



*Welcome to*  
**SAINT MARK'S**

**The Third Sunday of Advent, Year B**  
**December 17, 2023 at 8:00 & 10:00 AM**

+ --Appropriate place to make the "Sign of the cross"

**BCP**—The "Black" Book of Common Prayer

**Hymnal**—The "Red" Hymnal 1982

**LEVAS**—Music from Lift Every Voice and Sing Hymnal (Episcopal)

**WLP**—Music from Wonder, Love, and Praise Hymnal (Episcopal)

**VF**—Music from Voices Found Hymnal (Episcopal)

**Please silence your cell phone**

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Welcome to Saint Mark's Church. On this Third Sunday of Advent we again are focused on John the Baptist. Today we hear more about John's ministry and his response to questions raised by his message. An important issue for many in the days of the early Church was the relationship between Jesus and John. In response to those who believed that John the Baptist was the Messiah, the early Christians remembered John's own words: "I am not the Messiah...I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'" The first reading is Isaiah's poem of the anointed one and his ministry of peace, healing, and redemption. In his first sermon Jesus applied this passage to himself. In this Advent time we anticipate our celebration of the birth of the anointed one who comes to save. The second reading is the conclusion of Paul's first letter to the Church in Thessalonica. He wrote this letter to encourage them to persevere in the Way as they waited for the return of Jesus. Paul assures them that the Lord will return but that their lives now are to reflect the nature of God's Kingdom rather than to be spent in sitting back and awaiting the End. The Church's Eucharist is a foretaste of that coming of Christ which is still ahead. In word and sacrament, song and story, we encounter the Reign of God in our midst and we reveal that future joy to the world. Like John the Baptist we are sent ahead of the One who is coming and our joy is to see God's presence in the world increase. *From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.*

Prelude

# God's People Gather Together

Processional Hymn

*Rejoice! Rejoice believers*

Hymn 68

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

## **The Lighting of the Advent Wreath – Week Three is Joy**

*Celebrant* When God's people were surrounded by hardship, suffering, and grief, Isaiah proclaimed, The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit (*Isaiah 61:1-3a*).

*LEM* We come today as people who are also surrounded by suffering and grief. And yet, the Spirit hovers among us, tending and anointing, inspiring freedom where there is captivity, declaring blessing in places the world has cursed, and igniting fierce joy where mourning and heartache prevail.

*All: We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.*

*Celebrant* We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, just peace, and fierce joy. May our lives shine with the fierce, tenacious joy of the Light who lives in our hearts as we wait and work for the coming of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. *Amen.*

*Light three candles of the Advent wreath. If your Advent wreath includes a pink or rose candle, light that candle today.*

## **The Advent Wreath Hymn – Candle of Joy**

*LYONS 10.10.11.11 ("O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!")*

*The candle of joy reminds us to sing,  
For God is at work to do a new thing.  
The proud will be humbled; the lowly will rise.  
God's kingdom is one of delight and surprise.*

*Celebrant* + Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* You come to your people and set them free. *Amen.*

# Collect for Purity

(BCP p. 355)

*Celebrant and People*

*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.*

# Trisagion

(at 8:00 a.m.)

(BCP p.356)

*Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.*

(at 10:00 a.m.)

Liturgy of St. Chrysostom

Fernando Ortega or Fred Read

$\text{♩} = 65$

Voice

Ho - ly God Ho - ly and migh - ty -

6

Vo. ty, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, have mer - cy. Have

10

Vo. mer - cy on us. Ho - ly God

15

Vo. Ho - ly and migh - ty - ty, Ho - ly Im -

18

Vo. mor - tal One, have mer - cy. Have mer - cy on us.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* *And also with you.*

*Celebrant* Together, let us pray.

*Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*

*The people sit.*

## **The Word of God**

### **First Reading**

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

A reading from the book of the Prophet Isaiah.

