

St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church

Fairland Parish



Quinquagesima (Transfiguration) – Last Sunday before Lent

Holy Eucharist - Rite II

February 19, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector

12621 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD

www.stmarks-silverspring.org

Office: (301) 622-5860 * Fax: 240-560-6613

St. Mark's Announcements

1. **"Scripture or Reason, I am Sure, Do Not Anywhere Say So:"** *Reading Scripture and Finding Freedom with John Locke*. Sunday, 9:05-10:15am, Parish Hall and via Zoom. Please join us for this critical study of Locke's use of scripture and reason in laying political and religious foundations for natural rights, human rights, democracy, and freedom. No prior reading required. Please see Rev. Wilkins for more information.
2. **Office Closures:** Monday, February 20, 2023, the Parish Office will be closed in observance of the Presidents' Day holiday.
3. **FOC Meeting:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 7:30pm in the library. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
4. **Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 7:30pm in the Parish Hall. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
5. **At-Home Covid-19 Self-Test kits** are available, free of charge, in the church office.
 - a. There are 2 kits in each box; we will provide one box per person.
 - b. Please contact Janis Smith, Parish Administrator, or Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary, if you would like a box of test kits. Contact number: 301-622-5860.
6. **Coffee Hour Hosting:** Please consider helping to host the *Coffee Hour* following the 10:30 service. Help is needed with setup, cleanup, and purchasing. There is a sign-up sheet located on the wall beside the coffee pot in the Parish Hall. Instructions on what a host needs to do may be found on the clipboard. We give thanks for all those who help with this ministry of hospitality.
7. **Altar Flowers:** You may sponsor the Altar Flowers for any Sunday or major feast day in memory of your loved ones, a birthday, an anniversary, or any other suitable occasion – or even just because. The sign-up book with details is in the church office or, on Sundays, in the narthex (at the back of the church). Please contact the office for more information or to support this part of our worship ministry.

Please check your e-letters and the website for the most up-to-date information.

Save the Date!

Wednesday, February 22, 2023: Ash Wednesday services:

1. Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes, Riderwood Chapel, 10:30am.
2. Morning Prayer with Imposition of Ashes, St. Mark's Church, 11:30 am, followed by lunch with the Vietnamese American Services Senior Club.
3. Sung Vespers with Imposition of Ashes, St. Mark's Church, 7:00 pm.

On or before Sunday, February 19, 2023, please bring to St. Mark's any dried palm leaves you may have from prior years. The palms will be turned to ash prior to the evening service for use during that service.

Special Thank you:

Thanks to all who made the Annual Meeting so successful. We are one body, one Spirit in Christ, and it was joy to celebrate that as we gathered as a parish community. Please check out a slideshow for the Annual Meeting on the St. Mark's website.

St. Mark's Mission

- ❖ We will deepen our faith by adopting more liturgical options to reach out into the community.
- ❖ We will extend our outreach by getting more people involved in and reaching more people through community involvement.
- ❖ We will embrace evangelism by choosing to be a church that reaches out to our community and spread the good news of Christ.
- ❖ We will increase our participation by being committed to our church through regular attendance, and giving of our resources of time, talent, and treasure.

Holy Eucharist - Rite II

Quinquagesima (transfiguration) – Last Sunday before Lent

The People enter, masked and maintaining physical distance. Silence is kept.

Prelude

Opening Acclamation

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe. Please rise if you are able as worship begins with our opening hymn.

The People stand. The congregation sings.

Entrance Hymn:

Hymnal #618 vss. 1,2,4

Ye watchers and ye holy ones

1. Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
raise the glad strain, Alleluia!

Cry out, dominions, prince-doms, powers,
virtues, archangels, angels' choirs,

Refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! alleluia!

