received in one kind (bread/wafer only) at the present time.

When coming forward to receive communion, please form one line in the center aisle, keeping social distance in mind, and return to your seat using the side aisle.

Please wear your mask at all times and only remove it briefly when consuming the host.

Music during communion:

Prayer for Peace

David Haas

George Collier and Laura Hicks

(Please stand or kneel as you are able)

Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

All: 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.

(Please stand as you are able)

The Blessing

Announcements

The Dismissal

Presider: Let us go forth in the name of Christ to love and serve the Risen Lord and each other.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.



The Ambry

The ambry is a cupboard located in the St. Mary Chapel which is at the right of the narthex (front entry of the church). It is used for reserving the consecrated hosts for communion in home or hospital visits for those who cannot attend Sunday worship and, in some Anglican Churches, to store the oil of chrism used for anointing. A light burns near it to indicate that it contains the sacrament.

Postlude

Toccata in D

Flor Peeters

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RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN by placing it on one of the tables at the side or front entrance.

Christmas Services

December 24th, Christmas Eve

Family Service with Pageant	4:00 PM
Musical Interlude	10:30 PM
Christmas Eve Service	11:00 PM

December 25th, Christmas Day

Christmas Day Service	10:30 AM
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December 26th, Sunday

Sunday Service “Lessons and Carols” 10:30 AM
Please note this is a ZOOM ONLY service. No physical service.

Please Remember in Your Prayers This Week:

Parishioners: Steve Row, Tamara Orr, Sam Shute, the Kutteroff family, David Lenz, Kevin Truman, Lisette Johnson, Sam Francis and family, the Heady/Downey family, Margaret Franklin, Gray Morris, Phyllis Iverson, Julette Iverson, Diane Hoover, David Christiana, Samantha Ridley, Bill Piercy, and Doris Enroughty.

Our extended family and friends: Janet and the Kirkpatrick family, Richard Bland, Jim Schwab, Deb LaMartina, the Meacham family, Tammy and the Murphy Family, Nigel Weston, Mary Rieck, Sally M., Justin K., Nancy Rowe, Eric, Laurie, Matt Flynn, Nelson Crowe, Mark G. Reitz, Norma Champion, Adam Whitlow, Cheryl Stevens, Presley Carter Dudley, Justine, Betty Bussells, Norm Nielsen, Freida, Betty and the Davis Family, Susan, Abby Bishop, Hollis Daniels, Michael Rider, Carl, Nick, Matthew Owen, Sean Ward, Claudia, Beach, Griffen, Katie Morris, and Donna Raubenstine.

For those who have died: especially the victims of the pandemic.

Those celebrating birthdays: especially Diane Hoover, Odin Landers, Peter Walker, Andrew Creger, Charles Hicks, Brent Graves, and Tommy Clifton.

Those celebrating anniversaries:

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: We pray for the congregations and clergy of St. Asaph's, Bowling Green; St. James, Montross; and St. Paul's, Montross.

Metro Richmond Cycle of Prayer: We pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For healthy relationships; for constructive, safe, and caring households for the bringing up and nurturing of children and caring for the elderly.

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Charles D. Aiken, Jr., Associate Rector	buckaiken4@gmail.com
The Rev. Dr. Sarah Kye Price, Priest Associate	priestSP@stmarksrva.org
The Rev. Dr. Dorothy A. White, Priest Associate	priestassociate@stmarksrva.org
Mrs. Malinda Collier, Director of Lay Ministry/Formation	dre@stmarksrva.org
Mr. Amos Goldie, Minister of Music	office@stmarksrva.org
Mr. Steve Barnes, Parish Administrator	office@stmarksrva.org
Ms. Karen Franklin, Feeding Ministry Coordinator	office@stmarksrva.org
Ms. Meredith Franklin, Nursery	office@stmarksrva.org

Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 11-4

Pastoral Emergencies 804-304-5062

THE VESTRY

2021: Sanford Eberly, Worship Team Liaison

Tamara Orr, **Parish Life Liaison**

Ivy Burnes, **Pastoral Care Team Liaison**

2022: Ryn Kennedy, Sr. Warden, Property Team Liaison

Jeff Dussault, **Finance Team Liaison**

Isabel Tucker, Jr. Warden, **Evangelism Team Liaison**

2023: Shannon Heady, Education Team Liaison

Jamie Francis, **Stewardship Team Liaison**

Don Kyser, **Outreach and Justice/Advocacy Team Liaison**

Ex-officio

Register: Karen Franklin

Treasurer: Suzanne Long

MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS:

Director of Lay Ministry and Formation, Malinda Collier

Gathered Ministry:

Karen Hardison, **Worship**

Karen Franklin, **Pastoral Care**

Beth Wentworth, **Education**

Amanda Cline & Mickie Jones, **Parish Life**

Sent Ministry:

Ed Street, **Outreach**

Suzanne Long, **Evangelism**

Penny Adams, **Justice and Advocacy**

Shared Ministry:

Larry Dawson, **Finance**

Wes Kaufman & Dee Whitlow, **Audit**

Howard Pugh, **Stewardship**

Brent Graves, **Property**

Ryn Kennedy, **Vestry**

Pam Piercy, **Personnel**

To contact anyone listed above, please send an email to office@stmarksrva.org

All are Welcome Here

Diverse, Urban, Eucharist Centered, Service-Oriented

Thank you for joining us.

Please let us know how we may encourage you to serve the Lord with us by filling out the “Welcome” card found in the rack in front of you and placing it in the Offering Plate.

You may also speak to any clergy or greeters following the worship service.

Founded in 1866 to serve the working people of Richmond, St. Mark’s Church is an active member of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, 110 West Franklin Street, Richmond, VA, 23220, 804-643-8451, and the Anglican Communion.

The Rt. Rev. Susan Goff, Bishop Suffragan & Ecclesiastical Authority of Virginia.

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop of Virginia

The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assistant Bishop of Virginia



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