



**ST MARK'S**  
Episcopal Church

**Last Sunday after Epiphany**

**February 11, 2018**

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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 Visitor 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**

Liturgy of the Word for Children is held at 10 a.m. for children ages 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade in our smaller John Roberts Chapel. Children enter our Nave during the processional hymn and return from the chapel during the Peace so that they may share the Eucharist with their families. Liturgy of the Word for Children is a special time for these children, and they sing, pray, craft and hear the Gospel.

#### **FORMATION 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 5:30pm 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 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 (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

*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 The Last Sunday after Epiphany

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

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

*Priest*        Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LESSONS

### FIRST LESSON    **A reading from the book of 2 Kings 2:1-12**

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he said, “Yes, I know; keep silent.”

Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?” And he answered, “Yes, I know; be silent.”

Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, “Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!” But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

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

## **PSALM 50:1-6**

### ***Deus deorum***

*Read responsively by whole verse.*

1 The LORD, the God of gods, has spoken;  
he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**2 Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,  
God reveals himself in glory.**

3 Our God will come and will not keep silence;  
before him there is a consuming flame,  
and round about him a raging storm.

**4 He calls the heavens and the earth from above  
to witness the judgment of his people.**

5 "Gather before me my loyal followers,  
those who have made a covenant with me  
and sealed it with sacrifice."

**6 Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause; \*  
for God himself is judge.**

## **SECOND LESSON** A reading from 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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

## **THE GOSPEL**

Matthew 9: 2-9

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

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*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.

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

*The Celebrant says*

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 N. 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.**

## **OFFERTORY**

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

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

*The Celebrant, whether bishop or priest, faces them and sings or says*

The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

*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:

*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.**

*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,

**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.**

*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** 8:00 am Holy Eucharist /The Church Periodical Club Sunday  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist/ The Church Periodical Club Sunday  
3:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal  
5:00 pm EfM  
6:30 pm Compline

**Mon** 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting

**Wed** 7:00 am Ash Wednesday Service in the Chapel  
12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service in the Nave  
No EYC  
6:00 pm Christian Ed \* See announcement below  
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service in the Nave

**Thurs** 6:00 pm Men's Club

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

## SAVE THE DATE

**February 13** Chili Cook off at 6:00pm-8:00pm in the Parish Hall

**February 14** Ash Wednesday Services (at 7am, noon, and 7pm)

**February 18** Confirmation Classes begin (Feb 18. –March 25, Sundays at 5:30pm)

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

02/11 Amanda Wheeler  
02/12 Avery Toombs  
02/013 Maggie Guinn  
02/16 Lyla Cunningham

02/17 Mike Cobb  
02/17 Sarah Gore  
02/17 Aylia Poston  
02/17 Becky Wells

### Anniversaries

02/13 Randy and Rhinda Kesselring

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Today is The Church Periodical Club Sunday!** This is an Episcopal Institution; its ministry is to raise funds for and supply books, magazines, tapes, videos, and computer programs free for those who cannot otherwise obtain them. Specifically, the Arkansas chapter of the CPC provides text books to seminarians, of which St. Mark's has several! On February 11, we will celebrate the ministry of the CPC by taking up a collection. Check out what the CPC is up to with the information in the narthex!

**Chili Cook-Off!** This Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 6:00pm-8:00pm in the Parish Hall. Anyone and everyone is welcome to enter their chili in the competition. ***Participants are asked to have their chili in the kitchen at 5:30pm*** for tasting and judging. Chili will be served to everyone at 6:00pm. We need folks to help set-up and clean-up, and sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.information.

\* **Christian Education** will gather with their families on Wednesday, February 14th at 6pm for a Valentine's party. Afterwards, we will attend the 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Services together. Lent begins on a humble note on Ash Wednesday, when people make their way to church to receive an imprint of ashes on their forehead in the form of a cross. "These remind us of our mortality and our dependence on God" as well as the sacrifice of Christ, which makes it possible for us as mortals to go to God. We encourage parents and younger siblings to participate in the special activities we have planned for Wed., February 14th.

**Helping Neighbors Food Pantry** Thank you for your generous donations of \$37.00 this past week!

**Learn Safe Cycling at St. Mark's** The Northeast Arkansas Bicycle Coalition is offering its Smart Cycling 101 course. Covering bike basics, riding technique, road safety and basic traffic law and skills, Smart Cycling has something for every level of rider. The two-day course is Friday evening of presentations at the Parish Hall followed by Saturday morning drills on the bike. Cost is \$20 for this League of American Bicyclists sanctioned nine-hour course. To learn more, contact Bill Smith or go to Facebook.com/NEABC.

### **St. Mark's #LentenDiscipline 2018 – Ways to Participate**

*Devotional Booklets* - Grab a devotional from the table in the Narthex! These are authored by members of the St. Mark's family, and as a worshipping community, we will commit to the same daily devotional throughout Lent.

*Inquirer's Class* - New to the Episcopal Church? Interested in Confirmation? Join our Inquirer's class on Sunday evenings at 5:30pm in the EYC room. We'll cover everything from Genesis to The Book of Common Prayer, and all questions are welcome!

*Gospel of John Group* - Looking for a more intimate spiritual exploration during Lent? Take part in our Lenten small group, "Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John." Explore how the Johannine community expressed their Christology (theology of Jesus) and the unique way John invites us into relationship with Christ. Sundays at 5:30pm in the Chapel.

## WEEKLY REPORT

Last week #	5
Actual Offering	\$ 7,235.72
Needed for Budget	\$ 6,670.00
Surplus (Shortage)	\$ 565.72

Year Through	
2/04/2017	
Actual Income	\$ 24,654.96
Budgeted	\$ 33,350.00
Surplus (Shortage)	\$ (8,695.04)

Current Cash	\$ 66,261.87
Loan Balance	\$ 145,032.92

### ST. MARK'S STAFF

The Rev. Hannah Hooker, Curate	<a href="mailto:hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org">hannah.hooker@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
Rhonda Dauer, Bookkeeper	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@stmarksjonesboro.org">bookkeeper@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, Keisha Dunavin	Nursery attendants

### 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)