



**ST MARK'S**  
Episcopal Church

**First Sunday after Christmas**

**December 30, 2018**

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**8:00 A.M. MORNING PRAYER**

*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. DR. JOSHUA DANIEL, PRIEST**

**Katherine Wren, Officiant**

[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). The 10 a.m. sermon is posted online every week.

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.

# MORNING PRAYER, RITE II

## THE WORD OF GOD

### OPENING SENTENCES

Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy, which will come to all the people; for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. *Luke 2:10, 11*

### CONFESSION OF SIN

*Officiant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Officiant and people together, all kneeling*

**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 Officiant alone stands and says*

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

### INVITATORY AND PSALTER

*Officiant:* Lord, open our lips.

*People:* **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*All:* **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia**

**VENITE** *Psalm 95:1-7 Officiant and people together,*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; \***  
**let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**  
**Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \***  
**and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.  
Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

*PSALM 147    Laudate Dominum    Read responsively by whole verse.*

**1** Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! \*  
how pleasant it is to honor him with praise!

**2** The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem; \*  
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

**3** He heals the brokenhearted \*  
and binds up their wounds.

**4** He counts the number of the stars \*  
and calls them all by their names.

**5** Great is our Lord and mighty in power; \*  
there is no limit to his wisdom.

**6** The Lord lifts up the lowly, \*  
but casts the wicked to the ground.

**7** Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; \*  
make music to our God upon the harp.

**8** He covers the heavens with clouds \*  
and prepares rain for the earth;

**9** He makes grass to grow upon the mountains \*  
and green plants to serve mankind.

**10** He provides food for flocks and herds \*  
and for the young ravens when they cry.

- 11 He is not impressed by the might of a horse; \*  
he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
- 12 **But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, \*  
in those who await his gracious favor.**
- 13 Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*  
praise your God, O Zion;
- 14 **For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*  
he has blessed your children within you.**
- 15 He has established peace on your borders; \*  
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- 16 **He sends out his command to the earth, \*  
and his word runs very swiftly.**
- 17 He gives snow like wool; \*  
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- 18 **He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*  
who can stand against his cold?**
- 19 He sends forth his word and melts them; \*  
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- 20 **He declares his word to Jacob, \*  
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**
- 21 He has not done so to any other nation; \*  
to them he has not revealed his judgments.  
Hallelujah!

## THE LESSONS

*The people sit for the readings and stand for the canticles.*

### FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:10-62:3

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. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

*Lector*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle 4    The Song of Zechariah**    *Benedictus Dominus Deus*

Luke 1:68-79

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, \*  
for he hath visited and redeemed his people;  
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us \*  
in the house of his servant David,  
As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, \*  
which have been since the world began:  
That we should be saved from our enemies, \*  
and from the hand of all that hate us;  
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers, \*  
and to remember his holy covenant;  
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham, \*  
that he would give us,  
That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies \*  
might serve him without fear,  
In holiness and righteousness before him, \*  
all the days of our life.  
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest, \*  
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord  
to prepare his ways;  
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people \*  
for the remission of their sins,  
Through the tender mercy of our God, \*  
whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us;  
To give light to them that sit in darkness  
and in the shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**THE SECOND LESSON** Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**CANTICLE 3 The Song of Mary** *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46-55

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*

and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For he hath regarded \*

the lowliness of his handmaiden.

For behold from henceforth \*

all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*

and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him \*

throughout all generations.

He hath showed strength with his arm; \*

he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*

and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*

and the rich he hath sent empty away.

He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*

as he promised to our forefathers,

Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**THE THIRD LESSON** John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not

overcome it. 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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People*           **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE SERMON**

**Brandon Haynes**

## **THE APOSTLE'S CREED**

*Officiant and People together, all standing*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son,  
our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the  
Holy Spirit**

**and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the  
Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **THE BIRTHDAY PRAYER:**

Let us pray. O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) as they begin(s) another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

## OFFERTORY

### THE PRESENTATION OF ALMS

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

## THE PRAYERS

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant* Let us pray.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### SUFFRAGES A

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

**R. Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

**R. For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

**R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

**R. Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

**R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

**R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

*The Officiant then says the following Collects*

### COLLECT FOR THE DAY, First Sunday after Christmas

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### A COLLECT FOR PEACE

### A COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE

*Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings may follow.*

## INTERCESSIONS

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

### *Officiant and People*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

## PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

## DISMISSAL

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.  
*People* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

### Today Sunday

8:00am Morning Prayer  
9:00am Adult Formation??  
10:00am Morning Prayer  
3:30pm **NO** Handbell Rehearsal  
5:00pm **NO** EfM  
6:30pm Compline

**Mon/Tues** Church Office Closed

**Wed** **NO** EYC  
**NO** Christian Ed  
6:15pm Healing Eucharist in Chapel  
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

**Sat** 10:00am Two Saints' Kitchen, Team # 6

## BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

12/31 Barbata Cart  
 01/01 Ruby Daniel  
 01/01 Gail McDonald  
 01/03 Reneilia Hampton  
 01/05 Robin Dauer

### Anniversaries

01/02 Erik and Donna Gilbert

## ST. MARK'S STAFF

Father Joshua Daniel, Priest-in-Charge	<a href="mailto:joshua.daniel@stmarksjonesboro.org">joshua.daniel@stmarksjonesboro.org</a>
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Betty Donnell, Stephanie Matthews, and Keisha Dunavin	Nursery attendants

## ST. MARK'S VESTRY

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**Today's Worship Leaders:**

**Officiant:** Katherine Wren

**Preacher:** Brandon Haynes

**Lectors:** Susie Grommet and Jarvis Brodie

**Ushers:** Al Poston, Julie Kennedy-Hampton, and Reneilia Hampton

**Acolytes:** Rike and Win Robinson

**Greeters:** Phillip and Becky Wells/ Lise Cater and Marilyn Brown

**Liturgy of the Word for Children:** No children's Service Today

**Vestry Counters:** Tom Haynes, Tasha Weeks, and Phillip Poston



*The Episcopal Church welcomes you!*



**ST MARK'S**  
Episcopal Church

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
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