**T**he spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion – to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

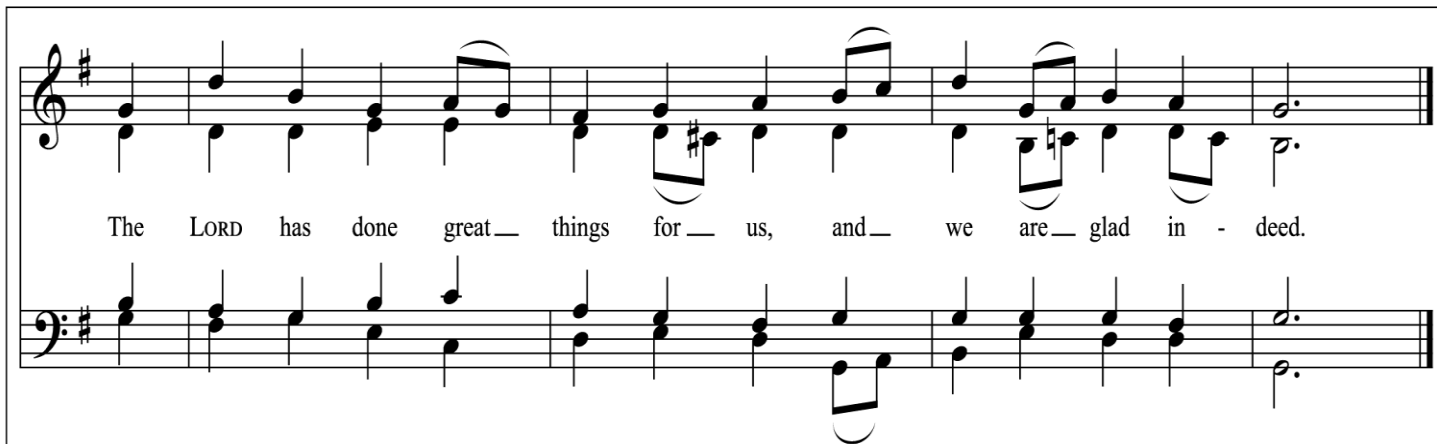
*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* *Thanks be to God.*

## Psalm 126 *In convertendo*

At 8:00 a.m. the Psalm is prayed responsively by half verse.

At 10:00 a.m. The Psalm Antiphon is first sung by the Cantor, then sung by ALL.



The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad in deed.

From *A HymnTune Psalter, Revised Common Lectionary Edition* © 2007 by Carl P. Daw, Jr. and Kevin R. Hackett. Church Publishing Incorporated. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- <sup>1</sup> When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
*then were we like those who dream.*
- <sup>2</sup> Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
*and our tongue with shouts of joy.*
- <sup>3</sup> Then they said among the nations, \*  
*"The LORD has done great things for them." [Antiphon]*
- <sup>4</sup> The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
*and we are glad indeed.*
- <sup>5</sup> Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
*like the watercourses of the Negev.*
- <sup>6</sup> Those who sowed with tears \*  
*will reap with songs of joy.*
- <sup>7</sup> Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
*will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. [Antiphon]*

*The people stand as they are able.*

## Sequence Hymn

### *When John the Baptist Preached*

VENITE ADOREMUS 10.10.10 with Refrain ("The Snow Lay on the Ground")

- 1. When John the Baptist preached for all to hear,  
He said, "Repent! The kingdom has come near!"  
His rough, prophetic manner caused surprise,  
But people heard his words and were baptized.  
Prepare the Lord's own way! Make his paths straight!  
It's time to change! We can no longer wait!*
- 2. Among the crowds that day were mighty men  
Who proudly traced their line to Abraham.  
But John proclaimed that they should change their ways –  
For trees that don't bear fruit are set ablaze.  
Prepare the Lord's own way! Make his paths straight!  
It's time to change! We can no longer wait!*
- 3. O God, we harm creation by our greed;  
We overlook our neighbors in their need.  
We let our lives be ruled by hate and fear;  
Your call to change is one we need to hear:  
Prepare the Lord's own way! Make his paths straight!  
It's time to change! We can no longer wait!*
- 4. And Lord, you call for change in your church, too,  
For even here we've wandered far from you.  
Renew in us a vision of your Way,  
And give us strength and courage to obey.  
Prepare the Lord's own way! Make his paths straight!  
It's time to change! We can no longer wait!*

Biblical Reference: Matthew 3:1-12 Tune: Traditional English melody ("The Snow Lay on the Ground") Text: Copyright © 2010 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Included in God's World is Changing: New Hymns for Advent and Christmas (2022). Email: [carolynshymns@gmail.com](mailto:carolynshymns@gmail.com) New Hymns: [www.carolynshymns.com/](http://www.carolynshymns.com/)

