

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Fifth Sunday of the Season of Creation  
*Holy Eucharist, Rite 2 – 10:30am, October 5, 2025*



St. Mark's Episcopal Anglican Church  
Fairland Parish, in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington  
Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde, Bishop  
Rev. Dr. Christopher I. Wilkins, Rector  
Rev. Kortright Davis, Celebrant

# Holy Eucharist, Rite 2<sup>1</sup>

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Fifth Sunday of the Season of Creation*

## Prelude

*The Celebrant says.*

Since we have been raised with Christ, let us seek the things that are above, where Christ is. Please rise. Our worship begins with [*the entrance hymn*].

*The Altar party processes as the Choristers lead the People in singing*

**Entrance Hymn:** Hymnal 1982, hymn #407, vv. 1-5  
*Most High, omnipotent, good Lord*

1. Most High, omnipotent, good Lord, to thee be ceaseless praise outpoured, and blessing without measure. From thee alone all creatures came; no one is worthy thee to name.

2. My Lord be praised by brother sun who through the skies his course doth run, and shines in brilliant splendor: with brightness he doth fill the day, and signifies thy boundless sway.

3. My Lord be praised by sister moon and all the stars, that with her soon will point the glittering heavens. Let wind and air and cloud and calm and weathers all, repeat the psalm.

4. By sister water be thou blessed, most humble, useful, precious, chaste; be praised by brother fire; jocund is he, robust and bright, and strong to lighten all the night.

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<sup>1</sup> This service incorporates elements from the *Book of Common Prayer*, Holy Eucharist, Rite 2, and the *Season of Creation 2025: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes*, which has approved for use in this diocese.

5. By mother earth my Lord be praised; governed by thee she hath upraised what for our life is needful. Sustained by thee, through every hour, she bringeth forth fruit, herb, and flower.

### **Opening Rites:**

*Celebrant:* This is the day the Creator has made.

*People:* Let us rejoice and be glad in it. *Amen.*

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, to 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.*

**Hymn of Praise:** **Hymnal 1982, hymn #407, vv. 6-8**

***Most High, omnipotent, good Lord***

6. My Lord be praised by those who prove in free forgivingness their love, nor shrink from tribulation. Happy, who peaceably endure; with thee, Lord, their reward is sure.

7. For death our sister, praised be, from whom no one alive can free. Woe to the unprepared! But blest be they who do thy will and follow thy commandments still.

8. Most High, omnipotent, good Lord, to thee be ceaseless praise outpoured, and blessing without measure. Let creatures all give thanks to thee, and serve in great humility.

### **The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant:* The Creator be with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

*The Celebrant prays the Collect.*

All-loving and everliving God, you are always more ready to give than we are to receive: Pour upon us your abundance of contentment with simple, faithful living; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **The Lessons**

*The People are seated.*

### **The First Lesson**

### **Lamentations 1:1-6**

1 How lonely sits the city  
that once was full of people!  
How like a widow she has become,  
she that was great among the nations!  
She that was a princess among the provinces  
has become subject to forced labor.  
<sup>2</sup>She weeps bitterly in the night,  
with tears on her cheeks;  
among all her lovers,  
she has no one to comfort her;  
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her;  
they have become her enemies.  
<sup>3</sup>Judah has gone into exile with suffering  
and hard servitude;  
she lives now among the nations;  
she finds no resting place;  
her pursuers have all overtaken her  
in the midst of her distress.  
<sup>4</sup>The roads to Zion mourn,  
for no one comes to the festivals;  
all her gates are desolate;  
her priests groan;  
her young girls grieve,  
and her lot is bitter.  
<sup>5</sup>Her foes have become the masters;  
her enemies prosper  
because the LORD has made her suffer  
for the multitude of her transgressions;

her children have gone away,  
    captives before the foe.  
6 From daughter Zion has departed  
    all her majesty.  
Her princes have become like stags  
    that find no pasture;  
they fled without strength  
    before the pursuer.

*Reader:*       The Word of the Lord.  
*Celebrant:*   Thanks be to God.

**Psalm of the Day:**

**Lamentations 3:19-26**

*The Psalm will be read responsively by whole verse, led by the First Reader.*

19 The thought of my affliction and my homelessness  
    is wormwood and gall!  
20 My soul continually thinks of it  
    and is bowed down within me.  
21 But this I call to mind,  
    and therefore I have hope:  
  
22 The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
    his mercies never come to an end;  
23 they are new every morning;  
    great is your faithfulness.  
24 “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,  
    “therefore I will hope in him.”  
  
