

Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
134 N. Division Ave
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
www.stmarksgr.org
616.456.1684

Notice: Test of the Emergency Alert Systems, today, during the Announcements section of both Services. You will not be required to move to a different location.

In the event of a true emergency, an announcement with further instructions will be made from the pulpit. It will also be texted to all parishioners with mobile numbers on file. If your cell phone *is not already listed* in the Church Directory, but you would like it on the emergency-only contact list, provide it at the Welcome Desk or email officeadmin@stmarksgr.org.

Welcome to St. Mark's!

... a vibrant community of faith, which has gathered for worship since 1836 and in the current building since 1848. If this is your first visit with us, know that we are delighted you are here. Please, introduce yourself and be sure to sign our guest sign-in sheet in the foyer and/or fill-out a Visitor's Welcome Card. Also, please take a welcome folder on the Welcome Desk.

Church Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday— 9 a.m. to noon.

Weather Policy: St. Mark's will post closures to WZZM 13, WOOD TV8, Facebook and our website by 7:00 a.m. or as soon as possible. The decision on afternoon and evening activities will be made separately, posted by noon.

Reserved Spaces for Those in Need: Note, there are three designated spaces for those in need, two in the north transept and one on the north side of the nave. Please, leave those spaces available and the adjoining pews for family members.

Safety: The outer doors to the Parish House will be locked fifteen minutes after Services begin with a security guard on duty to be of assistance. Upon leaving a restroom, please wash hands with warm soapy water and sanitize. Please, pay attention to the nearest exit in the Sanctuary. An announcement will be made in case of an emergency. Children will be ushered out of the building to a designated place for safety away from the Church complex.

Parking on Sundays: Limited parking is available in the Parish Lot. If you are able, please, consider not parking in the Parish Lot to reserve access for those less mobile. Please, consider the free metered parking on Pearl, Ionia, Lyon, Fountain and other streets near the church, the Kendall Lot across the street when the gate is up, the upper levels of the GRCC building on Fountain Street, and the Ellis Parking Lot at 210 Ionia just west of Lyon Street. For the Ellis Lot: vouchers for free parking on Sundays are available from an Usher, a Greeter or on the Resource Table in the north transept (must be used along with original parking ticket).

Rest Rooms are located on the main level of the Parish House under the exit sign at the top of the Foyer ramp. Additional rest rooms are located on the second level of the Parish House; those able to use stairs are encouraged to use upper-floor restrooms.

Weekly Worship and Prayer at St. Mark's: Eucharist on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays at noon from September through May. Compline (Night Prayer) on Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. via Facebook live. All are always welcome!

Children's Ministry: Sundays, we offer children's formation during 10:30 services. This includes formation, nursery care and church school. Please contact the church office.

Youth Ministry: Grand Rapids Episcopal Youth: G.R.E.Y. is a joint youth ministry between St. Mark's and St. Andrew's Episcopal Churches for youth in grades 6-12. We have regular formation gatherings during the school year and service as well as social activities throughout the year. Please contact our Director of Youth Ministry, Jeff Brown, for more information: jeffatgrey@gmail.com.

Adult Formation Ministry: *Adult Forums* are offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings at different times of the year. *Episcopal 101: An Inquirer's Journey* is offered yearly for adults especially those seeking Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church or to Reaffirm one's faith. A multi-year seminar, *Education for Ministry* (EFM), is offered during the program year. Please, contact Doug Karsen for more information at karsencd@gmail.com.

Breakfast Café Ministry: A program to nourish our neighbors with a hot meal, is at 8:15 a.m. every Saturday. If you would like more information and to possibly volunteer, please contact Judy Freeman at judyfw@comcast.net.

Land Acknowledgment: St. Mark's recognizes that our property sits on land of the indigenous people of the Three Fires. It is our privilege to occupy this land while recognizing and acknowledging with sadness the deep wounds created many years ago by our forebears.

St. Mark's eNews: For the fullest expression of St. Marks' activities, see the weekly eNews in your email or our website.

Cell Phones: We ask that you silence your cell phone; if you are on call, please turn it to vibrate when you enter the church.