2. O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises, Alleluia!
Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord, [Refrain]

4. O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing, Alleluia, alleluia!
To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One, [Refrain]

Opening Rites

The Celebrant then says:

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

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. *Amen*

Celebrant: Almighty God, in you we live and move and have our being. Bless us as we gather for worship, cleanse our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, and open our minds to perceive by grace and reason the light of your word, and your light in the world. *Amen.*

Hymn of Praise:

Hymnal #419 vss. 1,4

Lord of all being, throned afar

1. Lord of all being, throned afar,
thy glory flames from sun and star;
center and soul of every sphere,
yet to each loving heart how near!

4. Grant us thy truth to make us free,
and kindling hearts that burn for thee,
till all thy living altars claim
one holy light, one heavenly flame.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

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, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 24:12-18

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 2

The Choristers will chant the Psalm.

¹Why do the nations conspire
and the peoples plot in vain?

²The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and his anointed, saying,

³“Let us burst their bonds apart
and cast their cords from us.”

⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the LORD has them in derision.
⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
⁶ “I have set my king on Zion, my holy hill.”
⁷ I will tell of the decree of the LORD:
He said to me, “You are my son;
today I have begotten you.
⁸ Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage
and the ends of the earth your possession.
⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”
¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.
¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear;
with trembling ¹² kiss his feet,
or he will be angry, and you will perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
Happy are all who take refuge in him.

The New Testament Lesson

2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am

well pleased.” ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

LEM: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn:

Hymnal #133

O Light of Light, Love given birth

1. O Light of Light, Love given birth;
Jesus, Redeemer of the earth:
more bright than day your face did show,
your raiment whiter than the snow.

2. Two prophets, who had faith to see,
with your elect found company;
the heavens above your glory named,
the Father's voice his son proclaimed.

3. May all who seek to praise aright
through purer lives show forth your light.
To you, the King of glory, now
all faithful hearts adoring bow.

The Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: Down from the Mountain

A prepared text of the sermon is available on the church website.

The Creed

Led by the LEM, the People say

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, the 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 human.

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

The LEM or Reader says

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "*Lord, have mercy*" (or "*Kyrie eleison*").

That Your Church may be filled with truth and love, and stand blameless before you at the day of your coming, *Lord, have mercy.*

That Your people may be one, and our witness to Your love be faithful, to the ends of the earth, *Lord, have mercy.*

That those who have lost their faith or their way may find it by Your light, and follow it well, *Lord, have mercy.*

That there may be peace among the nations, and respect and forbearance among all peoples, *Lord, have mercy.*

That those in positions of public trust may speak truth, serve justice, and promote the dignity of every human being, *Lord, have mercy.*

That we might use Your creation rightly, and free all people from hunger, malice, ignorance, and misery, *Lord, have mercy.*

That all who are in flight from peril or suffering, in prison or in pain, or who suffer from illness, poverty, or persecution, may find safety, haven, and relief, *Lord, have mercy.*

That this congregation, present and absent, may be delivered from hardness of heart, and show forth Your glory, *Lord, have mercy.*

For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended, *Lord, have mercy.*

For the forgiveness of our sins, and for the grace of the Holy Spirit to amend our lives, *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who are commended to our prayers; for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who have died, be their faith known to us or to you alone, that, with all Your saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, *Lord, have mercy.*

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [the ever-blessed Mary, the Mother of God, [N.,] and] all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and all our life to Christ our God. *To you, O Lord our God.*

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

The People stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you,

People: And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another.¹

Choral Anthem:

O Day full of Grace

Grundtvig/Weyse

The Deacon or Priest prepares the altar and sanctuary for the Eucharist.

The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

¹ *The People greet one another in silence and at physical distance, and there is no passing of plates or reception of gifts.*

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 God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, holy Lord, creator of heaven and earth, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining with Angels and Archangels and with all the host of heaven, who forever sing this hymn, to the glory of your Name,

The Sanctus

Hymnal S#125

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

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 your Word made flesh: Jesus, your Son. For in the fullness of time you sent him among us to live and die as one of us, the Savior and the Redeemer of the world. In him you deliver us from evil, and make us worthy to stand before

you. In him, you bring us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, and out of death into life.

