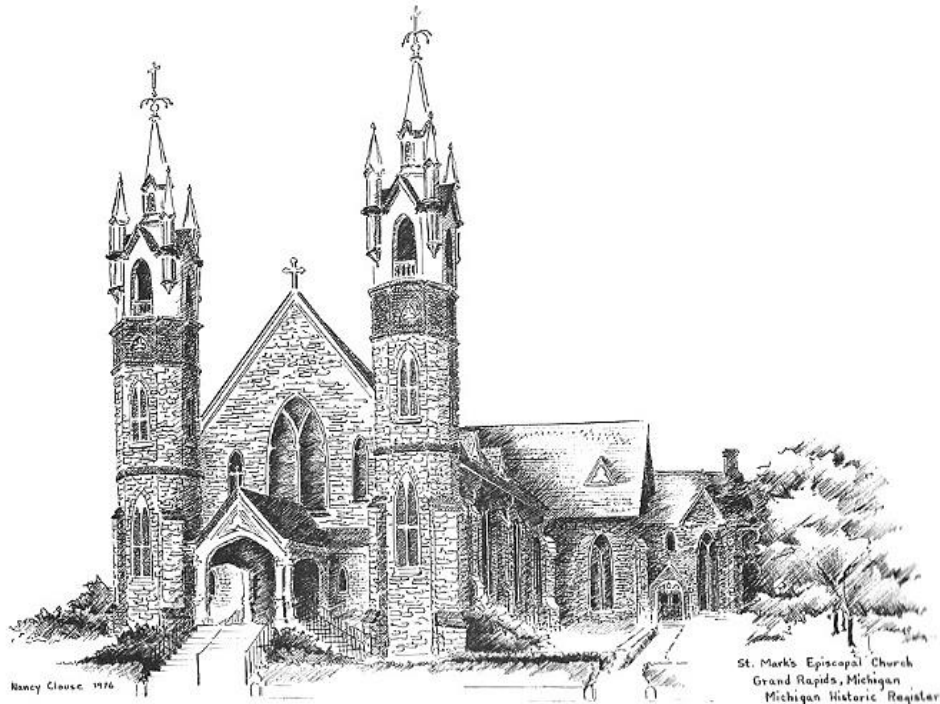


The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 7, 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

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 Accessible Spaces: Note, there are three designated spaces for those with assistive devices or in need of extra space, 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
Marquice Jackson, Weekend Sexton
Jamie Interrial, Security Representative
Eric Gable, Webmaster

The Gathering of the People

Prelude – Amazing Grace

Raymond Haan

Welcome

Gathering Hymn – Blue Hymnal 637: How Firm a Foundation

Lyons

Prayer of Invocation

Presider I: † Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All: **And blessed be God's reign now and forever. 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.**

Confession and Absolution

Presider II: Let us confess our faults and admit our frailty. *(A pause is observed for reflection)*

All: **Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness: to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world. We lay down what is past and look to the future. We take into daily life signs of hope and healing. We reach beyond ourselves, to share the lives of others and touch the wider world.**

Presider II: † May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit enable us to grow in love.

All: **Amen.**

Presider I: Let us offer praise to God.

Gloria

Frank E. White

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, He is the might - y King, mas-ter of
ev'r - y thing. The cap-tain of my soul, the u-ni - verse con-trol, God is the one
true ex-pres-sion of life. He's the cre - a - tor, a great cre - a - tor,
Hea - ven and earth His great-ness pro - claim. The cap-tain of my
soul, the u - ni - verse con-trol, ho - nor and ma - jes - ty se-cond to none.

Collect

Presider II: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Hebrew Reading (*You may sit.*)

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

Lector I: A reading from the Second Book of Samuel.

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The Lord said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inwards. And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 48

Magnus Dominus

Lector I: Let us pray the Psalm responsively by half verse.

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised; *
in the city of our God is his holy hill.

Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, *
the very center of the world and the city of the great King.

God is in her citadels; *
he is known to be her sure refuge.

Behold, the kings of the earth assembled *
and marched forward together.

