

# First Sunday in Lent

*Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 – 10:30am, February 18, 2024*



St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church

Fairland Parish

Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector

# The Great Litany and the Holy Eucharist, Rite II

## *First Sunday in Lent*

*The People enter, maintaining physical distance. Silence is kept.*

### **Bidding**

*The Celebrant says*

Rend your hearts and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.

Our service begins with The Great Litany. Please stand or kneel as you are able.

### **The Great Litany**

*The People stand or kneel. The Celebrant and Altar Party proceed.*

*The Cantors will chant the Litany and the People respond with the words in italics:*

O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O God the Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy preserve us, for ever.  
*Spare us, good Lord.*

From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the devil; and from everlasting damnation,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy;  
from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the  
deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness  
of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandments,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and  
flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence,  
battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity  
and submission to the Law; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion;  
by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection  
and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in  
the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,  
*Good Lord, deliver us.*

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that  
it may please thee to guide thy holy Church in the right way,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all humankind into thy kingdom,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give to all people thy grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to pity all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, the desolate, and the oppressed,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that all may enjoy them,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who  
are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all humankind,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive  
us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue  
us with the grace to amend our lives,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors,  
and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to  
comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who  
fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed  
eternal life and peace,  
*We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.*

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.  
*Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,  
*Grant us thy peace.*

O Christ, hear us.  
*O Christ, hear us.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie eleison.

*Christ, have mercy upon us.*

*or*

*Christe eleison.*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie eleison.

## **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.*

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **The First Lesson**

## **Genesis 9:8-17**

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the

earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

## **The Second Lesson**

**1 Peter 3:18-22**

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

## **Gradual Hymn: *The sinless one to Jordan came***

**Hymn #120 vss. 1-5**

1. The sinless one to Jordan came, and  
in the river shared our stain;  
God's righteousness he thus fulfilled  
and chose the path his Father willed.

2. Uprising from the waters there, the  
Father's voice did then declare that  
Christ, the Son of God, had come to  
lead his scattered people home.

3. Above him see the heavenly Dove,  
the sign of God the Father's love, now  
by the Holy Spirit shed  
upon the Son's anointed head.

4. How blest that mission then begun  
to heal and save a race undone!

Straight to the wilderness he goes to  
wrestle with his people's foes.

5. O Christ, may we baptized from sin,  
go forth with you a world to win: grant  
us the Holy Spirit's power to shield us  
in temptation's hour.

## **The Gospel**

**Mark 1:9-15**

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

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

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## **The Sermon: Forty Days & Forty Nights**

## **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 at physical distance.*

Offering Anthem: *There is a Balm in Gilead* Traditional Spiritual arr.  
W. L. Dawson

*A Deacon or Priest, the LEM, and acolytes 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.

*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.

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant continues*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace may we triumph over every evil, and live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim your glory:

Sanctus *Bulletin insert from Wonder, Love and Praise*

*The Choristers lead the People as they sing:*

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 Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN. ††

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

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*The Celebrant leads the People as they 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 debts as we forgive  
our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever. Amen.

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

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

*The Choristers lead the People in singing*

**Fraction Anthem: Lamb of God *Agnus Dei***

**Hymnal #S-163**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:  
grant us peace.

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the people of God.

*The People come forward to receive the gifts.*

**Communion Hymn: *Let us break bread together on our knees* Hymn #325**

*Refrain: when I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.*

1. Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees; *Refrain*

2. Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees; *Refrain*

3. Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees; *Refrain*

*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.

## **Withdrawal Hymn: *Lord, who throughout these forty days* Hymn #142**

1. Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray, teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.

2. As thou with Satan didst contend and didst the victory win, O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.

3. As thou didst hunger bear and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord, to

die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.

4. And through these days of penitence, and through thy Passiontide, yea, evermore, in life and death, Jesus! with us abide.

5. Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering overpast, an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last!

