



ST MARK'S
Episcopal Church

Second Sunday in Advent

Dec 7, 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 76 *On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry* Winchester New

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

Silence

THE KYRIE, S-96

All

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

Lord, —

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

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

Christ, —

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 2

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 211

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON A reading from Isaiah 40:1-11

“Comfort, O comfort my people,” says your God. “Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.” A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” A voice says, “Cry out!” And I said, “What

shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 85: 1-2, 8-13

Show us your mer-cy show us your mer-cy, O Lord. Show us your mer-cy,
show us your mer - cy, and grant us your sal - va - tion

Refrain: sung by the choir

Refrain: sung by all

1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins. **Refrain**

8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land. **Refrain**

10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven. **Refrain**

12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet. **Refrain**

SECOND LESSON A Reading from II Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish, and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN 75 *There's a voice in the wilderness crying* Ascension

GOSPEL Mark 1:1-8

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

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance

for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Amber Carswell

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

Keep Silence

John Helgen

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand; Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descending Comes our homage to demand. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, Christ our God to earth descending. King of kings yet born of Mary, As of old on earth he stood; Lord of lords in human vesture, In the body and the blood, He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food. Keep silence.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION 618 Doxology with Alleluia LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bles-sings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low: Al-le-
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove ye heav'n-ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, RITE II, PRAYER C

BCP 369

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.

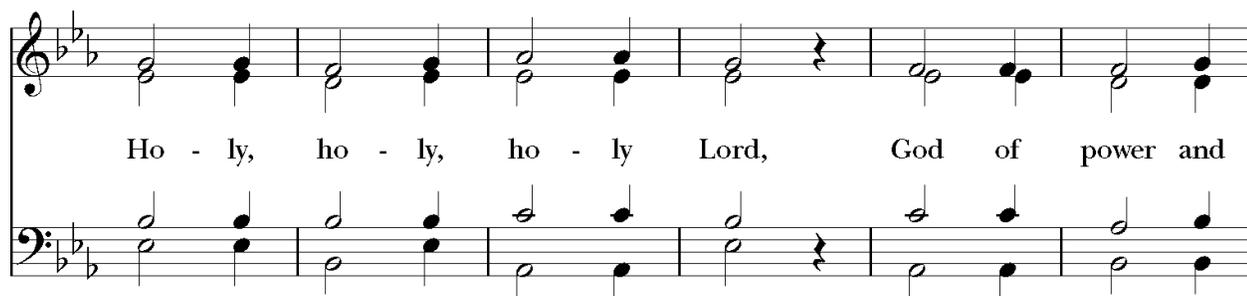
People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

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.

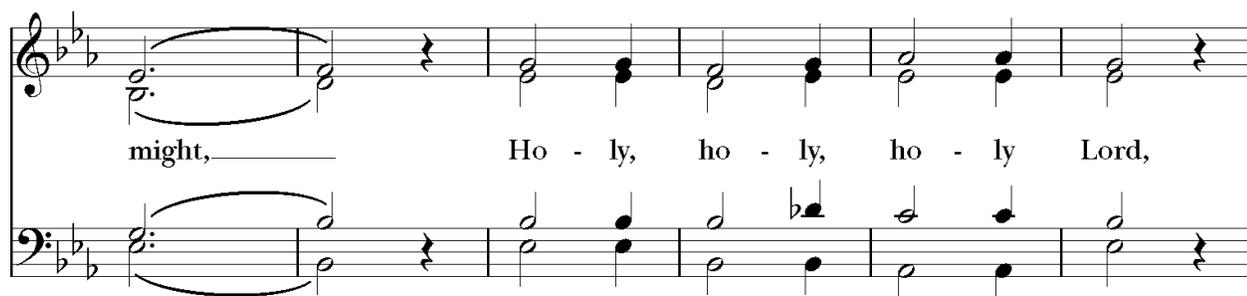
People **By his blood, he reconciled us.
By his wounds, we are healed.**

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:

