



**ST MARK'S**  
Episcopal Church

**The Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

**January 29, 2017**

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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**

During the school year, children in k-6 meet at 6 p.m. for dinner and fellowship, then split up by age for class. Classes end at 7:30 p.m. Youth in grades 7-12 meet at 5:00 pm on Sunday.

#### **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

BCP 215

*Priest*           The Lord be with you.  
*People*           **And also with you.**  
*Priest*           Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS

**FIRST LESSON** A reading from the book of Micah 6: 1-8

Hear what the Lord says: "Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel." "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord." "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*Lector*           The Word of the Lord.  
*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 15** *Read responsively.*

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
**who may abide upon your holy hill?**

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
**who speaks the truth from his heart.**

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
**he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.**

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
**but he honors those who fear the Lord.**

5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
**and does not take back his word.**

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
**nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.**

7 Whoever does these things \*  
**shall never be overthrown.**

7 Whoever does these things \*  
**shall never be overthrown.**

## **SECOND LESSON** A reading from I Corinthians: 1:18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

*Lector*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE GOSPEL**

Matthew 5: 1-12

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

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

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **THE SERMON**

The Rev. Hannah Hooker

### **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 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*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*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 Bishop, when present, or the Priest, stands and says*



Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*All stand. The Celebrant says to the people*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

## **THE BIRTHDAY PRAYER**

**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. 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 C**

*The people remain standing. The Celebrant 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*

*Celebrant* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.  
*People* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Celebrant* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Celebrant* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us.  
By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Celebrant* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*Then the Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*People:* **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

*Celebrant:* Lord God of our Fathers; God of Abraham, Issac, and Jacob; God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*People:* **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

*Celebrant*

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

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Priest* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* 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.

## **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*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.*

## **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.**

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

**Today** 8:00a Holy Eucharist  
10:00a Holy Eucharist  
3:00p Handbell Rehearsal  
5:00p EYC  
6:30p Compline  
**Wed** 6:15p Healing Eucharist  
6:30p Christian Formation  
7:00p Choir Practice  
**Sat** 10:00a Two Saints' Kitchen, Team # 6

## SAVE THE DATE

**Feb 3-10** Rev. Hannah out of town  
**Feb 5** Morning Prayer  
**Feb 28** Chili Cook-off

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

1/30 Rhonda Dauer  
1/30 Troy Henry  
1/30 Carroll Scroggin  
2/02 Elizabeth Matthew

### Anniversaries

1/29 Todd and Kelly Welch

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helping Neighbors Food Pantry Thank you for your donations of \$122 last week.

Annual Donation Statements Annual statements were emailed on Tuesday, January 17. The statements for those people without an email address are on the table in the narthex. If you did not receive yours or it is not in the group on the table, please let the office know.

**Parents' Night Out** St. Mark's EYC (youth group) is having a Parents' Night Out fundraiser to send our young people to Winter Star at Camp Mitchell in March.

When: February 11<sup>th</sup> Time: 5:30pm to 9:30pm

\$20 for first child \$10 for siblings

We will play games, eat supper, watch movies

Adult supervision will be provided.

To make a reservation, call or text Stephanie Matthews at 870-340-5559.

**Young(ish) Adult Book Club** The young adults at St. Mark's are hungry for spiritual and theological study and are putting together a book club. The group will meet regularly, rotating through the homes of the participants. The first book is *Creation: The Apple of God's Eye* by Justo Gonzalez. If you are interested in meaningful theological discussion with your peers, this could be the group for you, so please email Rev. Hannah at [hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org](mailto:hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org) or Julie Kennedy-Hampton at [jkennedy@pcssd.x12mo.us](mailto:jkennedy@pcssd.x12mo.us)

### WEEKLY REPORT

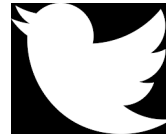
	Weekly Budget	Year to Date	Year to Date Budget, Wk 4	Attendance
Offering 01/22/17	\$ 3,913	\$ 27,865	\$ 27,865	Last Week 153
Needed	<u>5,903</u>	<u>9,861</u>	<u>23,612</u>	2017 52 Wk Av 146
Shortage	(\$ 1,990)	\$ 18,004	\$ 4,253	2016 Average 153
Current Cash	\$ 30,902			
Outstanding bills	(\$ 10,759)		Loan Balance	\$ 153,422

### ST. MARK'S STAFF

Rev. Hannah Hooker, Curate	<a href="mailto:hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org">hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
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Rhonda Dauer, Music Director	<a href="mailto:music@stmarksjonesboro.org">music@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
Betty Donnell, Stephanie Matthews,	Nursery attendants
Sarah Wofford, Alexis Zamora	

**ST. MARK'S VESTRY**

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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)