St. Mark's Full-Time* and Part-Time Staff

The Rev. David Blank, Interim Rector*
The Rev. Susan York, Associate Rector
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon
Thon Deng, Postulant for Holy Orders

Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager*
Kate Assarian, Administrative Associate*
Dr. Gregory Crowell, Director of Music
Jeff Brown, Director of Youth Ministry
Alexis VanZalen, Organ Scholar

Mike Armour, Operations Manager
Ronnie Hammond, Sexton
Craig Mosley, Sexton Associate, Video
Doris Molina, Weekend Sexton
Jamie Interrial, Security Representative
Eric Gable, Webmaster

The Gathering of the People

Prelude – Voluntary

William Byrd

Welcome

Introit – I'm So Glad

Negro Spiritual

Gathering Hymn – Blue Hymnal 296: We Know that Christ Is Raised and Dies No More Engelberg

Salutation for the Easter Season

Presider: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Presider: Let us pray:

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**

Gloria (*Bells ringing.*)

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al - might-ty God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry Lord Je-sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the
Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer, For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,
you a-lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus
Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi-rit, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Collect

Presider II: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading *(You may sit.)*

Acts 8:26-40

Lector I: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

The Response

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30

Deus, Deus meus

Lector at 8:00 a.m.: Let us pray the psalm responsively by half verse.

At 10:30 a.m., the Antiphon is intoned by the choir and repeated thereafter.



My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

Antiphon

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.

Antiphon

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Antiphon

The Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21

Lector II: A Reading from the First Letter of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first

loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Hymn – Blue Hymnal 379: God Is Love

Abbot's Leigh

The Gospel

John 15:1-8

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Homily (*You may sit.*)

Rev. Susan York, Associate Rector

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.

Prayers of the People *(You may stand.)*

Lector I: As we celebrate this Season of Easter, we ask God to hear our prayers with our response:
O God, hear us. During the periods of silence, I invite you to add additional prayers either silently or aloud.

O God: We pray in thanksgiving for all those gathered here today. We pray for St. Mark's and our many ministries. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons: Michael, Presiding Bishop; Skip, our Assisting Bishop; Bonnie and Rayford, Bishops of Michigan and Northern Michigan; Moises, Bishop of the Dominican Republic and Craig, ELCA Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod; for the staff of our parishes; Church of the Mediator of Harbert and its Rector, Darlene Kuhn; St. John's of Charlotte and its Priest-in-Charge, Wendy Brown. We remember the Church of Bangladesh. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For the President, Congress, our Governor, our Mayor and for all in authority, that they may be people of justice, integrity and truth. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For the good earth which God has entrusted to us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For the poor and the oppressed, the unemployed, the homeless, refugees and for all who seek a better way of life. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For those who suffer from any grief or trouble. Give us grace to respond to the needs of those in distress, especially those who suffer because of hatred, racism, bigotry, violence and war. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For those who celebrate birthdays or anniversaries this week. Bless them with joy and well-being. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For all those on our Parish Prayer List, our military personnel, the sick, all those for whom we have promised to pray and those we now name silently or aloud. *(Pause to add additional names silently or aloud).* We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. *(Pause to add additional names.)* We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For what else or whom else shall we pray today? *(Pause to add additional prayers.)*
We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Presider II: For all these prayers we have named aloud and those which lie deep within our hearts.
We pray: **O God, hear us.**

The Confession of Sin

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

Presider 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 of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution

Presider II: † Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit us in eternal life.
Amen.

The Peace

Presider II: May the peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

People: And always with you.

Presider II: Respectfully, let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Announcements