They looked and were astounded; *
they retreated and fled in terror.

Trembling seized them there; *
they writhed like a woman in childbirth,
like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.

As we have heard, so have we seen,
in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God; *
God has established her for ever.

We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, *
in the midst of your temple.

Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; *
your right hand is full of justice.

Let Mount Zion be glad
and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments.

Make the circuit of Zion;
walk round about her; *
count the number of her towers.

Consider well her bulwarks;
examine her strongholds; *
that you may tell those who come after.

This God is our God for ever and ever; *
he shall be our guide for evermore.

The Christian Reading

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Lector II: A Reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians.

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows – was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Hymn – Red Hymnal 181: Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace

The Gospel

Mark 5:21-43

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

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily (*You may sit.*)

Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon

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: O God, we ask you to hear the prayers of your people gathered before you and hear our prayers with the response, "O God, hear us."

Lector I: O God, help us to be at peace within ourselves. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector II: O God, help us to accept that we are profoundly loved and need never be afraid. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector I: O God, help us to be aware that you are the common source of being to us all and to creation. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector II: O God, fill us with the presence of your great compassion for us, for all those in need, and those for whom we have promised to pray, especially remembering those on our Parish Prayer List found in the bulletin. We pray for those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector I: O God, bless all bishops, priests, and deacons: Michael, Presiding Bishop; Sean, Presiding Bishop-Elect; 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. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector II: O God, bless Calvary of Hillman and its Senior Warden, Dana Howard; St. Peter's Seasonal Chapel of Lake Leelanau and its Vicar, Charles Bennison. We remember the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector I: O God, help us so to live that all your people may have clean air, food, water, and shelter. Give us grace to do all we can to protect and preserve your creation. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector II: O God, may we cease to be a cause of suffering for others. Help us to end violence, hatred, anger, racism and war. In particular, we pray over the protests in Kenya. We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector I: O God, we pray for those who have died and those who will die this day unremarked or unattended. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. (*A pause is observed while additional prayers are offered.*) We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Lector II: Let us offer additional prayers, either silently or aloud. (*A pause is observed while additional prayers are offered.*) We pray:

All: O God, hear us.

Presider II: O God, hear our prayers, and kindle within our hearts a flame of love for our neighbors, our foes, our friends, our kindred all.

All: O God of the poor and the yearning, from the humblest thing that lives to the name that is highest of all, kindle within our hearts a flame of love. Amen.

The Peace

Presider I: The peace of Christ be always with you.

All: And also with you.

Presider: With respect, let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Announcements

Prayer for Our Country

The Liturgy of the Table

Reception of Gifts

Offertory Music – Panis Angelicus

César Franc

Angie Brown, soprano

Presentation Hymn

8:00 (*spoken*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

10:30

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; O praise him, al-le - lu - ia! Praise God above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Invitation

Presider I:

Friends in Christ, the table of bread and wine is now made ready.

It is the table of company with Jesus and all who love him.

It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world with whom Jesus identified himself.

It is the table of communion with the earth in which Christ became incarnate.

Come, it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

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: Eternal Triune God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another, to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of these gifts, and in all creation.

We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared through the centuries and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Therefore, we raise our voices, for ever praising you and saying:

Sanctus (*Spoken or sung*)

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.

Presider: Blessed are you, most Holy, in Jesus Christ, who came among us as a servant and a friend to reconcile us to yourself. We thank you for that life of love, the good news of your reign, and the promise of a banquet where all your children will be free.

Presider: For your gift of Christ, we praise you,

All: we worship and adore you.

On the night before he died, your Son, Jesus, took bread; he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said, take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you; do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Presider: For new life in Christ, we praise you,

All: we worship and adore you.

Therefore, loving God, recalling now Christ's death and resurrection, we ask you to accept this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. † Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine and upon us, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness. † Strengthen us to do your work, and to be your body in the world. Unite us in Christ and give us your peace.

Presider: For the peace of Christ, we praise you,

All: we worship and adore you.

