

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Holy Eucharist, Rite I - 8:00am, January 28, 2024



St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church

Fairland Parish

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

The Celebrant proceeds to the Altar and says:

Opening Rites

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

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

Celebrant: Almighty God, unto 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.*

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

The Cantor leads the People in singing the following:

Morning Canticle: *Surely it is God who saves me*

Hymn #679

Paraphrase of the First Song of Isaiah

1. Surely it is God who saves me; trusting him, I shall not fear. For the Lord defends and shields me and his saving help is near. So rejoice as you draw water from salvation's living spring; in the day of your deliverance thank the Lord, his mercies sing.

2. Make his deeds known to the peoples; tell out his exalted Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his might proclaim. Zion, lift your voice in singing; for with you has come to dwell, in your very midst, the great and Holy One of Israel.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant continues:

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and in our time grant us thy peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Lesson

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

¹⁵ “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶ This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ ¹⁷ Then the LORD replied to me, ‘They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹ Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰ But any prophet who

presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day: *Confitebor tibi*

Psalm 111

The Cantor chants the Psalm.

¹ Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, *
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the deeds of the LORD! *
they are studied by all who delight in them.

³ His work is full of majesty and splendor, *
and his righteousness endures for ever.

⁴ He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; *
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.

⁵ He gives food to those who fear him; *
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works *
in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷ The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; *
all his commandments are sure.

⁸ They stand fast for ever and ever, *
because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he commanded his covenant for ever; *
holy and awesome is his Name.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; *
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
his praise endures for ever.

A Reading from *To Live Is to Love*, Ernesto Cardenal¹

All animals who lift their voices at dawn sing to God. The volcanoes and the clouds and the trees cry to us about God. The whole creation cries to us penetratingly with a great joy about the existence and the beauty and the love of God. The music roars it into our ears, the landscape calls it into our eyes. In all of nature we find God's initials, and all God's creatures are God's love letters to us.

All of nature burns with love created through love to light love in us. Nature is like a shadow of God, a reflection of God's beauty. The still, blue lake is a reflection of God. In every atom lives an image of the trinity, a figure of the trinitarian God. And also my own body is created to love God. Each of my cells is a hymn about the Creator and an ongoing declaration of love.

Reader: Here ends the reading.

People: Amen.

The Gospel

Mark 1:21-28

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

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *Mark*.

People: Glory be to thee, Lord Christ.

¹ A Reading from the *Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes* (2023).

²¹They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to thee, Lord Christ.

The Sermon: I Know Who You Are

The Creed

As Deacon or Priest prepares the table, the LEM leads the People as they say:

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, was made human, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate, suffered and was buried;

and on the third day rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father, and shall come again,

with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.

And *we* believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father *and the Son*; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And *we* believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The LEM says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

We pray for all God's people; for our bishops, our clergy, and this gathering, and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

We pray for peace; for goodwill among nations, for justice, and for the well-being of all.

Silence

We pray for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. We pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

We pray for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may seek, and pray that they might find.

Silence

We pray for those who have lost their faith, or who have never known it. Pray that God may open their minds, and grace move their hearts, to know and to follow Christ's way of love.

Silence

We pray for the departed [*especially N.N.*]. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

We pray for those on our prayer list, and for those whose needs are known to you alone.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Confession of Sin

If the confession is not omitted, the Deacon or Celebrant then says

Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Silence is kept. The People, led by the LEM, then say

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all people:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we

may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, alone stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Comfort

A Minister may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to God.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Mt. 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

This is a true saying, and worthy to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 1 Timothy 1:15

If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; the perfect offering for our sins, and not ours only, but the sins of the whole world. 1 Jn 2:1-2

The Peace

The People stand.

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

People: And with thy spirit.

The Ministers and People greet one another while keeping physical distance.

The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you,

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

The People, led by the LEM, say

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.

The people kneel or stand. The Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction,

for the sins of the world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, this remembrance of his death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ‡

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." ‡

We beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, we may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; beseeching thee that we, and all who shall partake of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. AMEN.
‡‡

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

The People, led by the LEM, pray

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 (Fraction)

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

The following or some other suitable fraction anthem may be sung or said here

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

As the Celebrant sets out the gifts, the LEM may lead the People in this prayer

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property it is always to have mercy. Grant us, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

The Celebrant says:

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The People come forward to receive the gifts.