## The Gospel

*John 1:6-8:19-28*

*Reader* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John  
*People* *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*



**T**here was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but

confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

*Reader*        The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*        Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### **The Sermon**

*+ May the words of my mouth and the meditations of all our hearts be always acceptable in your sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.*

*The people sit.*

*After the Sermon, the people stand as they are able.*

### **The Affirmation of Faith – The Nicene Creed**

(BCP 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.*



## Prayers of the People

*Celebrant*

Rejoicing always in the God who is faithful, let us pray for the Church and the world, saying:  
The Lord has done great things for us, *and we are glad indeed.*

*Lay Eucharistic Minister*

For the Church: especially for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Lawrence, GERALYN, Daniel, and William our bishops, and for Chris our priest, that we may bring joy to others, ease their burdens, and be signs of hope. The Lord has done great things for us, *and we are glad indeed.*

For this parish family, that we may give thanks for the many blessings God has given us, hold fast to what is good, and be found blameless at the dawn of the new day. The Lord has done great things for us, *and we are glad indeed.*

For wisdom and understanding for political leaders, that God will inspire them with insights to promote peace and justice so that all may live in safety and freedom. The Lord has done great things for us, *and we are glad indeed.*

For all who cannot find God, that the light, songs, and messages of this holy season may be a doorway to finding God in all things and recognizing that God is with us. The Lord has done great things for us, *and we are glad indeed.*

For all who are held captive whether in prison, in difficult economic situations, or by addiction, and for all who wait upon God, remembering especially the people of Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Armenia, the United States, and those on our prayer list. *(The people may add petitions for any need or concern.)* We pray that in their time of waiting they may experience the healing and comforting presence of God. The Lord has done great things for us, *and we are glad indeed.*

For all those who have died, especially remembering Harold Culver, brother of Virginia Gilmore. *(The people may add petitions for those they wish to remember.)* May they be clothed with the garments of salvation. The Lord has done great things for us, *and we are glad indeed.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *(The people may name their own thanksgivings.)* We also give thanks to God this week for Richard Caccavano, Michael Warner and Elizabeth Horan who are celebrating their birthdays and to Bill and Madeline Glover who are celebrating their wedding anniversary.

### **For a Birthday**

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on Richard, Michael and Elizabeth as they begin another year. Grant that they will grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### **For the Anniversary of a Marriage**

*O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon Bill & Madeline that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their lives together may be a witness to your love and forgiveness, and that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

The Rosemary of Remembrance on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Kate Gabrielsen in loving memory of her sister Diane; and by Catharine Nobiletti in memory of all the loved ones passed.

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary the Mother of Jesus, John the Baptist, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. *To you, O Lord our God.*

*ALL: God of comfort, whose promise is a new creation, hear our prayers and prepare the way in the wilderness of our world, that by lives of holiness and service, we may hasten the coming of that new day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior. Amen.*

### **The Confession**

(BCP p. 360)

*The Celebrant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence may be kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

*Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*The Celebrant concludes with an absolution.*

+ 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

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* *And also with you.*

## Offertory Sentence

But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15, 16*

## Offertory Hymn

*The desert shall rejoice*

WLP 722

The des - ert shall re - joice and blos - som as a rose:

1. It shall  
2. For the  
3. For the  
4. For the

blos - som a - bun - dant - ly and re - joice with praise and sing - ing.  
ears of the deaf shall hear And the blind, their eyes be o - pened.  
tongue of the mute shall sing and the lame will dance with glad - ness.  
ground will be - come a pool and the dry land springs of wa - ter.

5. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
as the ransomed return to God  
and come singing back to Zion.

6. The desert shall rejoice  
and blossom as a rose:  
unto Zion we come with joy,  
for our God has come to save us.

## The Presentation of Gifts

(At 8:00 a.m.)

*All things come of thee, O Lord; and of thine own have we given thee, Amen.*

(At 10:00 a.m.) The Doxology

Em G C D7 G D G C G  
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm7 Em Am Em B7 Em A7 D Em  
here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D7 G D Em Bm G  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

15 C D7 Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em  
man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674  
Music: 15th Century French

VENI EMMANUEL  
LM with Refrain

Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: [music@gbod.org](mailto:music@gbod.org). Text and tune are public domain.