Through Christ our Redeemer, in the power of the Spirit, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise. Blessing, honor and glory be yours, 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

David Hurd

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver 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.*

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

Presider II: Let us pray:

All: **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed, that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Presider I: May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, the rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of God's hand. And may God bless us, †Father, Son and Holy Spirit this day and forever more, we pray:

All: **Amen.**

Sending Forth

Priest or Deacon: Our Worship has ended – now our Service begins.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude - Allegro

James Woodman

Thank you for being with us today. We are all invited to participate in the 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.

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
Dave Atkinson
Jayne Austin
Ed Cox
Terry Dusendang
Ruth Hammond
Bill Isenberg
Jennifer Julius
Jeffrey LoTempio
Kathryn Marmion
Laura Maslonka
Jim, Chris McClain
Doris Molina
Bill Nasser
Ed, Chris Nicholson
John Oatley
Nora Quillen and family
Chris Reale
Javier Ronquillo
Becky Stein-Wells
Meghan VanderMale
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
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

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

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

Prayer for the Transition

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](http://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

During the summer months, we kindly ask for your continued support through pledges and offerings. Additionally, the financials are available for your review on the bulletin board. Thank you for your ongoing support of St. Mark's mission and ministry!

Parish Notes

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

No Nursery Care Today for Independence Day weekend. As always, don't hesitate to take advantage of the soft-play area in the Sanctuary.

Children's Formation for the Summer: Four-year-olds through 4th graders will join their parents for the beginning of the Service. (Make sure to pick up a special activity bulletin on your way in!) After the Gospel reading, children are invited to exit the Sanctuary for a lectionary lesson in St. Mary's Chapel and game time in the garden (weather permitting) before returning for Eucharist.

Downtown Food Pantry: Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Downtown Food Pantry. We so appreciate all your contributions and urge you to continue helping if you can. The Downtown Food Pantry's Director, Becky Stein-Wells, suffered a stroke earlier this summer and can use our help and prayers as she continues to recover. Each week, our announcements include the needed food items for the month, although all food items are appreciated and used! Just bring your cans or boxes to church with you and leave them by the basket just inside the Sanctuary doors.

Updates from Together West Michigan

It's a big year for elections at every level. We'll decide again who will represent us in important decisions about childcare, housing, mental health, and more.

TWM Relational Power Walk on July 11th, 5:00–8:00 p.m. Sign up with the QR code below. We'll be walking in West Wyoming and Oakdale Park to talk with neighbors about:

- What keeps folks up at night
- What our elected officials can do about it
- How/when/where to vote



It's actually fun. You'll be provided with training, materials, a buddy to walk with and more. Join us July 11th at 5:00 p.m. at one of these locations: Oakdale Park Church, 961 Temple St SE or Buck Creek Church, 3746 Byron Center Ave SW.

Delegates Assembly, July 27th 10:00–11:30 a.m. An inspiring and important show of support.

Vestry Person of the Day: Bring your questions or ideas to the Welcome Desk, to Dan McDonald or Brian Topolewski after the 8:00 a.m. Service, or Emily Krueger after the 10:30 a.m. Service.

Church Spotlight: 81st General Convention of the Episcopal Church

Better together. It's official! The Eastern and Western Dioceses of Michigan will join to become the Diocese of the Great Lakes, formalized at our local convention in October. Three Wisconsin dioceses will reunify, the Diocese of Hawaii will expand to include the Episcopal Church in Micronesia and the Navajoland mission will become a Missionary Diocese, able to elect their own bishop.



Anna and Agol had very meaningful experiences as the youth delegates from our province. Their heartfelt statements were read in advance of the vote on juncture.

Presiding Bishop-Elect Sean Rowe will take office in November.

An inclusive marriage rite is being added to the Book of Common Prayer: "Holy Matrimony is Christian marriage, in which *two people* ~~the woman and the man~~ enter into a life-long union, make their vows before God and the Church, and receive the grace and blessing of God to help them fulfill their vows." The vote was unanimous. A second vote at the 82nd General Convention will confirm it.