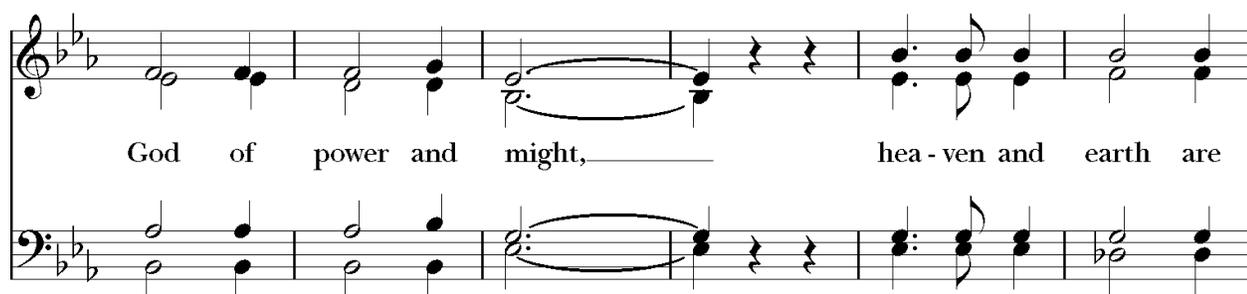
SANCTUS S 130



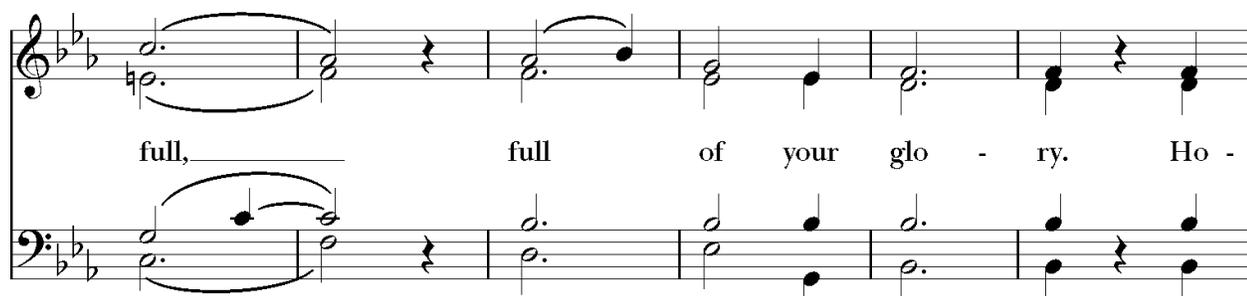
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



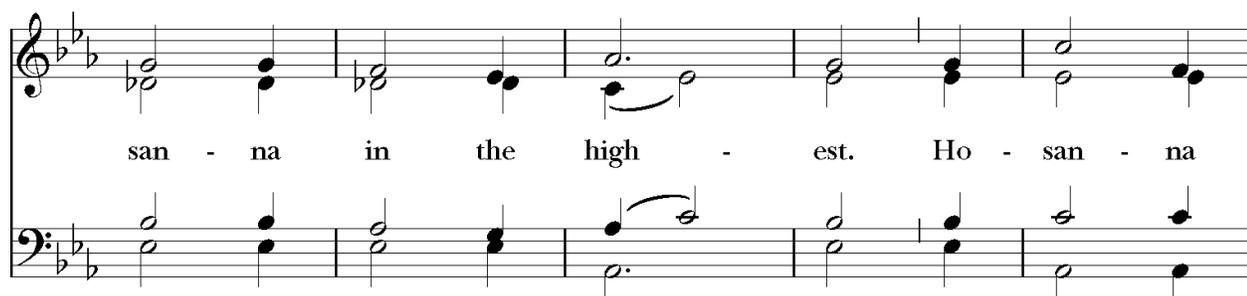
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



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

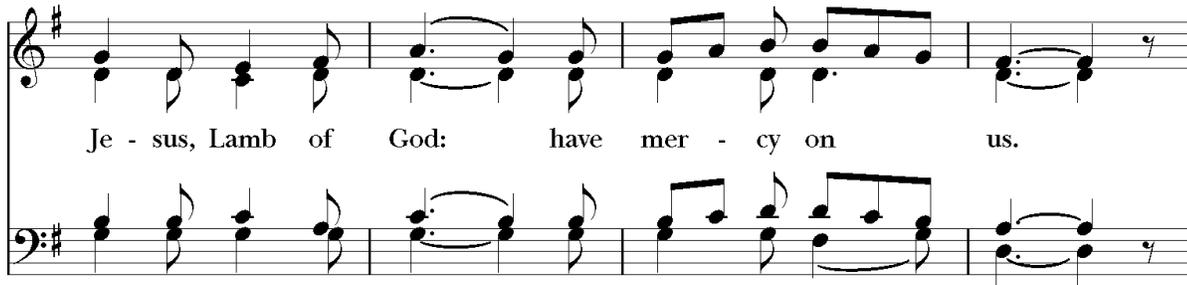
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

