



**ST MARK'S**  
Episcopal Church

**Ordinary Time, Proper 20**

**September 24, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 20**

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall

endure; 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 Exodus 16: 2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.” Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’” In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 105: 1-6, 37-45** *Read responsively by whole verse.*

1 Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name; \*  
make known his deeds among the peoples.

**2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, \***

**and speak of all his marvelous works.**

3 Glory in his holy Name; \*  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

**4 Search for the Lord and his strength; \*  
continually seek his face.**

5 Remember the marvels he has done, \*  
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

**6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, \*  
O children of Jacob his chosen.**

37 He led out his people with silver and gold; \*  
in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled.

**38 Egypt was glad of their going, \*  
because they were afraid of them.**

39 He spread out a cloud for a covering \*  
and a fire to give light in the night season.

**40 They asked, and quails appeared, \*  
and he satisfied them with bread from heaven.**

41 He opened the rock, and water flowed, \*  
so the river ran in the dry places.

**42 For God remembered his holy word \*  
and Abraham his servant.**

43 So he led forth his people with gladness, \*  
his chosen with shouts of joy.

**44 He gave his people the lands of the nations, \*  
and they took the fruit of others' toil,**

45 That they might keep his statutes \*  
and observe his laws.  
Hallelujah!

**SECOND LESSON** A Reading from Philippians 1: 21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE GOSPEL**

Matthew 20:1-6

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

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

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong;

did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

*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*

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

*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 into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
*People* **Thanks be to God**

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

**Today** 8:00a Holy Eucharist  
9:00a Adult Forum  
10:00a Holy Eucharist  
11:30a Daughters of the King  
5:00p EfM  
6:30p Compline

**Wed** 5:30p EYC  
6:00p Christian Education  
6:15p Healing Eucharist  
7:00p Choir Rehearsal

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

## SAVE THE DATE

**Oct 1 Blessing of the Animals**

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

9/24 Bill Brown  
p/27 Mady Hurst  
9/28 Mike Engelken  
9/28 Kassie Haynes

### Anniversaries

9/28 Dave and Janice Kroeter

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### No Handbell Rehearsal Today!

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!

**Liturgical Server's Training** All liturgical servers (acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, intercessors, lectors, vergers) are encouraged to come to training/refresher session from 10 - 11:30am on Saturday, October 7 in the nave. For new folks, this will be a chance to run through a service and ask questions. For experienced folks, this will be a chance to go over changes in procedures with our clergy turnover. Can't wait to see you all there!

**Spaghetti and Sexuality** Many members of our St. Mark's family, both LGBT+ and otherwise have wondered about the Episcopal Church's stance on sexuality and same-sex marriage. While we know that our LGBT+ brothers and sisters certainly have a place at St. Mark's, it is difficult to engage in meaningful conversation with family and friends without knowledge of our Church's theological journey. On Sunday, October 1 at 5:00pm, we will gather in the Parish Hall for a free spaghetti dinner and presentation/discussion about the Episcopal Church's relationship with these issues. All are welcome!

**Helping Neighbors Food Pantry** Thank you for your donations of \$55.

WEEKLY REPORT					
Week of 09/17/2017 wk 38		Year thru 09/17/17			Surplus (Shortage)
Actual Offering	\$2,817		Income	Expense	
Budgeted Offering	\$5,903	Actual	\$209,231	\$173,195	\$36,036
Surplus (Shortage)	(3,086)	Budgeted	\$224,314	\$192,926	\$31,388
		Surplus (Shortage)	\$(15,083)	\$19,731	
Current Cash	\$53,598				
Outstanding Bills		Attendance	Last Week	52-wk avg	2016
Loan Balance	149,339		123	137	153

**ST. MARK'S STAFF**

Rev. Hannah Hooker, Curate  
 Rhonda Dauer  
 Susan Geis, Secretary  
 Joy Sanford, Organist  
 Rhonda Dauer, Music Director  
 Betty Donnell, Stephanie Matthews,  
 Sarah Wofford, Keisha Dunavin

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*The Episcopal Church welcomes you!*



ST MARK'S  
Episcopal Church

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