



ST MARK'S
Episcopal Church

Third Sunday in Advent

Dec 14, 2014

10 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. JESSE PERKINS, RECTOR
THE REV. AMBER CARSWELL, CURATE

www.StMarksJonesboro.org

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, we are glad you are here! Please complete a **Welcome** card and place it in the offering plate. St. Mark's is a traditional church for contemporary people and we believe that God's love is for everyone. This is an open-minded congregation where we actively seek, question and wonder about our faith. We also believe that we are the hands of Christ, and mission work within our community is a vital part of what we do here.

AN OPEN TABLE

All are welcome to receive communion here. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please let the minister know when you are at the altar rail. You are invited to come forward and kneel as you are able to receive the bread. You may drink from the cup or take the wine by "intinction," or dipping the wafer into the cup. If you prefer a blessing only, cross your arms over your chest.

SUNDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Children's Chapel is held at 10 a.m. for children ages 3 through 7 in our smaller John Roberts Chapel. Children enter our Sanctuary during the processional hymn and will return from Chapel during the Peace so that they may share the Eucharist with their families. Children's Chapel is a special time for these children, and they sing, pray, craft and hear the Gospel.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Children in kindergarten through high school meet at 6 p.m. for dinner and fellowship, then split up by age. Classes end at 7:30 p.m.

NURSERY SERVICES

The nursery is located in the short hallway between the Narthex and the Parish Hall. Nursery is provided for children birth through age 3. Nursery hours are from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The friendly, two-room nursery suite is staffed by a wonderful group of compassionate caregivers who are church members and mothers, too!

RESTROOMS

Are located in the Sanctuary Foyer, through the Parish Offices door, on the right-hand side.

COFFEE BAR

In between the services, enjoy a cup of coffee at our coffee bar, located in the front left corner of the Narthex. Additional church information about our ministries and upcoming events can be found there as well.

OUR SERVICES

Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Sundays (Nave)

Compline Service at 7:30 p.m. Sundays (John Roberts Chapel)

Healing Eucharist at 6:15 p.m. Wednesdays (John Roberts Chapel)

JOINING

If you are interested in joining St. Mark's, please let us know on the Welcome Card.

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING VOLUNTARY

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 59

Hark! A thrilling voice is heard

Merton

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 355

THE KYRIE, S-96

All

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Blessing and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Celebrant: Our King and Saviour now draws near.

People: **Come, let us adore Him.**

Celebrant: Lord, grant us your light, that being rid of the darkness of our hearts, we may come to the true light which is Christ. **Amen.**

COLLECT ADVENT 3

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 212

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON A reading from Isaiah 6:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the

planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126

The Lord has done greatthings for us and we are glad in - deed. — The
 Lord has done greatthings for us and we are glad, and we are glad in - deed.

Refrain: sung by the choir

Refrain: sung by all

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, *
 then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
 and our tongue with shouts of joy.

3 Then they said among the nations, *
 “The Lord has done great things for them.” **Refrain**

5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, *
 like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves. **Refrain**

SECOND LESSON A Reading from I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN 438 *Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord* Woodlands