*The Altar Party and the People depart.*

*The LEM says*

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

## Postlude

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

***Note on the Liturgy:*** During Advent and Lent, as part of those seasons' penitence and preparation, our liturgy changes slightly. The Lord's Prayer is not typically sung in these seasons, and the Fraction Anthem is most often a version of the *Agnus Dei*. "Alleluia" and the like are rarely said or sung during Advent, and not at all during Lent. When the Great Litany is sung or said, the Creed, the Prayers of the People, the Confession, and the Words of Comfort are typically not included.

***Note on the Music:*** The Offertory Hymn is a setting of the traditional African-American spiritual, "There is a Balm in Gilead." The words, most likely those of an enslaved African American whose name we do not know, answer the prophet Jeremiah's questions regarding the suffering of his people (Jer. 8:22): "Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?" Yes, says this hymn, there is both. The Balm of Gilead is a rare medicinal perfume. In the hymn, it becomes a metaphor for God's healing and Christ's salvation. Gilead is a hilly, woodland area east of the River Jordan.

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If you would prefer not to be shown on camera, please sit out of range of the video camera.

## Readers and Cantors

1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Gail Soulea

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader: Chuck Smith

Cantors: Kelly Cameron and Todd Hines

## St. Mark's Announcements

1. **Office Closure:** The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2024, in observance of the President's Day holiday.
2. **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 1<sup>st</sup> Book of Enoch and Other Pseudepigrapha.

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

3. **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.
4. **Assisting with Worship and Other Ministries:** We welcome and encourage you to serve at either worship service as Lector (Reader), Intercessor, Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEM), Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV), Acolyte, Usher, and Greeter. We also would welcome a new Head of Outreach, or a team of leaders, to lead this ministry, and new members to the Fellowship Committee, Counter Team, and Altar Guild. Please see Rev. Christopher if you would like to serve in any of these roles.
5. **Tending Our Soil:** The TOS team, focused on St. Mark's vitality as a congregation, is seeking two new members. TOS is currently working on a few projects: a Vision, Mission, and Goals statement; and making the Sanctuary more welcoming for people with small children. If you are interested, please see Rev. Wilkins.

Tending Our Soil is putting together a small team to take input from the congregation and public on the "Welcoming Children" project and then design it. This project should take fewer than 90 days. To express interest, please contact Beth Walton in person or by texting 240-461-1647.

**Upcoming Workshop:** Adaptive Leadership. **Saturday, February 24, 2024, 9:00 - 3:00 pm**, St. Mark's Parish Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please let Beth Walton or Rev. Christopher know if you would like to do so. There is no cost for the workshop. EDOW

will provide lunch and snacks, also at no cost. Please let us know if you have any particular dietary requirements.

6. **Bag Lunches for Elizabeth House:** On the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
7. **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.
8. **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.
9. **Vestry Meeting:** Tuesday, February 27, 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

### **Parable of the Sower Book Study and Discussion:**

Meetings will be held in the Library, on Sundays, from noon to 1:30pm, following coffee hour. The dates and discussion themes, will be as follows:

1. Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – Chapters 1-4, “God is Change”
2. Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> – Chapters 5-9, “Belief Initiates and Guides Action”
3. Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> – Chapters 10-13, “When Apparent Stability Disintegrates”
4. Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – Chapters 14-16, “Kindness Eases Change”
5. Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Chapters 17-20, “Embrace Diversity, or Be Destroyed”
6. Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Chapters 21-25, “To Shape God, Shape Self”

Please see the signup sheet in the Parish Office if you would like to join the sessions.



## 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

12621 Old Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904

[office@stmarks-silverspring.org](mailto: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](mailto:rector@stmarks-silverspring.org) \* Cell: 301-768-3075 \* 301-622-5860 ext. 105

Janis Smith, Parish Administrator

[administrator@stmarks-silverspring.org](mailto:administrator@stmarks-silverspring.org) \* 301-622-5860 ext. 104

Don Hague, Director of Music

Keira Vargas, Parish Secretary

Pamela Gibson, Senior Warden

Jess Rowland, Junior Warden

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

[www.stmarksfairland.org](http://www.stmarksfairland.org) \* [www.stmarks-silverspring.org](http://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:* John baptizes Jesus, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58027> [retrieved February 14, 2024].  
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