## The Holy Communion

**The Great Thanksgiving** (*Eucharistic Prayer from the Angel's Song – Advent 2B*)

*Celebrant* The Lord is here.

*People* ***His Spirit is with us.***

*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 God thanks and praise.***

It is indeed right to give you thanks and praise, Lord God,  
for you have clothed us with the garments of salvation,  
and covered us with the robe of righteousness.

In baptism you forgive our sins, part the waters of our liberation  
 and bring us to the safe shore of everlasting life.  
 In faithfulness you keep our spirit and soul and body  
 sound and blameless until the coming of your Son Jesus Christ.  
 In his death you dismantle the power of death  
 and in his resurrection you raise up the joy of everlasting life.

And so we greatly rejoice and exult with our whole being  
 in the sanctified company of angels and archangels of heaven, joining the unending hymn.

**Sanctus (At 8:00 a.m.)**

*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.*

**Sanctus (10:00 a.m.)**

**S-130**

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The score consists of four systems of two staves each. The first system covers the first line of lyrics. The second system covers the second line. The third system covers the third line. The fourth system covers the fourth line. The music is primarily homophonic, with block chords and simple melodic lines. There are some longer notes and rests in the vocal line, particularly in the second and third systems.

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na  
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The people stand or kneel as they prefer*

Send your Spirit upon this bread and this cup that they may be for us  
the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,  
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
'Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup.  
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'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.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Great is the mystery of faith.

*Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.*

God of justice, send your Spirit upon your people in their wilderness.

Bring good news to the oppressed  
and all who live with the chains of debt.

Bind up the broken-hearted and any who languish  
in the slavery of another's scheming or the exile of their own folly.

Proclaim liberty to the captives  
and those who live under the shadow of fear  
at home, at work or in their neighborhood.

Announce release to the prisoners

and to all who are incarcerated by their own body or the travails of their own mind.

Usher in the year of your favor

and deliver your people from sin and guilt and addiction and shame.

Provide for those who mourn,

that they may have a garland instead of ashes,  
and the oil of gladness instead of mourning.

Show us your face, everlasting God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

A musical score for the hymn "Amen, a-men, a - men. A-men, a - men." The score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with some notes in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff.

## The Lord's Prayer

*Celebrant* And now, praying in the words that Jesus taught us,

*People and Celebrant*

*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 – Agnus Dei

S-164

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

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

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

give us your peace, give us your peace.

## Invitation to Communion

(BCP p. 364)

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for us the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. **Amen.**



**Communion Norms**--We welcome our guests this morning. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You may stand or kneel (whichever you prefer). You are invited to eat the wafer and then drink from the cup. We regret that you are not permitted to intinct (dip the wafer) at this time. The people respond after receiving the bread or the wine by saying "Amen." If you prefer not to receive the cup, please cross your arms over your chest. If you do not want to receive communion, you are still welcome to come forward, cross your arms over your chest, and receive a blessing from the priest. Gluten free wafers are available. Please notify Fr. Chris at the Communion Rail.



1. Je - su, Joy of our de - sir - ing, Ho - ly wis - dom\_ love most bright.  
2. This the way where hope is guid - ing, Hear what peace - ful mu - sic rings.

1. Drawn by thee our souls as - pir - ing, Soar to un - cre - a - ted light.  
2. Where the flock in thee con - fi - ding, Drink of joy from breath - less springs.

1. Word of God our flesh that fash - ioned. With the fire of life im - pas - sioned.  
2. Theirs is beau - ty's fair - est pleas - ure. Theirs is wis - dom's ho - liest trea - sures.

1. Striv - ing still to truth un - known, Soar - ing, dy - ing 'round thy throne.  
2. Thou dost ev - er lead thine own. In the love of joys un - known.

## The Post Communion Prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent (*Church of England*)

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

*We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever. Amen.*

## The Blessing for the Third Sunday of Advent

Be people of joy.

Let joy live in your heart and share the joy of Christ with all you meet.

Share joy by seeing the good in each other.

Share joy by remembering good times and hoping for good times to come.

Share joy by praying for our world.

In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share joy.

As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share joy, peace, and hope with those you meet.

