

**S**T MARK'S  
Episcopal Church

**Third Sunday after the Epiphany**

**January 24, 2016**

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**8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

*Please observe silence before the service for prayer and meditation, so that all may prepare heart and mind for worship. All mobile telephones, pagers and electronic devices with audible alarms should be turned off prior to the service.*

**THE RT. REV. LARRY BENFIELD, BISHOP**  
**THE REV. JESSE PERKINS, RECTOR**  
**THE REV. AMBER CARSWELL, CURATE**

[www.StMarksJonesboro.org](http://www.StMarksJonesboro.org)

**Welcome** to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, we are glad you are here! Please complete a **Welcome** card and place it in the offering plate. St. Mark's is a traditional church for contemporary people and we believe that God's love is for everyone. This is an open-minded congregation where we actively seek, question and wonder about our faith. We also believe that we are the hands of Christ, and mission work within our community is a vital part of what we do here.

### **AN OPEN TABLE**

All are welcome to receive communion here. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the minister know when you are at the altar rail. You are invited to come forward and kneel as you are able to receive the bread. You may drink from the cup or take the wine by "intinction," or dipping the wafer into the cup. If you prefer a blessing only, cross your arms over your chest.

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CHILDREN**

Children's Chapel is held at 10 a.m. for children ages 3 through 7 in our smaller John Roberts Chapel. Children enter our Sanctuary during the processional hymn and will return from Chapel during the Peace so that they may share the Eucharist with their families. Children's Chapel is a special time for these children, and they sing, pray, craft and hear the Gospel.

### **WEDNESDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

During the school year, children in kindergarten through high school meet at 6 p.m. for dinner and fellowship, then split up by age for class. Classes end at 7:30 p.m.

### **NURSERY SERVICES**

The nursery is located in the short hallway between the Narthex and the Parish Hall. Nursery is provided for children birth through age 3. Nursery hours are from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The friendly, two-room nursery suite is staffed by a wonderful group of compassionate caregivers who are church members and mothers, too!

### **RESTROOMS**

Are located to the left of the main entrance, through the Parish Offices door.

### **COFFEE BAR**

In between the services, enjoy a cup of coffee at our coffee bar, located in the front left corner of the Narthex. Additional church information about our ministries and upcoming events can be found there as well.

### **OUR SERVICES**

Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sundays (Nave)

Compline Service at 6:30 p.m. Sundays (Nave)

Healing Eucharist at 6:15 p.m. Wednesdays (John Roberts Chapel)

### **JOINING**

If you are interested in joining St. Mark's, please let us know on the Welcome Card.

### **DIGITAL BULLETINS AND WI-FI ACCESS**

Digital bulletins are available; to download please visit <http://stmj.us>. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the building.

# THE WORD OF GOD

*All stand as the cross enters.*

*Priest* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant says*

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.**

*Celebrant and people say*

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**THE COLLECT** The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

BCP 215

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect*

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

## THE LESSONS

**FIRST LESSON** A reading from Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.

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

**PSALM 19** *Read responsively.*

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
**and the firmament shows his handiwork.**

2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
**and one night imparts knowledge to another.**

3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
**and their voices are not heard,**

4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
**and their message to the ends of the world.**

5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
**it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;**  
**it rejoices like a champion to run its course.**

6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
**nothing is hidden from its burning heat.**

7 The law of the Lord is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
**the testimony of the Lord is sure**  
**and gives wisdom to the innocent.**

8 The statutes of the Lord are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
**the commandment of the Lord is clear**  
**and gives light to the eyes.**

9 The fear of the Lord is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
**the judgments of the Lord are true**  
**and righteous altogether.**

10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*  
**sweeter far than honey,**  
**than honey in the comb.**

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
**and in keeping them there is great reward.**

12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
**cleanse me from my secret faults.**

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
**then shall I be whole and sound,**  
**and innocent of a great offense.**

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
**O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.**

**SECOND LESSON** A Reading from Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.

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

**THE GOSPEL** Luke 4:14-21

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to John.

*People*           **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and

was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **THE SERMON**

The Rev. Amber Carswell

## **THE NICENE CREED**

BCP 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, FORM VI**

BCP 392

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For [Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Larry our Bishop(s); and for] all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.



Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

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.