25 The Lord is good to those who wait for him,  
    to the soul that seeks him.  
26 It is good that one should wait quietly  
    for the salvation of the Lord.

**A Reading of “Seeds of life and hope” from *Ladder to the Light*, Steven Charleston**

I have a small vision to share, one that came to me through the night walks we call dreams. In my dream, I saw a shadowy figure standing high on a darkened hill, throwing seeds into the wind. Once the seeds left the figure’s hand, they turned to tiny points of light and were carried away into the sky. That’s all I remember, but it is enough. You and I stand on a windswept moment in history. All around us is a gathering darkness. But we are not afraid because we have seeds of life and hope in our pockets. Our task is to cast them as far and wide as we can. The breath of the Spirit will do the rest.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*Celebrant:* Thanks be to God.

*The People stand and sing.*

**Gradual Hymn:**

**Hymnal 1982, hymn #531**

***O Spirit of the living God***

1. O Spirit of the living God, in all thy plenitude of grace, where'er the foot of man hath trod, descend on our apostate race.
2. Give tongues of fire and hearts of love, to preach the reconciling word; give power and unction from above, whene'er the joyful sound is heard.
3. Be darkness, at thy coming, light; confusion, order in thy path; souls without strength inspire with might, bid mercy triumph over wrath.
4. Convert the nations! far and nigh the triumphs of the cross record; the Name of Jesus glorify, till every people call him Lord.

**The Gospel**

**Luke 17:5-10**

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

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

*People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>5</sup> The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” <sup>6</sup> The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup> “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table?’ <sup>8</sup> Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink?’ <sup>9</sup> Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup> So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

*The People are seated.*

**The Sermon:**

*Rev. Kortright Davis*

**The Creed<sup>2</sup>**

*The LEM leads the People as they say:*

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

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<sup>2</sup> *The People may substitute ‘I’ for ‘We’ when reciting the Nicene Creed.*

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 for the Season of Creation**

*The People respond with the words in italics. During the silence after each bidding, the People may add their own prayers, silently or aloud.*

Let us pray for the revealing of the reign of God in the world, now and always.

In the beginning,  
*God was.*  
Here and now,  
*God is.*  
In the future,  
*God will be.*

Creator of earth, sea, and sky, kindle the fire of your Spirit within us that we may be bold to heal and defend the earth, and pour your blessing upon all who work for the good of the planet.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,

*Hear our prayer.*

Breath of life, receive our thanks for the beauty of our local habitat and all who dwell in it, and grant us the wisdom and will to conserve it.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Source of life, heal and redeem the wounds of your creation, and visit the places and people who suffer from our indifference, neglect, and greed.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Lover of all you have made, we thank you for the wondrous diversity of your creatures, and we pray for their well-being.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Author of the book of nature, receive our gratitude for places of restoration and healing, and continue to bless those places that feed our lives and spirits.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Wise Creator, whose works are full of mystery, give us wonder and appreciation for your creatures with whom we find ourselves in conflict.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your bounty, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Divine Physician, heal our communities, especially those where neglect, greed, or violence inflict suffering upon people and other creatures.

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Comforter of all the earth, sustain the people of this congregation who desire or need your presence and help [especially \_\_\_\_\_].

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

Rock and refuge of all your creatures, receive into everlasting mercy all those who have died [especially \_\_\_\_\_].

*Silence*

God, Giver of life,  
*Hear our prayer.*

*The Officiant adds the concluding collect, as follows.*

Bountiful God, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth: Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things for you live and reign

with Christ, Redeemer of all, and with your Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **Confession of Sin**

*If the confession is not omitted, the Deacon or Officiant then says*

Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

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

Holy and merciful God,  
we confess that we have failed to honor you  
by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures.  
We have walked heavily on your earth,  
overused and wasted its resources,  
taken for granted its beauty and abundance,  
and treated its inhabitants unjustly,  
holding future generations hostage to our greed.  
Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin.  
Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as  
    you desire and intend,  
with grateful and compassionate hearts,  
through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

*The Celebrant stands and says*

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

All things came into being through the Word, 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. *Amen. John 1:3-4*

With all wisdom and insight God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. *Amen. Ephesians 1:8-10*

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. *Amen. Colossians 1:15-16*

In Christ all things hold together. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. *Amen. Colossians 1:17b, 19*

## **The Peace**

*The People stand.*

*Celebrant:* Now, may the peace of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier,  
be always with you.