Post-Communion Prayer

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray. *The Celebrant prays*

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.

Announcements

Announcements, if any, are made here.

Blessing and Dismissal

The Bishop, if present, or the Celebrant says

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

The LEM says

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

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

The Flowers on the altar are given today to the Glory of God by Claude and Charlene Langley in Thanksgiving for Claude Jr. and Parker's birthdays.

*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 out of range of the video camera.

LEM/Reader

Erwin Avila

St. Mark's Announcements

1. **Sunday Adult Study and Discussion:** in the Parish Hall and via Zoom, Sundays, 9:05-10:10 am. All are welcome. Please see Rev. Christopher for more information.

Our current topic of study: The 1st Book of Enoch and Other Pseudepigrapha.

Our next topic of study: Walter Rauschenbusch and the Social Gospel Movement.

2. **Altar Flowers:** Beginning with Easter and through the season of Epiphany, 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.
3. **Assisting with Worship and Other Ministries:** We welcome interested volunteers to serve at either worship service as Lectors (Readers), Intercessors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs), Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs), Acolytes, Ushers, and Greeters. We also need a new Head of Outreach, or a team of leaders, to lead this ministry, and would welcome new members to the Fellowship Committee, Counter Team, and Altar Guild. Please see Rev. Christopher if you would be interested in serving in any of these roles.
4. **Bag Lunches for Elizabeth House:** On the 3rd Sunday of each month, following the 8:00am service, St. Mark's Outreach ministry makes bag lunches for those in need at Elizabeth House. St. Mark's is looking for volunteers to help make these bag lunches. Please contact Linda Toran or the office if you would like to volunteer.
5. **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 notebook located on the wall beside the coffee pot in the Parish Hall. The notebook includes instructions on what a host needs to do. We give thanks for all those who help with this ministry of hospitality.

6. **Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) Meeting:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:00pm in the library. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.
7. **Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting Zoom.

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

Save the Date

Saturday, February 10, 2024: St. Mark's Mardi Gras Potluck Dinner Dance:

St. Mark's Fellowship Committee is hosting a Mardi Gras Potluck Dinner Dance from 6:30 pm to 11:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

Please let us know by February 3, 2024, whether or not you plan to attend. Simply go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0548ACAE23A5F49-47096457-mardi> or send an email to office@stmarks-silverspring.org with your name and the number of guests in your party. Thank you in advance for helping us come up with an accurate headcount.

If you would like to bring a dish to share, you may find the sign-up sheet in the church office.

We hope you will join us for an evening of fellowship, tasty food, live music, and dancing. Be sure to invite your family and friends. Children are welcome.

Sunday, February 11, 2024: St. Mark's Annual Meeting:

St. Mark's 2024 Annual Meeting will soon be upon us, and we hope that you will be able to join us, following our 10:30am service at 11:30am in the Parish Hall.

Wednesday, February 14, 2024: 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.

3. Sung Vespers with Imposition of Ashes, St. Mark's Church, 7:00 pm.

On or before Sunday, February 11, 2024, 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. If you would like the imposition of ashes at your home, please contact Rev. Wilkins.

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.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Fairland, MD

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office@stmarks-silverspring.org * 301-622-5860 ext. 180

Parish Office hours: Monday – Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and by appointment. Rector regular office hours: Tuesday – Thursday, 10-4. Please call, text, or email the rector if you would like to schedule an appointment; prepare for baptism, confirmation, first communion, reception, reaffirmation, or reconciliation; or have a pastoral need or concern.

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Wilkins, Rector

rector@stmarks-silverspring.org * Cell: 301-768-3075 * 301-622-5860 ext. 105

Janis Smith, Parish Administrator

administrator@stmarks-silverspring.org * 301-622-5860 ext. 104

Don Hague, Director of Music

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 Art Photo: Ge, N. N. (Nikolaï Nikolaevich), 1831-1894. Christ in the Synagogue, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55297> [retrieved January 22, 2024]. Original source: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Nikolay_Ge_020.jpeg.