GOSPEL John 1:6-8, 19-28

Priest: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Jesse Perkins

THE NICENE CREED

BCP 358

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, FORM IV

BCP 388

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

THE PEACE

BCP 360

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BIRTHDAY PRAYER

BCP 830

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

This is the Record of John

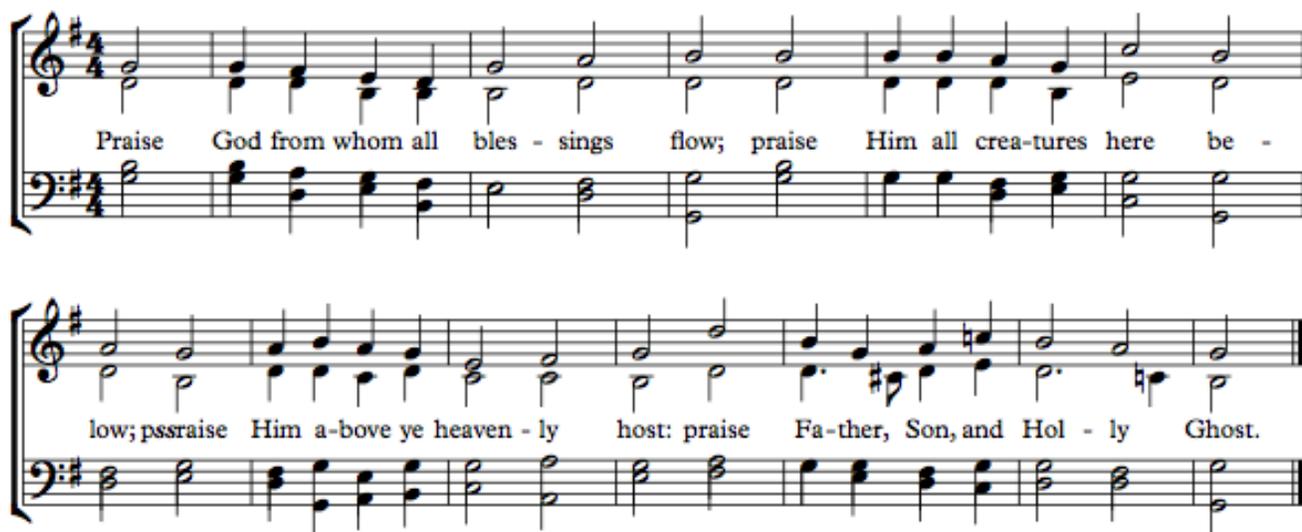
Orlando Gibbons

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed and denied not, and said plainly, I am not the Christ.

*And they asked him, "What art thou then? Art thou Elias?" And he said, "I am not."
"Art thou the prophet?" And he answered, "No."*

*Then said they unto him, "What art thou, that we may give an answer unto them that sent us? What sayest thou of thyself?"
And he said, "I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord."*

HYMN 380 (v 3) The Doxology and Presentation of Alms



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here be -

low; praise Him above ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Celebrant faces the people and 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

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.**

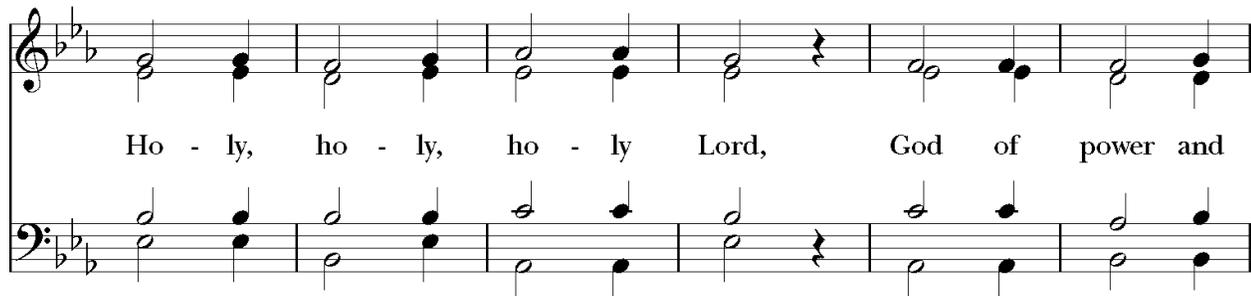
Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us.**

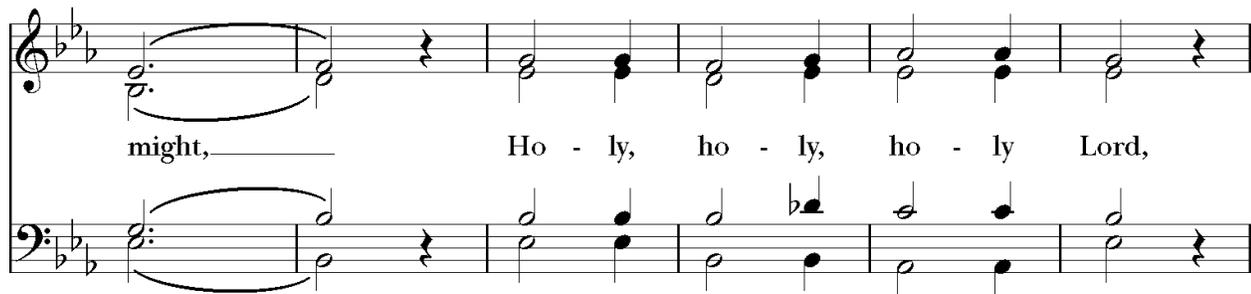
By his wounds, we are healed.