*People:* And also with you.

*The Ministers and People greet one another.*

## **Choral Anthem: *Sing to the Lord of Harvest*                      H. Willian**

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

*When the musical offertory ends, an usher brings the offering to the altar rail. The Officiant then says:*

*Celebrant:* All things come of thee, O Lord,

*Congregation:* And of thine own have we given thee, *Amen.*

## **The Holy Eucharist: The Great Thanksgiving**

*The People stand. The Celebrant sings or says*

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.

*The People may kneel. Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because in the mystery of Christ's incarnation you have gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, calling your people to be ministers of reconciliation and to proclaim the Good News to all creation.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name,

**Sanctus**

**Hymnal 1982, #S-129**

*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 people stand or kneel. 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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,

to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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." †

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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." †

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

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.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts 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. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN. ††

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

*The LEM invites the People into the Prayer as follows*

Holy One, our only Home,  
hallowed be your name.  
May your day dawn,  
your will be done,  
here as in heaven.  
Feed us today,  
and forgive us as we forgive each other.  
Do not forsake us at the test,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the glory, the power,  
and the mercy are yours,  
now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

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

### **The Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover**                      **Hymnal 1982, #S-154**

*The Choristers lead the People as they sing:*

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

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

*The People come to the Altar Rail to receive the gifts or a blessing.*

### **Communion Anthem:**    **Hymnal 1982, hymn #312** ***Strengthen for service, Lord***

1. Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that holy things have taken; let ears that now have heard thy songs to clamor never waken.

2. Lord, may the tongues which “Holy” sang keep free from all deceiving; the eyes which saw thy love be bright, thy blessed hope perceiving.

3. The feet that tread thy hallowed courts from light do thou not banish; the bodies by thy Body fed with thy new life replenish.

*The People come forward to receive the gifts. After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray. *The Celebrant leads the People as they say*

Eternal God, holy Lord, 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, Birthdays & Anniversaries**

*Announcements, Birthdays and Anniversaries, if any, are made here.*

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

*The Celebrant says*

May Almighty God, from whom all blessings flow, make you swift to love, hasten you to do good, and send you forth in peace. *Amen.*

### **Withdrawal Hymn:**

**LEVAS, hymn #196**

#### ***Leaning on the everlasting arms***

*Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; Leaning, leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.*

1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms; What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, Leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, Leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on the everlasting arms; I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.  
*Refrain*

*The Altar Party withdraws.*

*The LEM says*

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

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*The People respond:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## **Postlude**

*The People depart.*

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

**The Flowers on the altar today are given to the Glory of God.**

\*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.

**Musical Note:** Hymn 407 has been split into two parts, as Entrance Hymn and Hymn of Praise. The words are by Francis of Assisi, the founder of the Franciscan Order, known for his profound love of nature and animals. His poem is a good ending for our Season of Creation.

## **Readers, LEMs, Intercessor and Altar Guild**

1<sup>st</sup> Reader: Olivia Lee

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader & LEM: Uloma Nwauche Unonu

Intercessor: Charlene Langley

Altar Guild: Charlene & Kris

### UPCOMING EVENTS – Save the Date

**Tuesday, October 21, 2025: Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) Meeting:** 7:00pm in the library. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.

**Tuesday, October 28, 2025: Vestry Meeting:** 7:30pm in the Parish Hall. Please let the Parish Administrator know if you would like to attend this meeting via Zoom.

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

## St. Mark's Mission & Vision

### *Mission*

- ❖ To love God, love our Neighbors, and serve Christ in all persons.

### *Vision: St. Mark's*

- ❖ Invites, welcomes, and connects people to God and one another in a thriving church community.
- ❖ Fosters opportunities for people to serve those around them.
- ❖ Promotes equity, justice, accessibility, and care for creation.

*Adopted February 27, 2024*

## 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.*

If you have a pastoral need, or know someone who does, please contact the church at 301-622-5860, or by email to [pastoralcare@stmarks-silverspring.org](mailto:pastoralcare@stmarks-silverspring.org). You may also request care online by completing our **Pastoral Care Request Form** at: <https://stmarks-silverspring.org/pastoral-care-at-st-marks/>

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: St. Mark's Creation Care Logo.*