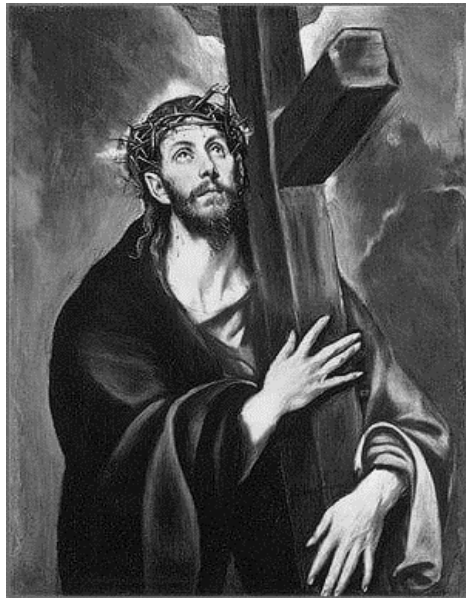


# The Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (in-person and live-streamed)



*Christ Carrying the Cross, El Greco*



**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**

134 N. Division Ave  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
[www.stmarksgr.org](http://www.stmarksgr.org)  
616.456.1684

## 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 Information packed from a welcome folder inside the lobby podium.

**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 Accessible Spaces:** There are three shorter pews, two in the north transept and one on the north side of the nave. Please only sit there or in the adjoining pews if you have assistive devices or need of extra space.

**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. Please pay attention to the nearest exit in the Sanctuary. In an emergency, an announcement will be made and children will be ushered 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. 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 (only until 2 p.m.), 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 (must be used 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. More rest rooms are available on the second level of the Parish House, if you are able to use the stairs.

**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 at 8:00 p.m. via Facebook.

**Sunday School:** We offer children's and youth formation, including Make a Joyful Noise with Mr. Alex, from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Nursery care for children under kindergarten is available from 9:15 a.m. through the 10:30 a.m. Service. For more information please contact Jeff Brown, Director of Faith Formation, at [jeffb@stmarksgr.org](mailto:jeffb@stmarksgr.org).

**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 grades 6-12. We have regular formation gatherings during the school year and service as well as social activities throughout the year. Our Director of Faith Formation is Jeff Brown, [jeffatgrey@gmail.com](mailto: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: contact Doug Karsen for more information at [karsencd@gmail.com](mailto:karsencd@gmail.com).

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

**eNews:** For the fullest expression of St. Marks' activities, get the weekly eNews in your email or from our homepage.

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

### St. Mark's Staff

The Rev. David Blank, Interim Rector  
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon

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

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

**Worship during Lent** (Ash Wednesday - Wednesday of Holy Week): During Lent, our liturgies take on a different and somewhat less celebratory character due to the penitential nature of the Lenten season. The liturgical environment is sparse and the liturgical color changes to a deep purple. The prayers of the liturgy reflect the season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

## The Gathering of the People

*Our prayer begins with the offering of music to help us prepare for the words and actions to follow.*

**Prelude**— Contrapunctus 7

*J.S. Bach*

**Welcome**—*Lector I*

**Introit**— The Earth, O Lord, Is Full of Thy Love

*Robert Powell*

St. Mark's Bell Choir

*(You may stand.) We continue our prayer as clergy and ministers are called forth from the congregation to assist us as leaders in worship.*

**Gathering Hymn**— **Blue Hymnal No. 441: In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

*Rathbun*

### Invitation to Prayer

*Presider:* † Bless God, who forgives all our sins.

*All:* **God's mercy endures forever.**

*Presider:* Jesus said, the first commandment is this: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31)

### The Confession

*Presider:* If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9) *Silence is observed.*

*All:* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

### Kyrie

*Healey Willan*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ have mer - cy up - on us.  
Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Absolution

*Presider:* May †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 keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## Collect of the Day

*Presider:* God be with you.

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

*Presider:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

*We listen and hear the Word of God from the Sacred Scriptures of both the Hebrew and Christian Traditions.*

**The Hebrew Scripture** (*You may sit.*)

*Isaiah 43:16-21*

*Lector I:* A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

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

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 126

*In convertendo*

*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.*



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

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
**then were we like those who dream.**

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
**and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations, \*  
**"The Lord has done great things for them."**

*Antiphon*

Restore our fortunes, O Lord, \*  
**like the watercourses of the Negev.**

Those who sowed with tears \*  
**will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
**will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

*Antiphon*

## The Christian Scripture

*Philippians 3:4b-14*

*Lector II:* A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Hymn— Blue Hymnal No. 474, vv. 1–2: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**  
(*Hymn continues after Gospel.*)

*Rockingham*

**The Gospel** (*You may stand.*)

*John 12:1-8*

*Gospeler:* A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Christ.**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

*Gospeler:* The Gospel of Christ

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

*After the Gospel reading during the 10:30 a.m. Service, children of all ages are invited to join us for Celebrate Jesus, a story and activity time in St. Mary's Chapel. We'll return to the Sanctuary at The Peace.*

**Gospel Hymn (continued)— Blue Hymnal 474, vv. 3–4: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

*Rockingham*

**The Homily**

The Rev. David Blank, Interim Rector

*A brief silence is observed for reflection.*

**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.**

*The following prayers are offered to God on behalf of all people, of all ages, gathered here in-person or praying with us online, and those around the world.*

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

*Lector I:* O God, you uphold all those who fall and lift up all who are bowed down. Therefore, during this Season of Lent, we pray in humility with the response, hear our prayer.