Prayer for St. Mark's

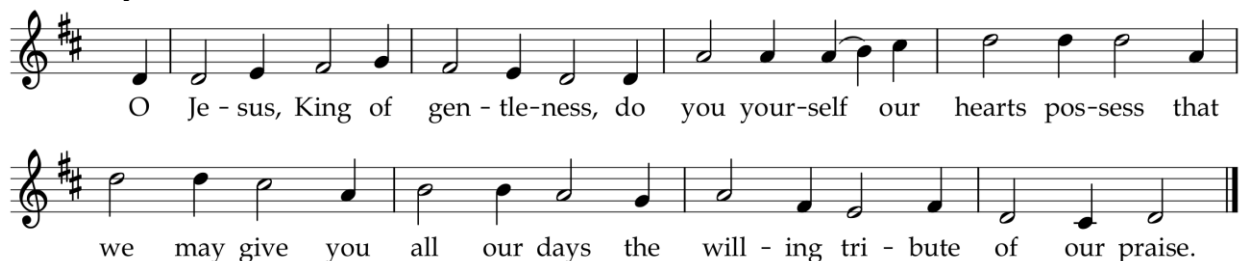
The Liturgy of the Table

Reception of Gifts

Offertory Music — Be unto Me a Tower of Strength

Byrd

Presentation Hymn



O Je - sus, King of gen - tle-ness, do you your-self our hearts pos-sess that
we may give you all our days the will - ing tri - bute of our praise.

The Great Thanksgiving *Eucharistic Prayer I (BCP)*

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heaven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high-est, Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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."

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."

Presider: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. †Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

†Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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 forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider I: Let us pray the Lord's Prayer in whichever language or version you prefer.

(Traditional) 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.

(Contemporary) Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

(Spanish) Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre; Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy el pan de este día y perdona nuestras deudas, como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores y no nos dejes caer en la tentación mas libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Reception of the Sacrament

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our
Pass - ov - er is sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the
feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

People: Let us take them in remembrance that Christ died for us and feed on him in our hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Instruction for Receiving Communion: *As is our tradition, all are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist, bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Jesus. Following the distribution of consecrated bread, please feel free to dip your host into consecrated wine offered in a cup for intinction. Gluten-free consecrated bread is available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, come forward with hands crossed over your chest. Please follow the Ushers' direction to the communion rail and fill in from right to left. All are welcome at the Table of the Lord.*

Healing Prayer: *When present in the South Transept, healing ministers offer a brief and simple prayer.*

Communion Hymn – Blue Hymnal 304: I Come with Joy to Meet My Lord

Land of Rest

Post-Communion Prayer (*You may stand.*)

Presider II: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Holy God, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Solemn Easter Blessing

Presider I:

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us children through the resurrection of the Son, Jesus, the Christ, bestow upon us the riches of Christ's blessing. **Amen. Alleluia!**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make us holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen. Alleluia!**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring us to our eternal inheritance. **Amen. Alleluia!**

†And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us forever. **Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Hymn of Sending Forth – Blue Hymnal 610: Lord, Whose Love

Blaenhafren

Sending Forth

Priest or Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, alleluia, alleluia.

People: **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Postlude - Voluntary

Byrd

Thank you for being with us today. We are all invited to participate in St. Mark's tradition to remain seated until candles are extinguished and the postlude has ended. Then join us in the Parish Hall for further fellowship, as we celebrate our church's 187th Anniversary and the Feast Day of Saint Mark!

The St. Mark's Prayer List

Contact the church office to add names to the prayer list. Names may be removed after one month unless requested.

The Sick and Other Needs

David Abbott
Alissa Almont
Jayne Austin
Ed Cox
Terry Dusendang
Ruth Hammond
Jamie Interrial
Bill Isenberg
Jennifer Julius
George Linde
Kathryn Marmion
Laura Maslonka
Jim, Chris McClain
Evelyn Mitchell
Doris Molina
Bill Nasser
John Oatley
Chris Reale
Beverly and Milton Roye, Sr.
Monique Salinas
Marilee Wexstaff

Sue Allen
Susan Andrews
Nita DeGraaf
John Gracki
Irene Haizman
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Roma Warmington
Jean Zylstra

In Military Service

B.G. Timothy Brower, Sr. USA
Henry Dykema, USNG
Cpt. Nathan Gaggin, USAF
Col. Lt. Gabriel Monsalvo,
USMC Col. Todd Murray,
USAF

Members of the Vestry

Dawn Buller, Sr. Warden
Judy Freeman, Jr. Warden
Brian Topolewski, Clerk
Gloria Lara, Treasurer
Jon Anderson
Ben Busman
Laura Kozminski
Emily Krueger
Penny Larsen
Dan McDonald
Carmela McIntire
Amy Richards-Duncan

