



**St Mark's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
love is our tradition

## The Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany January 31, 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:* 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:* Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.

#### The Lessons

##### A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Don Kyser

Moses said: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

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 111

*Confitebor tibi*

Don Kyser

1 Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, \*  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are the deeds of the Lord! \*  
they are studied by all who delight in them.

3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, \*  
and his righteousness endures for ever.

4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; \*  
the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.

5 He gives food to those who fear him; \*  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works \*  
in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; \*  
all his commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, \*  
because they are done in truth and equity.

9 He sent redemption to his people;  
he commanded his covenant for ever; \*  
holy and awesome is his Name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; \*  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;  
his praise endures for ever.

**A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians** 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Douglas D'Urso

Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; but anyone who loves God is known by him.

Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. "Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 493**

*O for a thousand tongues to sing*

*Azmon*

**Sing Verses 1 & 2 & 3**

Pam Piercy

1 O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my dear Re - deem - er's praise,  
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim  
3 Je - sus! the Name that charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease;  
4 He speaks; and, lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive,  
5 Hear him, ye deaf; ye voice - less ones, your loos - ened tongues em - ploy;

1 the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!  
2 and spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of thy Name.  
3 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.  
4 the mourn - ful bro - ken hearts re - jice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.  
5 ye blind, be - hold, your Sa - vior comes; and leap, ye lame, for joy!



## 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 1:21-28*

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

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

### The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Dorothy White

*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**

Mike Maruca

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, for Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Susan, Jennifer, and Porter our bishops; for congregations and clergy of the Fredericksburg Region churches: Aquia, Stafford, Christ, Spotsylvania; Church of the Messiah, Fredericksburg; Hanover with Brunswick Parish – Emmanuel and King George, King George; St. Asaph's, Bowling Green, St. George's, Fredericksburg; St. Mary's, Colonial Beach; St. Paul's, Owens, King George; St. Peter's, Port Royal; and Trinity, Fredericksburg; for all our staff, Vestry and Ministry Teams.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

We pray to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism: To proclaim in word and deed the establishment of a beloved community 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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, especially President Biden and the new administration, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Help us to heal the brokenness caused by the sin of racism and to hear the Holy Spirit as she leads us in our response.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. We pray for those celebrating birthdays this week, especially Charlotte, Kieran, Ed, Denis, Haig, Dolores, and Patricia, and for those celebrating anniversaries.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; especially David, Kevin, Lisette, Sam and his family, Betty, the Heady/Downey family, Margaret, Gray, Phyllis, Julette, Diane, David, Samantha, Bill, Doris, Joe and his family, Feigh, Abby, Durwood, Hollis, Michael, DeWitt, Brian, Carl, Donnell, Nick, Teresa, Andrew, Matthew, Larry, Mary and Lonny, Sean, Andy, Claudia, Beach, Griffen, Katie, Donna, and those who suffer from the coronavirus. Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially Nancy Kelly and Kathy Dussault, and the victims of the pandemic, and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray, either aloud or silently, for our own needs and those of others.

*Pause*

Lord, in your mercy  
**All: Hear our prayer.**

*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 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 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.

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

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

For those who have died: especially Nancy Kelly and Kathy Dussault, and the victims of the pandemic.

Those celebrating birthdays: especially Charlotte Aiken, Kieran Walker, Ed Chavez, Denis Riva, Haig Kambourian, Dolores Ramiza, and Patricia Yancey.

### Those celebrating anniversaries:

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the congregations and clergy of the Fredericksburg Region churches: Aquia, Stafford, Christ, Spotsylvania; Church of the Messiah, Fredericksburg; Hanover with Brunswick Parish – Emmanuel and King George, King George; St. Asaph's, Bowling Green, St. George's, Fredericksburg; St. Mary's, Colonial Beach; St. Paul's, Owens, King George; St. Peter's, Port Royal; and Trinity, Fredericksburg.

Metro Richmond Cycle of Prayer: We pray to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism: To proclaim in word and deed the establishment of a beloved community 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.

## PARISH STAFF

The Rev. J. David Niemeyer, Rector	rector@stmarksrva.org
The Rev. Charles D. Aiken, Jr., Associate Rector	buckaiken4@gmail.com
The Rev. Dr. Sarah Kye Price, Priest Associate	priestSP@stmarksrva.org
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Mr. Steve Boschen, Assistant Choir Master	singinowl@verizon.net
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Ms. Karen Franklin, Feeding Ministry Coordinator	office@stmarksrva.org
Ms. Meredith Franklin, Nursery	office@stmarksrva.org

**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@stmarksrvva.org](mailto:office@stmarksrvva.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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**EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**love is our tradition**

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