



**ST MARK'S**  
Episcopal Church

Ordinary Time, Proper 19

September 17, 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 4th through 5<sup>th</sup> grade 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 6<sup>th</sup> grade meet at 6 p.m. for dinner and fellowship, then split up by age. Classes end at 7:30 p.m. Youth in grades 7-12 meet at 5:00pm on Wednesdays.

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

## THE WORD OF GOD

*All standing, the Celebrant says*

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

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

**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 OF THE DAY Proper 19**

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS

### **FIRST LESSON** A Reading from Exodus 14: 19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 114** *Read responsively by whole verse.*

1 Hallelujah!

When Israel came out of Egypt, \*  
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**2 Judah became God's sanctuary \*  
and Israel his dominion.**

3 The sea beheld it and fled; \*  
Jordan turned and went back.

**4 The mountains skipped like rams, \*  
and the little hills like young sheep.**

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? \*  
O Jordan, that you turned back?

**6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? \*  
you little hills like young sheep?**

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, \*  
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water \*  
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

**SECOND LESSON** A Reading from Romans 14: 1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18: 21-35

*Celebrant*     The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.  
*People*         **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

## THE SERMON

**The Rev. Hannah Hooker**

## 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.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy"

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, for Larry, our own Bishop, for Hannah, our curate, and Jon, our seminarian, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in positions of public trust especially Donald our president, Asa, our governor, and Harold, our mayor, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this congregation, for those who are present, and for those who are absent, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth your glory in all that we do. For \_\_\_\_\_, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For \_\_\_\_\_, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, especially \_\_\_\_\_, we pray to you, O Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God. **To you, O Lord our God.**

## **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.**

## **THE OFFERTORY**

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

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

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

*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*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

*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 before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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,

**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.**

*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.*

**POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

## **BLESSING**

*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.**

## **DISMISSAL**

*Priest* Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

*People* **Thanks be to God**

*Flowers on the altar today are given to the honor and glory of God by Wes and Sue Westerieder in celebration of their anniversary today.*

## **THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**Today** 8:00a Holy Eucharist

9:00a Adult Forum

10:00a Holy Eucharist

3:30p Handbell Rehearsal

5:00p EfM

6:30p Compline

**Mon** 7:00p Vestry Meeting

**Wed** 5:30p EYC

6:15p Healing Eucharist

7:00p Choir Rehearsal

**Sat** 10:00a 'Two Saints' Kitchen, Team # 9

## **SAVE THE DATE**

## Oct 1 Blessing of the Animals

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

#### Birthdays

9/17 Jack Fowler  
9/17 Dave Kroeter  
9/22 Sara Ellis  
9/22 Ruth Keisker  
9/22 Allie Kirk

#### Anniversaries

9/17 Wes and Sue Westenrieder

### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Christian Formation on Wednesday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> Due to the NEA Fair we will not have classes this week.

**Jonesboro HUB (Helping Underserved Belong)** The Jonesboro HUB assists our local homeless population in acquiring jobs and housing. They are currently in need of bicycle locks and reflectors to hand out along with bicycles that are donated. Bicycles are crucial for folks who have no other transportation to and from interviews, work, and home, and safety and security are HUB's top priorities. Locks and reflectors can be dropped off at the St. Mark's office.

**Children and Youth Formation at St. Mark's** Exciting things are happening for the young people at St. Mark's! Every Sunday, children ages 4th through 5th grade may participate in Children's Liturgy of the Word. The children process in together and head to the chapel. They return at the Peace. If your children are younger than 4 and you do not wish to have them with you during the service, our nursery is available! On Wednesday nights, Christian Education for children from Kindergarten through 6th grade meets from 6 to 7:30pm. Snacks are provided. EYC for grades 7 to 12 meets from 5:30 to 7:30pm, dinner included. For EYC news and updates, check out [www.stmarksjonesboro.org/ministry/youth](http://www.stmarksjonesboro.org/ministry/youth)

**Helping Neighbors Food Pantry** Thank you for your donations of 45 lbs. of food and \$40 last week; you're a great help!

**Financial Peace University at St. Mark's** As a worshiping community, one of our callings is to help one another thrive in the Kingdom however we can. This year, in conjunction with our annual Stewardship Campaign, we are happy to provide support and assistance through Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. All are welcome to participate. The cost is \$93/membership, 1 membership/family. The group will meet on Tuesdays

at 6:30pm at the church. Contact Amanda Wheeler at [aawheeler10@yahoo.com](mailto:aawheeler10@yahoo.com) for more information. Learn more at <https://www.daveramsey.com/fpu>.

**Advent Bazaar** St. Mark's will host an Advent Bazaar to benefit the Jonesboro HUB on Sunday, December 3rd, following a service of Advent Lessons and Carols at 10am. There will be refreshments and fellowship and a variety of vendors selling fabulous wares! Jonesboro HUB will be on hand to talk about their work and take donations, and a portion of proceeds from the event will go their way, as well. If you'd like to have a booth or know someone who might be interested, we still have space! Email Hannah at [hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org](mailto:hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org) and be sure to mark your calendars!

WEEKLY REPORT					
Week of 09/10/2017 wk 37		Year thru 09/10/17			Surplus (Shortage)
Actual Offering	\$3,163		Income	Expense	
Budgeted Offering	\$5,903	Actual	\$206,413	\$170,795	\$35,618
Surplus (Shortage)	(\$2,740)	Budgeted	\$218,411	\$187,849	\$30,562
		Surplus (Shortage)	\$(11,998)	\$17,054	
Current Cash	\$53,598				
Outstanding Bills		Attendance	Last Week	52-wk avg	2016
Loan Balance	149,339		134	138	153

### ST. MARK'S STAFF

Rev. Hannah Hooker, Curate	<a href="mailto:hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org">hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
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Sarah Wofford, Keisha Dunavin	

### 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)