



**St Mark's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

love is our tradition

## The First Sunday After the Epiphany The Baptism of our Lord January 10, 2021, Rite 2 Year B

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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](http://stmarksrva.org)

*Epiphany* is a season to remember the mission of the church, to proclaim the gospel, to trust in God, and to live as if God's reign has come, in spite of all evidence to the contrary. Epiphany is an invitation to go on a journey we cannot order or control, following in a way we cannot fully comprehend and the world deems foolish and irresponsible. —*John Westerhoff*

## LITURGICAL COLORS OF THE CHURCH

Colors play an important part of the worship of the Church. They change according to the seasons of the Church year. Colors are a primary source of symbolism, and as such tell us much about what we believe about the lessons we hear during the Liturgy of the Word and about what we do during worship. There are five basic liturgical colors: Blue, White, Green, Purple, and Red.

### **ADVENT - BLUE**

Following the tradition of the Sarum Rite (an old English rite), Blue is the color for Advent. During the Middle Ages, when blue was an expensive color to reproduce, purple was often used instead. Some churches still use purple in Advent. Theologically, blue is the color associated with the Blessed Virgin, and Advent is all about Mary as we await with her the arrival of the Incarnate God. Blue is the color of hope, expectation, confidence, and anticipation.

### **CHRISTMAS AND EASTER - WHITE**

White is the color of both Easter and Christmas. It is the color of celebration, joy, and peace in the western world. With the color gold, white symbolizes the greatest work of God in the world, specifically His incarnation into this world at Christmas, and His triumph over death and evil at Easter. White is the color used for funerals, baptisms and weddings.

### **THE SEASONS AFTER EPIPHANY AND PENTECOST - GREEN**

Green is the color of the feasts that celebrate God's revelation to humankind: Epiphany celebrates Christ's revelation as the Incarnate God to the Gentiles. Pentecost celebrates the revelation of the One Eternal God as revealed in the Holy Spirit. Green symbolizes our own spiritual growth in Christ, nurtured by the Church and the Gospels.

### **LENT - PURPLE**

Purple is the color of humility, penance, and wisdom that comes from inward discernment. It is also the color of royalty. The extreme differences between the two (humility and royalty) express one of the great lessons of Lent: Christ as the servant-king and our endurance to be as such to the world as well. In penitential theology, purple is the color of inward reflection, which is one of the important things we are called to do each Lent in preparation for Easter.

### **HOLY WEEK AND PENTECOST SUNDAY - RED**

Red is the color of excitement, energy, power, and all things intense and passionate and is the color of the Holy Spirit calling to mind the flames that descended upon the Church at the Day of Pentecost. It is also used on Palm Sunday and during Holy Week, recalling the work of the Holy Spirit at Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and His Passion. Red is the color of the Holy Order of Bishops and is used for the commemoration of all martyred saints whose blood was shed for the Faith and the Church.

### **GOOD FRIDAY - BLACK**

Black is generally used on only one day of the year: Good Friday. It is the color of extreme, deep sorrow. Good Friday is the only day of the year that such sorrow is expressed in the Church. Black is appropriate for the first of only two days of the year on which the celebration of the Holy Eucharist is forbidden.

## 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

#### Opening Acclamation

*Presider:* *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:* Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. AMEN.

#### The Lessons

##### A reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1:1-5

Karen Franklin

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Word of the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

## 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.

### Psalm 29

*Afferte Domino*

Karen Franklin

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

4 The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

7 The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.

9 And in the temple of the Lord \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"

10 The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.

11 The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” Then he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They answered, “Into John’s baptism.” Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.” On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

The Word of the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God.

Hymn 116

*“I come” the great Redeemer cries*

*This Endris Nyght*

*Sing Verses 1 & 3 & 5*

*Sanford Eberly*

1 “I come,” the great Re - deem - er cries, “to do thy will, O Lord!”  
 2 “Thus it be - comes us to ful - fill all right-eous-ness,” he said.  
 3 Hark, a glad voice! The Fa - ther speaks from heaven’s ex - alt - ed height:  
 4 The Sa - vior Je - sus, well - be - loved! His Name we will pro - fess,  
 5 No more we’ll count our - selves our own but his in bonds of love.

1 At Jor - dan’s stream, be - hold! He seals the sure pro - phet - ic word.  
 2 Then, faith - ful to the Lord’s com - mands, through Jor - dan’s flood was led.  
 3 “This is my Son, my well - be - loved, in whom I take de - light.”  
 4 like him de - sir - ous to ful - fill God’s will in right-eous - ness.  
 5 Oh, may such bonds for ev - er draw our souls to things a - bove!



## 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.

### The Gospel

*Mark 1:4-11*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew  
**All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**All: Praise to you Lord Christ.**

### The Sermon

The Rev. J. David Niemeyer

*Presider:* Through the Paschal mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy Catholic Church.

*Presider:* Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

*All:* **I do.**

*Presider:* Do you believe in God the Father?

