



ST MARK'S
Episcopal Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 17, 2016

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

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

Children in kindergarten through high school meet at 6 p.m. for dinner and fellowship, then split up by age. 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 in the Sanctuary Foyer, through the Parish Offices door, on the right-hand side.

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 7:30 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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

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 OF THE DAY Fourth Sunday of Easter

BCP 225

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON A Reading from Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23 *Read responsively by half verse.*

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; *

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days
of my life, *

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

SECOND LESSON A Reading from Revelation 7:9-17

I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

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

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

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Jesse Perkins

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

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; 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.

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

O God, our times are in your hands: 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. Amen.

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

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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

In Lent, Alleluia is omitted, and may be omitted at other times except during Easter Season.

In place of, or in addition to, the preceding, some other suitable anthem may be used.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith,
with thanksgiving.

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

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

The priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Easter Season

Easter is a season that marks the end of Lent and celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. As Christians, our core message, our gospel, is that God loves us and that our lives matter; we do not end in death. The paschal candle (large candle by the altar) remains lit during this season to remind us of Christ's continuing presence with us. The alleluia's that were omitted during Lent now return to the liturgy to express the joy we have in Christ. The general confession is omitted during Easter to symbolize that our debt has been paid and we are forgiven.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today 10:00a Arkansas State University Concert Choir
2:30p Recorder Rehearsal
5:00p EfM
6:30p Compline
Mon 7:00p Vestry Meeting
Wed 6:00p Christian Education
6:15p Healing Eucharist
7:00p Choir Practice
Thurs 6:30p Men's Club Fish Fry
Sat 10:00a Two Saints' Kitchen, Team # 5

SAVE THE DATE

April 24 Bishop Benfield's Visit, Confirmation, and Reception

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

4/17 E. Paul Milam	4/21 Remington Hendrix- Brown
4/19 David Jones	4/22 Tim Bohn
4/19 Matthew May	4/22 Phillip Tew
4/20 Emma Dunn	4/22 Colby Neves
4/20 Breanna Johnson	4/23 Rose Mary Latanich
4/21 Steve Thompson	4/23 Halen Robinson
4/21 Jessica Fagan	4/23 Sammy Welch

Anniversaries

4/23 Doyle and DeeDee Gilliam

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Arkansas State University's various choral ensembles have teamed up to travel to Ireland in Spring of 2017! This trip will give students and community members the opportunity to sing in gorgeous cathedrals, experience Ireland's unique culture, and enrich personal growth. Your donations will be given to participating students to help fund this educational opportunity (travel, board, food, etc.). On behalf of all the music students at ASU, we would like to thank you for your support and encouragement!

Application Form for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation If you wish to be confirmed, reaffirmed, or received on April 24 when Bishop Benfield is here, please complete the application form you will find by typing in this link: <http://confirm.stmarksjonesboro.org/>. Thank you.

Reception after Confirmation Service We will be hosting a reception for the bishop and our new church members following Confirmation on April 24. Look for the sign up sheet in St. Martha's Hall or contact Marian Peeler at marianpeeler@yahoo.com.

EYC Service Project EYC is planning a community service project for the youth housed at Consolidated Youth Services here in Jonesboro. CYS is a residential center for youth who are placed there by juvenile authorities, parents/guardians, or Department of Children and Family Services. Some are long-term foster placements for youth who struggle to maintain placement in regular foster homes. These youth often have no family to provide basic hygiene items for them, and they have limited games and activities to use while at CYS. St. Mark's EYC is going to provide kits to these youth that contain deodorant, shampoo, lotion and other hygiene products. We are also going to purchase games, cards and other appropriate items for their recreation time.

We are holding the "Wall O' Money" fundraiser to support our efforts. This will run through Sunday, April 24th. In the Narthex you will see 75 numbered envelopes. We would ask you to choose an envelope on the wall and donate the amount that is written on the front of that envelope. Once you've placed your money inside, please close and seal the envelope so we will know to take it down. We would LOVE to raise \$1000, so that we can replenish these materials at CYS every few months. Please consider helping us in this worthy cause as we support youth in need in our own community.

Daughters of the King When the Daughters of the King meet on Sunday, May 1st (11:30a), they will be making rosaries. They invite anyone who is interested to please feel free to join them!

Helping Neighbors Food Pantry Thank you for your donation of \$65 last week.

St. Mark's Garden Hooray, it's spring, and we would like to have a garden again this year, so if you enjoy working in a garden and would like to help, please email Sheila Guinn at sheilaguinn@cbjinc.com.

WEEKLY REPORT

	Weekly Budget	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget, Wk 15	Attendance
Offering 4/10/16	\$ 4,021	\$104,047	\$104,047	Last Week 132
Needed	<u>6,508</u>	<u>95,968</u>	<u>97,620</u>	2016 52 Wk Av 163
Shortage	(\$ 2,487)	\$ 8,079	\$ 6,427	2015 Average 154
Current Cash	\$ 7,153			
Outstanding bills	(\$ 9,657)		Loan Balance	\$ 165,561

ST. MARK'S STAFF

Rev. Jesse Perkins, Rector	rector@stmarksjonesboro.org
Rev. Amber Carswell, Curate	curate@stmarksjonesboro.org
Amber Cesare	bookkeeper@stmarksjonesboro.org
Susan Geis, Secretary	secretary@stmarksjonesboro.org
Joy Sanford, Organist	jandjazz@suddenlink.net
Rhonda Dauer, Music Director	music@stmarksjonesboro.org
Betty Donnell, Sandy Clark,	nursery attendants
Stephanie Matthews, Kirsten Penley	

ST. MARK'S VESTRY

Blake Coe, Sr. 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, Jr. Warden	870-351-6250	perrymoses@yahoo.com
Carol Neves, Secretary	870-919-4830	carol.neves@jonesboroschools.net
Phillip Poston	870-9191737	ptposton@suddenlink.net
Ryker Robinson	901-412-7411	rykerrobinson@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