Discernment for Ordained Ministry

Rachel Ravellette

Search Committee

Bob Brower
Doug Busman
Nancy Dodge
Karen Hunter
Penny Larson
Shawn Miller
Heather Tafel
Darren Walhof
Jackie Yam

Postulant for Holy Orders

Thon Deng
Cathy Stevens

Offerings and Multiple Ways to Give to St. Mark's

Place check or cash in the offering plate

Electronic giving (email pams@stmarksgr.org)

Vanco Mobile App from any mobile device:



Pay by text – text 616-205-9714 from your phone to send a payment

Mobile App Square Cash – Cashtag: \$stmarksgr Web address: [cash.me/\\$stmarksgr](https://cash.me/$stmarksgr)



Mail a check to the church

Online at our website at www.stmarksgr.org through PayPal

Remember St. Mark's in your Estate Planning (A brochure is available at the Welcome Desk.)

Gifts or Transfer of Stock

Parish Notes

Welcome! Guests, please sign the book in the front lobby. Fill out a Welcome Card (stored inside the podium) to get a name tag, receive weekly eNews or join the St. Mark's Family in Faith as a full member.

Speak with the Vestry Person of the Day: This week, find Ben Busman at the Welcome Desk after the 10:30 a.m. Service. Representatives for attendees of the 8:00 a.m. Service are Dan McDonald and Brian Topolewski.

New Weekend Sexton Marquice ("Mar-kweese"): We are grateful to have Marquice on staff to support weekend Church activities. Welcome him if you haven't yet. Big thanks also to our sexton team of Craig, Ronnie, and Mike; along with regular volunteer Rex Miller; and any others who have stepped up to fill in the gaps since Doris began her treatment and recovery, which continues, slowly.

Education Sessions, St. Mark's Building Project: Today and May 5th at 9:00 a.m. Childcare provided. The Vestry encourages you to attend these important all-church meetings. Some information will be new.

ACCESS Walk May 5th–15th: The annual Walk for Good Food kick-off event is Sunday, May 5th from 2:00–4:00 p.m. at Richmond Park. You may walk the routes that day or walk on your own until May 15th. To join the St. Mark's walk team or learn more, contact Scot, s.gugle@comcast.net, or Jeff, jeffatgrey@gmail.com. You can donate by check made out to "Access of West Michigan" or online at givelively.org.

Safe Haven Training, Saturday, May 18th, 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Register by May 10th. St. Mark's has expressed a heart for helping prevent and recognize domestic violence, relationship abuse and trafficking. Participants will engage in learning activities and help develop relevant church policies and procedures. St. Mark's will get ongoing coaching from Safe Haven Ministries. It will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church to avoid conflicts with Breakfast Cafe and construction. Church staff, Vestry, and other leaders encouraged to attend.

Holy Baptisms on Pentecost, May 19th: Talk to Fr. David or church staff to register a candidate of any age.

Please Sign a Childcare Voter Card: As a church member of Together West Michigan, St. Mark's supports renewing the Ready by 5 early childhood education millage. Whether or not you submitted a postcard earlier in the campaign, please do so at the Welcome Desk or via the eNews link. Remember to vote on August 6th.

Rector Search Committee Update: The official St. Mark's Rector posting is up on the Episcopal News Service, the Western and Eastern Diocese websites, and will be included in the next edition of the Feast (e-newsletter). If you participate on Facebook, please "share" the post to gain more attention to our search (and encourage qualified candidates to apply)! Thank you for your continuing support and prayers. ~ *Rector Search Committee*

Construction Update: The Pearl Street intersection remains blocked off. Our parking gate on Division Avenue is accessible, using Lyon St from either direction. (Note that the separate road closure on Lyon St east of Ransom Ave is in flux.) On Sundays or by special request to put the chains down, the lot can also be reached by the Winchester Place NE 'alley.' On April 29th, Lyon St and Fountain St will be temporarily converted to two-way traffic from Division Ave to Ransom Ave. Watch eNews or Facebook for map updates when it shifts.

Church Master Calendar: In an effort to make it easier to keep track of our many Church activities... there is now a printed master calendar for the month, in the front desk area near the lower level stairway. As before, please call the church office or email officeadmin@st.marksgr.org when you schedule an activity.