*Lector II:* We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons: for Sean, Presiding Bishop; the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes; 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; the D.R.E.A.M. Partnership in the Dominican Republic; Grace Church of Traverse City and its Rector, James Perra; St. Barnabas of Portage and its Priest-in-Charge, Mike Wood. We remember the Anglican Church of Chile. We pray:

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*Lector I:* God of love, hear the cry of those who yearn for love; fractured families, broken homes, neglected, feeling unwanted, alone. God of love, **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector II:* God of justice, hear the cry of those who yearn for justice; persecuted and oppressed, exploited, ill-treated, broken. God of justice, **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector I:* God of peace, hear the cry of those who yearn for peace in battle zones and broken states, frightened, fearful, anxious. God of peace, **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector II:* God of healing, hear the cry of those who yearn for healing or those feeling physical and spiritual hurt, weakness, depression, especially remembering those on our Parish Prayer list in the bulletin and all those for whom we have promised to pray. (*Pause to add names silently or aloud.*) God of healing, **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector I:* God of mercy, hear the cry of those who yearn for mercy; conflicted, in need of your grace, contrite, humble, bowed down, God of mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*Lector II:* God of the living and the dead, we pray for those who have died and those who will die this day, especially those unremarked or unattended. I invite you to add the names of those for whom you wish to pray. (*Pause to add names.*) O God, hear us. **O God, graciously hear us.**

*Presider:* O God, we ask you to hear these prayers and give us your love, justice, healing and mercy, this day and all days. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

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

*People:* **And also with you.**

### **Announcements**

## The Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Music — What Wondrous Love Is This

Robert Shaw and Alice Parker

### Doxology

Praise God through - out these for - ty days;  
praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;  
and praise the Spi - rit who im - parts  
God's love in Christ in - to our hearts.

### The Great Thanksgiving

Scottish Prayer Book 1983, Eucharistic Prayer III

*Presider:* God 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 God thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* Worship and praise belong to you, maker of light and darkness. Your wisdom draws beauty from chaos, brings a harvest out of sorrow and leads the exiles home. In Christ your Son's enemies are reconciled, debts forgiven and strangers made welcome. Your Spirit frees us to live as sons and daughters in our Creator's house, and so we pray:

### Sanctus

David Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

*(The people may stand or kneel.)*

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father, for Christ in whom the world is reconciled. Lifted on the Cross, his suffering and forgiveness spanned the gulf our sins had made. Through that dark struggle death was swallowed up in victory, that life and light might reign. Before he was given up to suffering and death, recalling the night of Israel's release, the night in which the sons of Egypt died, your Chosen One, himself the First-Born, freely offered his life.

At supper with his disciples, Jesus took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you." Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper, Jesus took the cup. He offered you thanks and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

We now obey your Son's command.

**We recall his blessed passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension; and we look for the coming of his Reign.**

Made one with him, we offer you these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Hear us, most merciful Father and †send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be for †us the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Holy Reign.

Help us and all the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into the heritage of the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, the prophets, St. Mark and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, God of all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

*Presider:* 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 Distribution** *Spoken at 8:00. Sung at 10:30.*

*David Hurd*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.



*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.**

*Presider:* All are invited to receive Holy Communion which contains both consecrated bread and wine. 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 No. 332: O God, Unseen Yet Ever Near**

*St. Flavian*

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

*Presider:* Let us pray.

*People:* **O gracious God, Jesus stretched out arms of love upon the hard wood of the cross to embrace all the peoples of the earth. We thank you for feeding us with the Sacrament of that precious Body and Blood, the sign and instrument of our common life, food for our Lenten pilgrimage and the foretaste of the heavenly banquet to come; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

*Presider:* May the peace of Christ which passes all understanding keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and may the blessing of God, †Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be upon us this day and remain with us always, we pray: **Amen.**

**Hymn of Sending Forth—Blue Hymnal No. 149: Eternal Lord of Love**

*Old 124th*

### **Dismissal**

*Presider or Deacon:* Let us go in peace to love and serve God and all God's people.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude – Contrapunctus 1**

*Bach*

*Thank you for being with us today. We are all invited to participate in St. Mark's tradition to remain seated until all candles are extinguished and the postlude has ended. Then please join us in the Parish Hall for further fellowship.*

## 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**

Alissa Almont  
 Dave Atkinson  
 Jayne Austin  
 Sally Bowie  
 Christopher Brewer  
 Ed Cox  
 Terry Dusendang  
 George Elliott  
 Jon Hamm  
 Ruth Hammond  
 David Leach  
 Kathryn Marmion  
 Laura Maslonka  
 Jackie McCarthy  
 Chris McClain  
 Jean McCormick  
 Carmela McIntire  
 Goebbert-McIntire Family  
 Bill Nasser  
 Ed Nicholson  
 Marilyn and Ron Oom  
 Joe Pinto  
 Chris Reale  
 Michael Reale, Sr.  
 Julie Renauldo  
 Bea Rocco  
 Javier Ronquillo  
 Dan Scripsema  
 Meghan VanderMale  
 Guillermo Venecia