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:

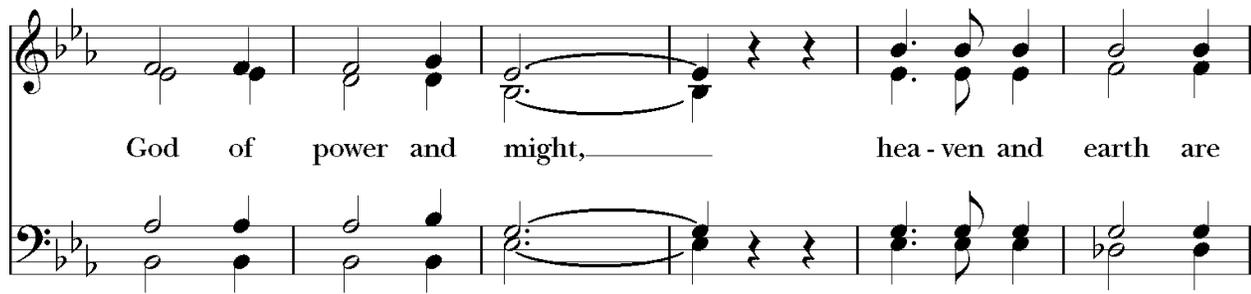
SANCTUS S 130



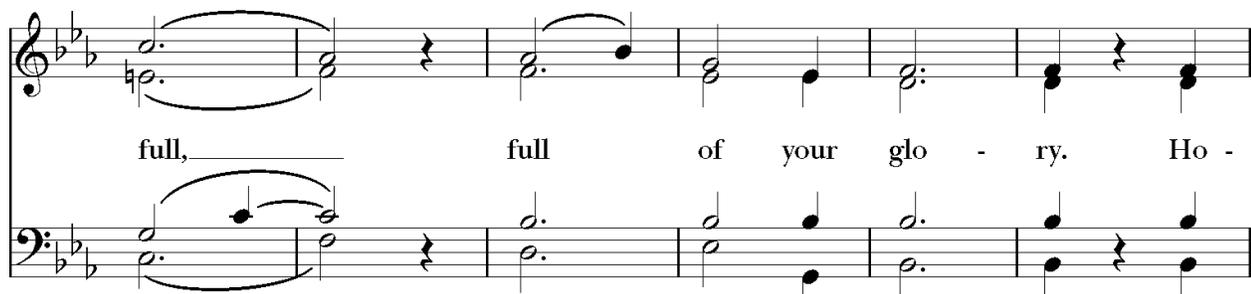
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



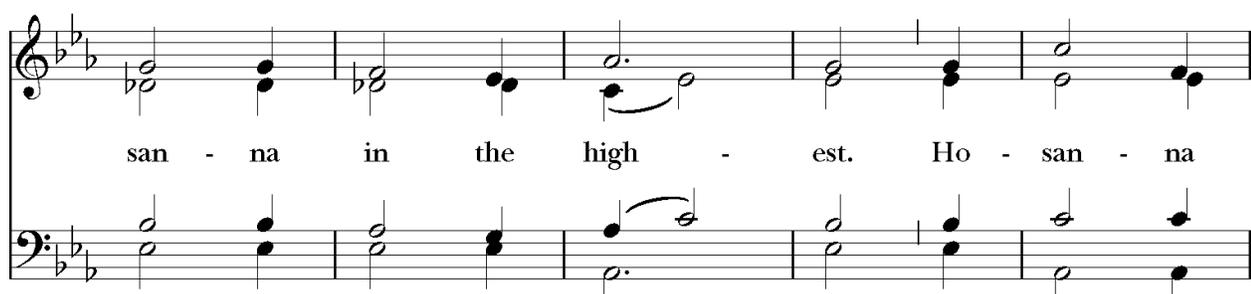
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are



full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

FRACTION ANTHEM S 164

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.
The Celebrant may add: Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All

Our table is open to all who seek to experience God's grace. At the invitation of the ushers, please come to the communion rail by the center aisle and kneel or stand to receive the elements.

I Wonder as I Wander, Marian Peeler, Flute

HYMN 69	<i>What is the crying at Jordan</i>	St. Mark's, Berkeley
HYMN 53	<i>Once he came in blessing</i>	Gottes Sohn ist kommen

SENDING OUT EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Priest: In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People: **We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

All

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

ADVENT BLESSING

Celebrant

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN 70

Herald, sound the note of judgment

Herald, Sound

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Advent 3 (pink) Well, technically the color is rose, and we wear these rose colored vestments two times a year: once in Advent and once in Lent. Today is Gaudete Sunday; it is the third Sunday in Advent and the name literally translates as “rejoice.” The season of Advent typically is a time of reflection, anticipation, and patience, but on the third Sunday, we simply rejoice in the nearing advent of our Lord. We also light a pink candle in the Advent wreath this Sunday for the same purpose. So “rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, rejoice!” More info: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaudete_Sunday