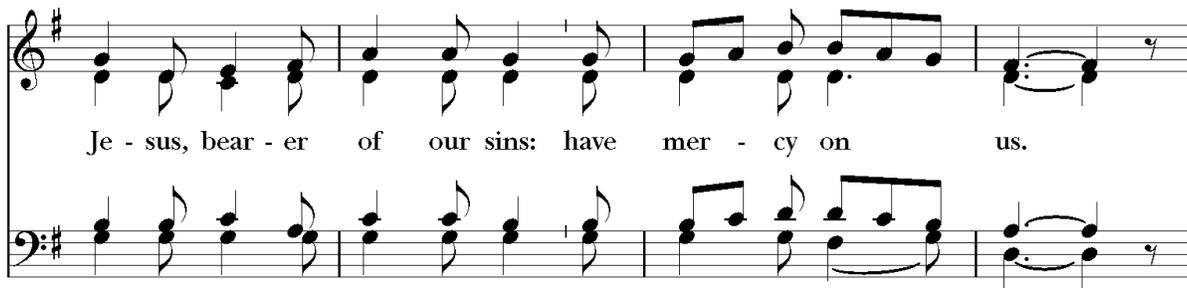
A period of silence is kept.

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

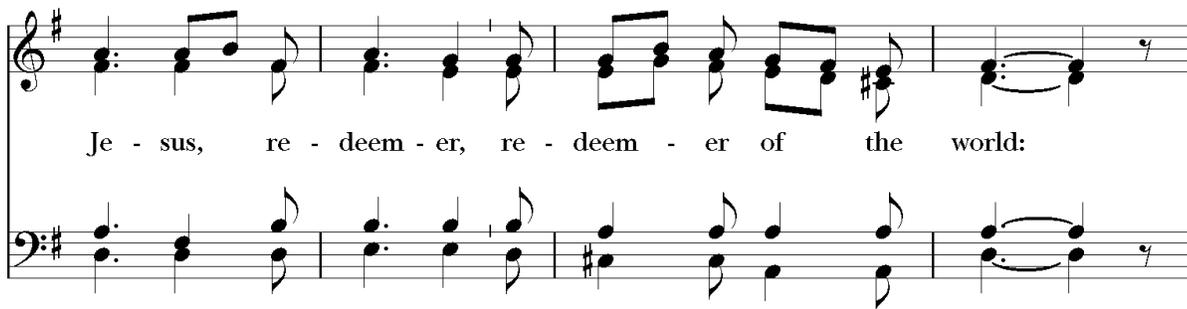
FRACTION ANTHEM S 164



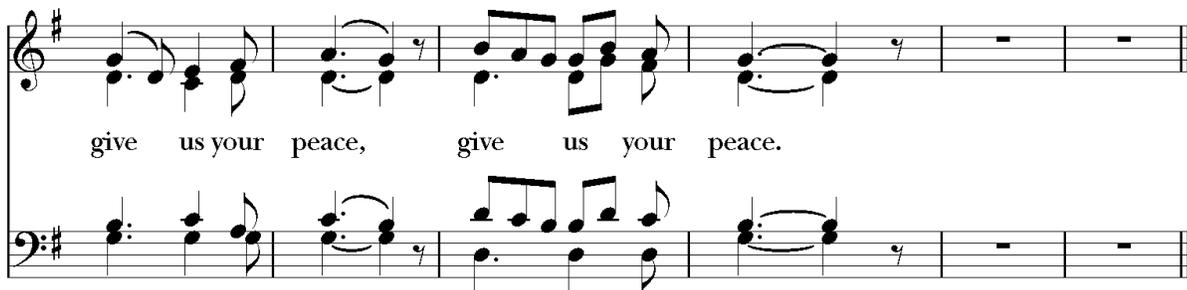
Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



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.