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

### **In Military Service**

B.G. Timothy Brower, Sr. USA  
 PV2. Cailen Donahue McLea, USA  
 Spc. Henry Dykema, ARNG  
 Cpt. Nathan Gaggin, USAF  
 Col. Lt. Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC  
 Col. Todd Murray, USAF  
 2LT. John Nicholson, USA

### **Members of the Vestry**

Ben Busman, Sr. Warden  
 Judy Freeman, Jr. Warden  
 Emily Krueger, Clerk  
 Gloria Lara, Treasurer  
 Steve Bell  
 Scot Gugle  
 Laura Kozminski  
 Penny Larsen  
 Dan McDonald  
 Carmela McIntire  
 Rex Miller  
 Michael Reale

### **Search Committee**

Bob Brower  
 Doug Busman  
 Nancy Dodge  
 Karen Hunter  
 Carmela McIntire  
 Shawn Miller  
 Heather Tafel  
 Darren Walhof  
 Tom Woudstra,  
 Chaplain

### **Postulant for Holy Orders**

Thon Deng

### **Candidate for Holy Orders**

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](mailto: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](http://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



## Church Spotlight: Sacred Sounds at St. Mark's Presents Sinta Quartet Today, 5:00 p.m., with Reception to Follow



The Sinta Quartet is on a mission to bring the versatility, homogeneity, and excitement of the saxophone to audiences everywhere. Strengthening an already palpable connection with its audience by performing entirely from memory, the quartet provides a fresh take on chamber music that is at once beautiful, virtuosic, and a completely interactive experience. The Sinta Quartet has performed in some of the world's great halls such as Carnegie Hall, Walt Disney Hall, and the Beijing Center for the Performing Arts.

"The Sinta Quartet, recognized as one of the finest ensembles of its type, not only amazed with stunningly virtuosic technique and virtually perfect intonation, but also by its profound attention to the music."- *Palm Beach Daily News*

### Parish Notes

**Welcome!** Guests, please sign the book in the front lobby. Fill out the new parishioner information sheet (in the lobby podium) to get name tags, receive weekly eNews or officially join the St. Mark's Family in Faith.

**Education for Ministry (EfM) Book Study, Today, 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.:** EfM is an adult education course that dives deeply into scripture, church history and theology. All are welcome for a book discussion of "The Four Vision Quests of Jesus" by Steven Charleston, a Native American priest within the Episcopal Church. Contact Laura if you want to join the study or possibly EfM: [laurakozminski@gmail.com](mailto:laurakozminski@gmail.com).

**Relational Meetings Training, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:00–9:00 p.m.** Together West Michigan invites you to learn the tools of "house meetings" and "one on ones" in order to build relational power in our institution and community! It is hosted at Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain Street NE. Free street parking or use our lot.

**Final Soup Supper in the Series, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.:** Join us for soup supper at 6:00 p.m. on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Exploration of the book *Being Christian* begins at 6:30 p.m. and closes with Compline by 8:00 p.m.

**St. Philip's Episcopal Church Fish Fry:** Eat in or carry out from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Intergenerational Earth Day Retreat, April 25<sup>th</sup>–27<sup>th</sup>:** Folx of all ages are invited to Camp Roger in Rockford. Together we'll reflect on our care for creation and celebrate Earth Day at Plainsong Farm. The cost has been subsidized to \$30/person or \$20/child aged 5–12. Use the eNews link to register by April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Earth Day Birthday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00–4:00 p.m.** Celebrate our Earth and Plainsong Farm's 10<sup>th</sup> year with outdoor volunteer projects, nature crafts, cake and good fun. RSVP at [plainsongfarm.com/experiences](http://plainsongfarm.com/experiences).

**United Thank Offering (UTO):** The ingathering of UTO Blue Boxes will be May 4th during the Services.

**St Mark's Outreach Ministry Update:** One of the agencies St. Mark's contributes to annually is Arbor Circle. To learn more about some of their services, the Outreach Team volunteered at one of their programs. They cooked and served a dinner for the youth who are living in the only homeless shelter for ages 10–18 in Grand Rapids. The time at "The Bridge" was valuable indeed and makes a difference for these children.

**Building Project Update:** Thank you to everyone who provided feedback on the building plans. The Building Planning Team reviewed each request with the architect and incorporated all the suggestions that were architecturally and financially feasible. Final renderings will be posted soon.



With the plans complete, we were able to send a Request for Proposal (RFP) to local construction management companies. The Building Planning Team will review them and recommend a vendor to the Vestry. We anticipate choosing a construction firm and project manager by early May. We will then work with the chosen firm to set an initial construction schedule, realizing that it will be adjusted as we progress through the project and work within the capital that has been committed. We will continue to provide regular updates as new information is available.