And the blessing And the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon and remain with you forever. *Amen.*

## The Announcements



# Recessional Hymn

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee*

♩=113

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
2. All Thy works with joy sur - round Thee, earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,  
3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,  
4. Mor - tals, join the hap - py chor - us, which the morn - ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.  
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, cen - ter of un - brok - en praise.  
Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!  
Fa - ther love is reign - ing o'er us, bro - ther love binds man to man.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and mount - ain, flow - ery mea - dow, flash - ing sea;  
Thou our fa - ther, Christ our bro - ther, all who live in love are Thine;  
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!  
Sing - ing bird and flow - ing fountain call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Teach us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.  
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us Sun - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

## The Dismissal (*Church of England*)

*LEM* As we await our coming Savior, go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Postlude



**THE WEEK AT A GLANCE**

<b>Monday, 12/18</b>	<b>Parish Office Closed</b> 1:30 -3:00 p.m. Bright Beginnings Sing Along
<b>Tuesday, 12/19</b>	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. Bright Beginnings Sing Along 12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting with Christmas Party 6:30 p.m. Vestry Meeting with Dinner at the Rectory
<b>Wednesday, 12/20</b>	7:00 p.m. Alanon Board Meeting in Parish Hall 7:30 p.m. Alanon Meeting (Atwater Room)
<b>Thursday, 12/21</b>	10:00 a.m. Advent Study – An Unlikely Advent Session 4 (Atwater Room) 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing (Fr. Chris' Office) 12:30 p.m. Threshold Singers (Atwater Room)
<b>Friday, 12/22</b>	9:00 a.m. Greening of the Church
<b>Saturday, 12/23</b>	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Winter Farmer's Market (Parish Hall)
<b>Sunday, 12/24</b> <b>Christmas Eve</b>	9:00 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Advent (Parish Hall) 5:00 p.m. Family Christmas Service with Brass Quintet 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
<b>Monday, 12/25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b>	9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service

<b>Participating in Today's Service</b>	
<b>Sunday at 8:00 a.m.</b>	
<b>LEM</b>	Sundy Schermeyer
<b>Lector</b>	Tom Simson
<b>Usher</b>	Pete Williams
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Diane Stewart, Virginia Gilmore
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>Atwater Room</b> - Diane Stewart
<b>Sunday at 10:00 a.m.</b>	
<b>LEM</b>	Carol Fitton
<b>Lector</b>	Helen Horton
<b>Ushers</b>	Eric Christianson, Larry Andria
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Catharine Nobiletti Norma-Jeanne Okula
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	<b>Atwater Room</b> - Diane Stewart
<b>December Birthdays</b>	
6	Carol Smith
8	Rob Perdock
11	Ashley Lueck
12	Pamela Kern
13	Spencer Moyle
13	Trevor Moyle
18	Richard Caccavano
18	Michael Warner
23	Elizabeth Horan
24	Jennifer Marwood
<b>December Anniversaries</b>	
7	Larry & Candace Andria
19	Bill & Madeline Glover
30	Steve & Donna Turner

Please Pray for Your Parish Every Day at 12:00 Noon. And remember the People of Israel, Palestine, Sudan, Armenia, Ukraine and the United States of America too!

**Last Week's Attendance**

Sunday 12/10	8:00 am	23
Sunday 12/10	10:00 am	40

Total: **63**

(80 Households prayed with us online)

12/14 Advent Study	<b>9</b>
12/14 Healing Service	<b>7</b>

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

<b>12/24</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Fourth Sunday of Advent (Service in the Parish Hall)
	<b>5:00 p.m.</b> Family Christmas Service with Brass Quintet
	<b>9:00 p.m.</b> Christmas Eve Service
<b>12/25</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Christmas Day Service
<b>12/31</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Christmas Lessons & Carols with Holy Eucharist followed by Brunch

The Church Office will be closed from Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> thru Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Staff will return to the office Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**At 4:00 p.m. today, there will be a special "Blue Sunday" service in the church.**

**Christmas Remembrances** – Forms are available on the table outside of the parish hall for names to be submitted for the Christmas Remembrance list. All donations will be used for the beautification of the church for Christmas. **Please note today is the deadline.**

**Christmas Nativity Scenes or Creches**—We would like to adorn the church again with family nativity scenes/creches. My goal is to have one from every family in the parish to display around the church. Please label your sets and drop them off in the Parish Office. Thanks!—Chris +

**Year End Donations**—All donations must be postmarked by 12/31 in order to count for your 2023 taxes. Thank you for your generous support of Saint Mark's throughout this past year!