Please stand or kneel as you are able.

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.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, Marian Peeler - flute

HYMN 308

O Food to pilgrims given

Psalm 6

HYMN 343

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless

St. Agnes

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 65

Prepare the way O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

DISMISSAL

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Advent

Christmas is all too often celebrated long before it is actually here; this is especially true in the commercial areas of our society where pre-Christmas sales are of ultimate importance. The church, however, spends the four weeks before December 25 waiting for Christ to come. This season is called Advent, and is marked by the wreath in the nave and the blue vestments. Our church year restarts from the beginning and over the next twelve months, we re-tell the story of Jesus' birth, teachings, death, resurrection, and final victory over sin and death. It is also a time for introspection as we prepare our hearts and minds to receive the light of Christ, not only in a manger 2000 years ago, but again this year in our modern lives.

Today's Worship Leaders:
Rector: The Rev. Jesse Perkins
Curate: The Rev. Amber Carswell
Eucharistic Ministers: Jim and Deb McInturff
Lectors: Beth Smith and Phillip Wells
Intercessor: Rhinda Kesselring
Ushers: Al Poston, Phillip Poston, Alex Barnett, Perry Moses
Vergers: Barbara Keller and Johnny Stayton
Acolytes: Maggie Ferguson, Emma Sairls, Kaylee and Celeste Robinette
Eucharistic Visitor: Steve Replogle
Greeters: Lise Cater, Phillip and Becky Wells
Children's Chapel: Rose Mary Latanich
Vestry Counters: Becky Carr, Scott Darwin, Gary Latanich

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today	Second Sunday of Advent
Tue	5:30p Discernment Committee
Wed	6:00p Christian Education 6:15p Evensong 7:00p Choir Rehearsal
Thurs	6:30p 20s/30s Advent Party
Friday	
Saturday	9:30a ECW Christmas Brunch 10:00a Two Saints' Kitchen, Team #4

SAVE THE DATE

Dec 13	ECW Christmas Brunch
Dec 14	Coffee with the Rector Potluck Luncheon
Dec 15	Vestry Meeting
Dec 17	Day School Christmas chapel and Party Christian Ed Christmas Family Gathering
Dec 18	Beginning of Day School Christmas Break Men's Club
Dec 21	Christmas Pageant
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Mass Christmas Eve Prelude Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

12/08	Douglas Nester
12/09	Al Poston
12/11	Edward Gary
12/12	Larry Hinck
12/12	Matt Parker

Anniversaries

12/09	Bill and Ruth Keisker
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MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Helping Neighbors Food Pantry

St. Mark's has done it again! We did an awesome job of responding to the 15 Can Challenge with our contribution weighing 1,563 pounds. And in addition to that, Darren Moore contributed 579 pounds of rice from Riceland. Thank you for being such a caring, supportive church and day school!

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.

Class: Episcopal Church 101

Are you new to the Episcopal Church? Want to learn more about our history, doctrine and worship? This is the class for you. We meet at 9 a.m. for three weeks starting Sunday, Nov. 30. It is perfect for those considering Confirmation in the spring and those who just want to know more about St. Mark's. We will meet in the Parish Hall.

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!

WEEKLY REPORT

	Weekly Budget	Year to Date	Annual Budget	Attendance
Offering 11/30/14	\$ 4,970	\$ 247,184	\$244,479	Last Week 153
Needed	___ 5,409	___ 251,321	___ 254,784	2014 Average 137
Difference	\$ (439)	\$ (4,137)	(\$ 10,305)	2013 Average 119
Current Cash	\$ 4,669			
Outstanding bills	-\$ 3,396		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
Becky Carr	932-0863	beckycarr_asu@hotmail.com
Carol Hinck	935-8291	cjhinck@suddenlink.net
Elise Cater	219-6700	lisec58@suddenlink.net
Darren Moore	926-2624	xman1020_2006@yahoo.com
Blake Coe	217-1975	davidblakecoe@gmail.com
Steve Replogle	935-9643	stephen.replogle@gmail.com
Johnny Stayton	275-3837	johnnystayton@gmail.com



The Episcopal Church welcomes you!



ST MARK'S
Episcopal Church

531 W College Ave., Jonesboro, AR 72401
(870) 932-2124
www.StMarksJonesboro.org