## **THE PEACE, GREETINGS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BCP 360**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

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

*Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **THE BIRTHDAY PRAYER**

**BCP 830 (#50)**

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **THE PRESENTATION OF ALMS**

*All: All things come of thee O Lord, and of Thine Own have we given Thee.*

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, RITE II, PRAYER D**

**BCP 372**

*(Please follow in your prayer books.)*

*Our table is open to all who seek to experience God's grace. Please come to the communion rail by the center aisle and kneel or stand to receive the elements.*

## **Eucharistic Prayer D**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**  
*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 him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say),

*Celebrant and People*

**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.**

*The people stand or kneel.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.*

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

*The Celebrant continues*

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Mark and] all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and forever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant and people*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

## **DISMISSAL**

*Priest* Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## Epiphany

When you have a sudden realization or arrive at a greater understanding, it is often called an epiphany. This season is appropriately named, because it is here that we hear Bible readings about Jesus that reveal his true nature. Jesus is something special, something different: Jesus is God's Son, the Messiah.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

**Today** Third Sunday after the Epiphany  
2:30p Recorder Rehearsal  
3:30p Handbell Rehearsal  
5:00p EfM  
6:30p Compline

**Wed** 6:00p Christian Education  
6:15p Evening Prayer  
7:00p Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday** 6:30-11:30 Pancake Day  
Book and Bake Sale  
10:00a Two Saints' Kitchen, Team # 3

## SAVE THE DATE

**Feb 9** Chili Cook Off and Mardi Gras

**Feb 10** Ash Wednesday

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

1/24 Kelly Welch	1/26 C.W. Toombs
1/25 Hanne Heim	1/26 Gabriel Looney
1/26 Beth Smith	1/26 Gianna Hudson
1/26 DeeDee Hudson	1/28 Cara Joy Murry
1/26 Kirsten Penley	1/30 Carol Scroggin
	1/30 Rhonda Dauer

### Anniversaries

1/29 Todd and Kelly Welch

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Helping Neighbors Food Pantry** Last week St. Mark's contributed \$73 and 14 pounds of food to Helping Neighbors—thank you!

**Year End Statements** Year end statements are in a box on the table in the narthex. Please pick yours up. Thanks, Amber Cesare

**Bake and Book Sale** ECW will be taking donations for the bake and book sale from 4-6 on Friday before the sale. We will be at the church from 6--12 on Saturday.

**Confirmation Classes** Are you interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church, becoming a confirmed member, or just want to brush up on trivia facts about Henry VIII? Confirmation classes will begin Sunday, February 7 at 11:30a (after the second service.) We will meet in the parish hall.

Feb 7: Class 1

Feb 14: Class 2

Feb 21: Class 3

Feb 28: Class 4

March 6: Class 5

(three week interlude for Holy Week / Easter)

April 10: Class 6

April 17: optional make-up class

### WEEKLY REPORT

	Weekly Budget	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget, Wk 3	Attendance
Offering 1/17/16	\$ 3,530	\$ 28,873	\$ 28,873	Last Week 134
Needed	<u>6,508</u>	<u>19,980</u>	<u>19,254</u>	2015 52 Wk Av 134
Shortage	(\$ 2,978)	\$ 8,893	\$ 9,619	2014 Average 138
Current Cash	\$ 6,112			
Outstanding bills	(\$ 8,634)		Loan Balance	\$ 167,335

### ST. MARK'S STAFF

Rev. Jesse Perkins, Rector

Rev. Amber Carswell, Curate

Amber Cesare

Susan Geis, Secretary

Joy Sanford, Organist

Rhonda Dauer, Music Director

Betty Donnell, Sandy Clark,

Stephanie Matthews, Kirsten Penley

rector@stmarksjonesboro.org

curate@stmarksjonesboro.org

bookkeeper@stmarksjonesboro.org

secretary@stmarksjonesboro.org

jandjazz@suddenlink.net

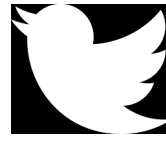
music@stmarksjonesboro.org

nursery attendants

**ST. MARK'S VESTRY**

Blake Coe, Senior Warden	870-217-1975	davidblakecoe@gmail.com
Lise Cater	870-219-6700	lisec58@suddenlink.net
Scott Darwin	870-972-8354	sdarwin@suddenlink.net
Erik Gilbert	870-930-9735	egilbert@astate.edu
Deb McInturff	870-934-1915	debmcinturff@gmail.com
Perry Moses	870-351-6250	perrymoses@yahoo.com
Carol Neves	870-919-4830	carol.neves@jonesboroschools.net
Phillip Poston	870-9191737	ptposton@suddenlink.net
Johnny Stayton	870-275-3837	johnnystayton@gmail.com
Steve Thompson	870-273-6467	Steve.thompson@jonesboroschools.net
Amanda Wheeler	870-245-8073	aawheeler10@yahoo.com
David Worlow	870-932-8448	dworlow@jonesborocpa.com





*The Episcopal Church welcomes you!*



ST MARK'S  
Episcopal Church

St. Mark's Episcopal Church & Day School  
531 W College Ave., Jonesboro, AR 72401  
(870) 932-2124  
[www.StMarksJonesboro.org](http://www.StMarksJonesboro.org)