**Covenant Class** for those who wish to be Confirmed, Received or to learn more about the Episcopal Church will start in the new year.

**Coffee Hour:** There is a sign-up sheet outside of the parish hall. Host/hostesses are needed to assist Diane Stewart on December 31<sup>st</sup> and for the 10 a.m. services in January. Your help will be very much appreciated.

**Altar Flowers** - If you would like to dedicate flowers for the Altar contact Laura Bott at 631-722-4749 or email her at [Laura.bott17@gmail.com](mailto:Laura.bott17@gmail.com). In January there are two vases available on the 14 & 28 and one vase available on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The vases are \$40.00 each.

### **Mark Your Calendar:**

**December 22** – 9:00 a.m. Greening of the Church

**December 31** – 9:00 a.m. Lessons & Carols Service with Pot-Luck Brunch following.

**February 11** – 6:00 p.m. Chili Cookoff and Superbowl Party

### **We ask that you remember those for whom prayers are requested:**

**Noah Berger** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Stan Billie** (Req. by Jenn Kast), **Deana Chiusano** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **David Fridae**, **Nancy Fraser** (Req. by Ki Nobiletti), **Roberta Good** (Diane Stewart's Sister), **Jason Gordon** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Elaine Hanes** (Req. by Kate Gabrielsen), **Barbara Ireton** (Req. by Carol Smith), **Gretchen & Jim Jubinski** (Fr. Chris' Parents), **Cole LoRusso** (Marj Kulesa's Nephew), **Fred Meyer** (Parishioner), **Jock McLean** (Parishioner), **Sean McLean** (Req. by Jock McLean), **Sudie Nostrand** (Carol John's Sister), **Paul Oele** (Parishioner), **Cassie Panzarino** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Joan Petrella** (Parishioner), **Jean Scopinich** (Parishioner), **John Stewart** (Parishioner), **Sarah Witters** (Req. by Victoria Garcia), **Owen Foster** (Diane & John Stewart's grandson), **John Martinelli** (Req. by Jinny Gilmore), **Marilyn Dorsa** (Req. by Drew Clark), **Michele Parks** (Req. by Marjorie Kulesa), **Fred Rees Garcia** (son of Victoria Garcia), **Christina Kouris** (Req. by Sandy Wyman), **John Saladino** (Req. by Victoria Garcia) and **Fran Graham** (Parishioner).

**If there are any names that can be removed, kindly contact Kate in the church office 631-288-2111.**

**We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:** Amanda E. Degener, Kyle M. Degener, George L. Degener, Jesse Fritz, Nicholas LoRusso, Joshua Rudd, Rob Scribner and James Mercready.

***The Rosemary of Remembrance on the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Kate Gabrielsen in loving memory of her sister Diane; and by Catharine Nobiletti in memory of all the loved ones passed.***



*A Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island*

40 Main Street  
P.O. Box 887  
Westhampton Beach, New York 11978  
Phone: 631.288.2111  
www.stmarkswhb.org

Sunday Services

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist in the church (Livestreamed)  
The first Sunday of each month Healing & Anointing will be included in both services.

Thursday Midweek Service

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing in Fr. Chris' Office

Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano—*Bishop of Long Island*

The Rt. Rev. GERALYN WOLF—*Assisting Bishop*

The Rt. Rev. William Franklin—*Assisting Bishop*

The Rt. Rev. Daniel Allotey—*Assisting Bishop*

The Rev. Christopher D. Jubinski—*Rector*

Email: [chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org](mailto:chris.jubinski@stmarkswhb.org) Cell: 410.253.3664

Stephen Hunt—*Director of Music*

Kate Gabrielsen—*Parish Administrator*

Chris Adams—*Facilities Manager*

Rosanna Davis—*Director of St. Mark's Bright Beginnings Preschool*

Diane Stewart—*Warden*

Sandy Wyman—*Warden*

*Vestry Members:*

Steve DeCaro, Diane Feil, Madeline Glover

Tom Hadlock, Tom Horan, Marjorie Kulesa,

Ashley Lueck, Barbara Pettus and Steve Turner.

Thomas Simson—*Treasurer*

Carol Fitton—*Clerk of the Vestry*