*All:* **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

*Presider:* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*All:* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*Presider:* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*All:* **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

*Presider:* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*All:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*All:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

*All:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

*All:* **I will, with God's help.**

*Presider:* Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**All: I will, with God's help.**

*The Presider concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows*

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. **AMEN.**

## **Prayers of the People**

Kent Slonaker

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. Help us to see how our faith informs our principles and actions.

**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 the Central Richmond Region churches: Christ Ascension; Grace & Holy Trinity; Holy Comforter; St. Andrew's; St. James's; St. John's; St. Mark's; St. Paul's; St. Peter's; ST. Philip's; St. Stephen's; and St. Thomas; 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. With them may we come together for the common good and do as you have called us to do – to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you through creation.

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

We pray to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism: For the elimination of discrimination in housing, policing, education, employment, transportation, and churches in Metropolitan Richmond. We pray for the strength and safety of first responders, care personnel, 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 David, Kathy, Kevin, Lisette, Sam and his family, Betty, Kate, the Heady/Downey family, Margaret, Gray, Phyllis, Julette, Diane, David, Samantha, Bill, Doris, Alaina, Durwood, Hollis, Michael, DeWitt, Brian, Carl, Donnell, Nick, Teresa, Andrew, Matthew, Nancy, Larry, Mary and Lonny, Sean, Andy, 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 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 Elaine, Michael, Arthur, Becky, Carlos, and Gaye, and those celebrating anniversaries.

*(Silence)*

## **Concluding Collect**

*Presider:* Hear our prayers, Holy God. Breathe your Spirit over us and all the earth, that barriers would crumble and divisions cease. Make us more fully your co-healers of the broken world. Unite us with all people in bonds of love, that the whole earth and all its peoples may be at peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 Peace**

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

**All: And also with you.**

*(All greet one another in the name of the Lord.)*

## 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.

## The Blessing

*Presider:* May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

**All: AMEN.**

## 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 Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission. The Collects, Psalms and Canticles are from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Confession from the Litany of Reconciliation produced by the Standing Committee of Liturgy and Music of The Episcopal Church.*

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***Please Remember in Your Prayers This Week:***

Parishioners: David Lenz, Kathy Dussault, Kevin Truman, Lisette Johnson, Sam Francis and family, Betty Leviner, Kate Bishop-Pevsner, 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: Alaina, Durwood Ursy, Hollis Daniels, Michael Rider, DeWitt Whittington, Brian Hanshaw, Carl, Donnell, Nick, Teresa Nichols, Andrew, Matthew Owen, Nancy Kelly, Larry Townley, Mary and Lonny Townley, Sean Ward, Andy, Claudia, Beach, Griffen, Katie Morris, and Donna Raubenstine.

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

Those celebrating birthdays: especially Elaine Wittel, Michael Creger, Arthur Aiken, Becky Lee, Carlos Savory, and Gaye Frugard.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the congregations and clergy of the Central Richmond Region churches: Christ Ascension; Grace & Holy Trinity; Holy Comforter; St. Andrew's; St. James's; St. John's; St. Mark's; St. Paul's; St. Peter's; ST. Philip's; St. Stephen's; and St. Thomas.

Metro Richmond Cycle of Prayer: We pray to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism: For the elimination of discrimination in housing, policing, education, employment, transportation, and churches in Metropolitan Richmond. 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.

**Please contact the office with any changes or updates to the prayer list.**

**PARISH STAFF**

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**The office is currently closed. Please call 358-4771 to leave a message.**

**Messages are checked Tuesdays and Thursdays. For quicker response, please email.**

**Pastoral Emergency: 690-6807**

**THE VESTRY**

**2020:**

Patrick McDuff, **Property Team Liaison**

Denis Riva, Sr. Warden, **Stewardship Team Liaison**

Nancy Munson, **Outreach and Justice/Advocacy Team Liaison**

**2021:**

Sanford Eberly, **Worship Team Liaison**

Tamara Orr, **Parish Life Liaison**

Ivy Burnes, **Pastoral Care Team Liaison**

**2022:**

Ryn Kennedy, Jr. Warden, **Education Team Liaison**

Jeff Dussault, **Finance Team Liaison**

Isabel Tucker, **Evangelism Team Liaison**

***Ex-officio***

**Register:** Karen Franklin

**Treasurer:** Suzanne Long

**ST. MARK'S TRUSTEES:**

Steve Boschen

Joe Kelly

Harold Wright

**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 & Elaine Wittel, **Parish Life**

**Sent Ministry:**

Ed Street, **Outreach**

Suzanne Long, **Evangelism**

Penny Adams, **Justice and Advocacy**

**Shared Ministry:**

Mike Gephart, **Finance**

Wes Kaufman & Dee Whitlow, **Audit**

Howard Pugh, **Stewardship**

Brent Graves, **Property**

Denis Riva, **Vestry**

Pam Piercy, **Personnel**

*To contact anyone listed above, please send an email to [office@stmarksrva.org](mailto: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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