



**ST MARK'S**  
Episcopal Church

**Ordinary Time, Proper 17**

**August 28, 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. HANNAH HOOKER, 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**

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 (John Roberts Chapel)

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

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

*The Celebrant then continues*

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, Proper 17

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest* Let us pray.

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, or ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS

**FIRST LESSON** A reading from Jeremiah 2: 4-13

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

*Lector:* The word of the Lord.

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

**PSALM 81:1, 10-16** *Read responsively by half verse.*

1 Sing with joy to God our strength \*  
**and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.**

10 I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you out of the land of Egypt and said, \*  
**"Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it."**

11 And yet my people did not hear my voice, \*  
**and Israel would not obey me.**

12 So I gave them over to the stubbornness of their hearts, \*

**to follow their own devices.**

13 Oh, that my people would listen to me! \*  
**that Israel would walk in my ways!**

14 I should soon subdue their enemies \*  
**and turn my hand against their foes.**

15 Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, \*  
**and their punishment would last for ever.**

16 But Israel would I feed with the finest wheat \*  
**and satisfy him with honey from the rock.**

**SECOND LESSON** A reading from Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

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

**THE GOSPEL**

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

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

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

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more

distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Jason Alexander

## 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, FORM III**

*The Leader and People pray responsively*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and  
humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations  
of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION**

*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**

*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**

**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.**

Online giving also available by scanning here, using the [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) mobile app, or going to <http://give.stmarksjonesboro.org>.



## **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 A**

*Celebrant* 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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

*Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.*

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*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*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

*At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to 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.*

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

*People and Celebrant*

**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.]**

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

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*

## **DISMISSAL**

*Priest:* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*Today's altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God by the Rexplogles in honor of daughter Becky and son-in-law Frank's birthdays and also by Terry and Adele Barnett in honor of Adriane Barnett Duke's birthday.*

### Season after Pentecost

The seeds of the church planted by Jesus, the disciples, and the Holy Spirit are now growing. The Season after Pentecost is the time for Christians to learn and grow, to mature as people of faith. This season is often called the "green season" or "growing season." We have come full circle: we heard about Christ's birth, his life and death, his resurrection, and the birth of the church inspired by the Holy Spirit. Now it's our turn! We are that church still following God's lead, and God is still moving and working within us.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

**Today** 11:15p Vestry Meets with Rev. Jason Alexander  
6:30p Compline

**Wed** 6:15p Evening Prayer  
7:00p Choir Practice

**Sat** 10:00a Two Saints' Kitchen, Team # 4

## SAVE THE DATE

**Sept 11** Rally Day: bagpipes, bouncy castle, and potluck!

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

8/28 Suzanne Blackburn	8/31 Andrea Gilliam
8/28 Adrienne Duke	8/31 Amber Johnson
8/28 Michael Langford	8/31 Gerald McGough
8/30 Scott Darwin	8/31 Laura Thompson
8/30 Amelia Guinn	8/31 Kitty Thompson
	9/01 Gary Griffin

### Anniversaries

8/30 Charles & Sandra Yauger  
9/03 Jim & Deb McInturff

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Helping Neighbors Food Pantry** Thank you for your gifts last week; St. Mark's collected \$177 and 22 pounds of food for Helping Neighbors.

**Selecting Your Directory Photo** All photos have been uploaded to galleries at <http://ajohnsonphotog.pixieset.com/> To select your photo for the directory simply find your gallery, click on the image you would like featured, then click on "Favorite" above the photo. Alternatively, your selection may be e-mailed to [ajohnson.photog@gmail.com](mailto:ajohnson.photog@gmail.com). Please make your selection by the end of August.

### **Rally Day Potluck, September 11!**

There are sign-up sheets on the table in the narthex for the potluck on Sept. 11. Please put your name down for at least one item!

**Christian Education Sessions** will resume with an Open House on Wednesday, September 14. Parents and students will gather in the hall at 7:00pm for light refreshments. This will be an opportunity to welcome new students and returning students. Contact Rose Mary ([870-935-0236](tel:870-935-0236) or [rosemarylatanich@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarylatanich@gmail.com)) for more information.

**Kroger Community Rewards for Two Saints'** Now there's a way to help Two Saints' just by shopping for groceries! If you have a Kroger Plus card, simply go to [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) and click on "Register." After registering your card number, find the Jonesboro store and enter your email address and a password. That's it. When you grocery shop at Kroger, just swipe your card and Two Saints' will get the points!

### WEEKLY REPORT

	Weekly Budget	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget, Wk 34	Attendance
Offering 8/21/16	\$ 5,460	\$194,531	\$194,531	Last Week 193
Needed	___ 6,086	___ 190,060	___ 206,924	2016 52 Wk Av 156
Shortage	(\$ 626)	\$ 4,471	(\$ 12,393)	2015 Average 153
Current Cash	\$ 6,782			
Outstanding bills	(\$ 8,779)		Loan Balance	\$ 162,486

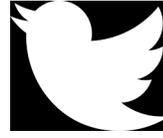
### ST. MARK'S STAFF

Rev. Hannah Hooker, Curate	<a href="mailto:hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org">hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
Amber Cesare	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@stmarksjonesboro.org">bookkeeper@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
Susan Geis, Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary@stmarksjonesboro.org">secretary@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
Joy Sanford, Organist	<a href="mailto:jandjazz@suddenlink.net">jandjazz@suddenlink.net</a>
Rhonda Dauer, Music Director	<a href="mailto:music@stmarksjonesboro.org">music@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
Betty Donnell, Stephanie Matthews, Tiya Demby, Sarah Wofford	Nursery attendants

### ST. MARK'S VESTRY

Blake Coe, Sr. Warden	870-217-1975	<a href="mailto:davidblakecoe@gmail.com">davidblakecoe@gmail.com</a>
Lise Cater	870-219-6700	<a href="mailto:lise58@suddenlink.net">lise58@suddenlink.net</a>
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*The Episcopal Church welcomes you!*



ST MARK'S  
Episcopal Church

St. Mark's Episcopal Church & Day School

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