Today's Worship Leaders:
Rector: The Rev. Jesse Perkins
Curate: The Rev. Amber Carswell
Eucharistic Ministers: Phillip Poston and DeeDee Hudson
Lectors: Scott Darwin and Rhinda Kesselring
Intercessor: Lori Poston
Ushers: Al Poston, Phillip Poston, Alex Barnett, Perry Moses
Vergers: Katie Cole and Johnny Stayton
Acolytes: Cameron Poston, Murray Pringle, Win and Ryke Robinson
Eucharistic Visitor: Lise Cater
Greeters: Lise Cater, Phillip and Becky Wells
Children's Chapel: Sara Land
Vestry Counters: Becky Carr, Scott Darwin, Gary Latanich

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today	Third Sunday of Advent 9:00a Episcopal Church 101 11:30a Potluck Luncheon 2:00p Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 7:30p Compline
Mon	7:00p Vestry Meeting
Tue	
Wed	10:00a Day School Christmas Chapel and Party 6:00p Christian Education Family Advent Gathering 6:15p Evensong 7:00p Choir Rehearsal
Thurs	6:00p Men's Club
Friday	
Saturday	10:00a Two Saints' Kitchen, Team #5

SAVE THE DATE

Today	2:00 pm Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Dec 20	10:00 am Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Dec 21	Christmas Pageant
Dec 24	5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass 10:30 Prelude 11:00 Christmas Eve Mass

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

12/17 Maggie Guinn
12/18 Lisa Murphy
12/18 Matelyn Matthews
12/19 Kent O'Daniel
12/20 Becky Carr
12/20 Jo Ann Steed

Anniversaries

12/17 Tim and DeeDee Hudson
12/17 Bill and Marilyn Brown
12/21 Phillip and Becky Wells

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helping Neighbors Food Pantry Thanks to some additional bags, St. Mark's total for the 15 Can Challenge is now 1,634 pounds, an outstanding sum. Last week we donated 80 pounds of food and \$251 in cash/checks. Helping Neighbors appreciates your continued support!

Vestry Elections

Our annual vestry election will be on Jan. 18, and we are looking for seven or eight candidates to run for election. We will elect four new vestry members to serve a three-year term and one member to fill a vacancy. If you are interested or willing to serve, please contact Father Jesse at rector@stmarksjonesboro.org.

Poinsettias, Wreaths, and Helping Neighbors Food Pantry

If you wish to donate poinsettias, wreaths, or money to the food pantry, please sign the sheet on the table in the Narthex. Poinsettias are \$20, wreaths are \$30, and donations to Helping Neighbors are \$20. Please indicate on your check's memo line which you are purchasing. Thanks!

Baptism Please let Fr. Jesse know if you are considering baptism soon as Epiphany will be the last opportunity until Easter.

WEEKLY REPORT

	Weekly Budget	Year to Date	Annual Budget	Attendance
Offering 12/07/14	\$ 4,486	\$ 251,670	\$269,945	Last Week 166
Needed	<u>5,409</u>	<u>255,897</u>	<u>281,234</u>	2014 Average 138
Difference	\$ (923)	\$ (4,209)	(\$ 11,289)	2013 Average 119
Current Cash	\$ 5,667			
Outstanding bills	(-\$10,577)		Loan Balance	\$ 175,453

ST. MARK'S STAFF

Rev. Jesse Perkins, Rector	rector@stmarksjonesboro.org
Rev. Amber Carswell, Curate	curate@stmarksjonesboro.org
Amber Cesare	bookkeeper@stmarksjonesboro.org
Susan Geis, Secretary	secretary@stmarksjonesboro.org
Joy Sanford, Organist	jandjazz@suddenlink.net
Rhonda Dauer, Music Director	music@stmarksjonesboro.org
Betty Donnell, Sandy Clark,	nursery attendants
Stephanie Matthews, Kirsten Penley	

ST. MARK'S VESTRY

Jim McInturff, Senior Warden	934-1915	jmcinturff@suddenlink.net
Gary Latanich, Junior Warden	935-0236	garylatanich@gmail.com
Scott Darwin	972-8354	sdarwin@suddenlink.net
Mike Engelken	926-8950	mike.engelken@ag.com
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Darren Moore	926-2624	xman1020_2006@yahoo.com
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Johnny Stayton	275-3837	johnnystayton@gmail.com



The Episcopal Church welcomes you!



ST MARK'S
Episcopal Church

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