On the night before he was betrayed unto death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread. Giving thanks to you, he broke it, and shared it with them, saying:

“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this in memory of me.” ‡

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and shared it with them, saying:

“Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in memory of me.” ‡

Therefore, according to his command, O Lord,

The People, led by the LEM, say

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, fruit of the vine and the work of human hands. Send your Holy Spirit upon them 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 to live as

Christ's Body in the world. Bring us to that heavenly country where, with [N.] and all your saints, we may enter into the everlasting heritage of all your children, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the church, and the author of our salvation.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, now and forever. AMEN. ‡‡

Now, as Christ taught us, we are bold to say,

The People, led by the LEM, 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread, and then keeps a period of silence.

The Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

Hymnal S#155

The People, led by the Choristers, then sing:

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

While setting the table with the hosts, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The People come forward to retrieve the hosts, maintaining physical distance.

Communion Hymn:

Hymnal #460 vss. 1,3,4

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1. Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

3. Alleluia! Bread of Heaven,
thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,

where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia! King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own:
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest:
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *The Celebrant or LEM leads the People in the following prayer:*

Eternal God, holy Lord, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Now send us forth in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Announcements and Celebrations

Announcements and celebrations, if any, are offered here.

Blessing

The Celebrant says

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord be with you, this day and always, and give you peace.

Withdrawal Hymn:

Songs of thankfulness and praise

Hymnal #135

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,
manifested by the star
to the sages from afar;
branch of royal David's stem
in thy birth at Bethlehem;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

2. Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
and at Cana, wedding-guest,
in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in power divine,
changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

3. Manifest in making whole
palsied limbs and fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight,
quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will,
ever bringing good from ill;
anthems be to thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

4. Manifest on mountain height,
shining in resplendent light,
where disciples filled with awe
thy transfigured glory saw.
When from there thou leddest
them steadfast to Jerusalem,
cross and Easter Day attest
God in man made manifest.

The Celebrant, the LEM, and the People depart, maintaining physical distance.

Dismissal

The LEM says

Let us go forth, in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Please join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee Hour and Fellowship.

**The Flowers on the altar today were given to the Glory of God by Jess
and Mala Rowland in memory of Mr. Stephen Rowland and in
thanksgiving for the memory of our loving father.**

*Our services and events may be live-streamed and/or recorded. By entering the service/event premises, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for live streaming, promotional purposes, advertising, inclusion on web sites, and/or any other purpose by St. Mark's Episcopal Church. *

If you would prefer not to be shown on camera, please sit on the pulpit side of the nave, behind the videographers.

Readers and Intercessors

1st Reader: Olivia Lee

2nd Reader: Kris Taweel

Intercessor: Gail Soulea

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fairland, MD

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The Rev. Dr. Christopher Wilkins, Rector

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Janis Smith, Parish Administrator

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Don Hague, Musical Director

Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary

Pamela Gibson, Senior Warden

Rosanne Tingley, Junior Warden

For information about St. Mark's, please visit our website:

www.stmarksfairland.org * www.stmarks-silverspring.org

We hope that today's service has been a blessing to you.

We are here to serve you, and hope to see you again.

Please feel free to call us, email us, or visit us online.

Cover Image: Knight, Leonard, 1931-. Salvation Mountain, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54150> [retrieved February 14, 2023]. Original source: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Salvation_Mountain_001.jpg.

TENDING OUR SOIL SURVEY

We learned a great deal from the Story-telling Activity led by the TENDING OUR SOIL Team. We now invite you to share insights through a simple survey. If you'd like to respond on paper (and ensure that you are anonymous), please answer these questions, tear off this page and place in the offering plate or in the office. There will also be an opportunity to share via email.

1) What makes you feel welcome at St. Mark's and that you are part of the St. Mark's Community?

2) What could you do to welcome people to be a part of St. Mark's and to feel they belong?

3) What can St. Mark's do as a community to welcome, include, and foster a sense of belonging in people?