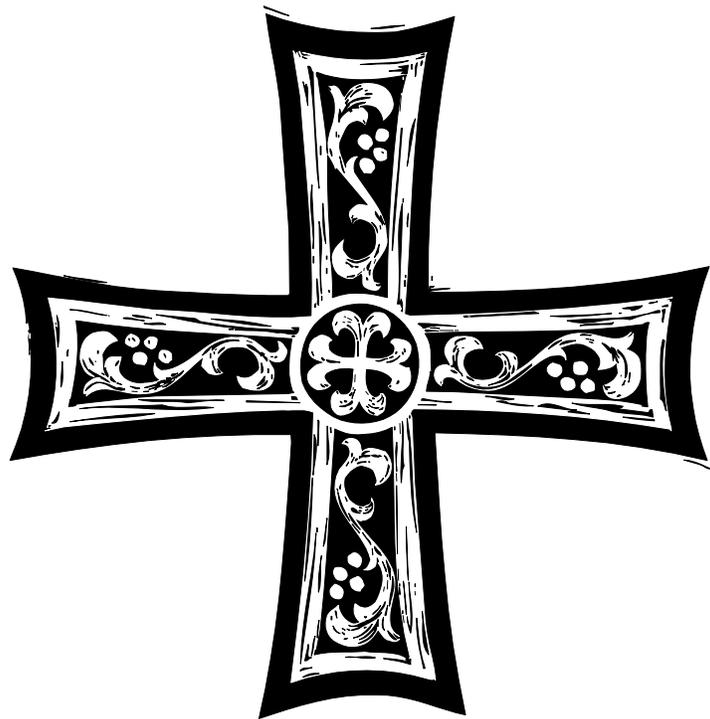


The Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

Morning Prayer

November 8, 2020

10:00am



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
1 Porter Road
East Longmeadow, MA 01028
(413) 525-6341

Email: office@stmarksma.org

Website: www.stmarksma.org

WELCOME

PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCE

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. *Philippians 1:2*

ENTRANCE HYMN *The Church's one foundation (Aurelia) (H 525)*

1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der men see her sore op - pressed,
4 Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war
5 Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

1 she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word:
2 her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
3 by schi - sms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed;
4 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
5 and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.

1 from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
2 one ho - ly Name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
3 yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
4 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blessed,
5 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

1 with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2 and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
3 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
4 and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
5 like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Officiant says to the people

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Priest alone 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.*

The earth is the Lord's, for God made it: **Come let us worship.**

OPENING CANTICLE

1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____
_____ for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; _____ we will
praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____
3. Glo - ry to you _____ in the splen - dor of your
tem - ple; _____ on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to
you. _____ 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed be -
tween the Cher - u - bim; _____ we will praise you and
high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be -

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; _____ in the high vault of

depths; _____ in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____

you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,

_____ Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will

Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; _____ we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you. Glo - ry to you! _____

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

PSALM: 78:1-7

- 1 Hear my teaching, O my people; *
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient times.
- 3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have told us, *
we will not hide from their children.

- 4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has done.
- 5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their children;
- 6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their children;
- 7 So that they might put their trust in God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments;

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be forever, Amen.

FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. "Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

SEQUENCE HYMN

1 "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
2 "When you heard the won - der of the Word I was
3 "In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the
old, no lon - ger young, I'll be there to guide you
were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.
liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
I was there when you were but a child, with a
If you find some - one to share your time and you
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you
faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have
wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell."
vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."
4 "I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
were bap - tized to see your life un - fold."

SECOND READING: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then

all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Reader **The Word of the Lord.**

People **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is seen and unseen.**

We believe in on 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 man.**

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.

Who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.

Who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge on baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Walk in love and Christ loved us and gave himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You" (Numbers 6:24-26) by Sue Matsui;

Musical Guests: Julie Carew, cello and Chris Pryce, violin; Mindy Rosengarten, Susan Schneider, and Alan Druckenmiller, voice.

LITURGY FOR THE ENDING OF A PASTORAL RELATIONSHIP

Fr. Peter: On the 19th day of November, 2009, I was inducted by Bishop Scruton as rector of St. Mark's Church. I have, with God's help and to the best of my abilities, exercised this trust, accepting its privileges and responsibilities.

After prayer and careful consideration, it now seems to me that I should leave this charge, and I publicly stated that my tenure as rector of St. Mark's ends this day.

The Deacon says:

Do you the people of St. Mark's, recognize and accept the conclusion of this pastoral relationship?

People: We do.

Fr. Peter: O Lord my God, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; yet you called me to stand in your house and serve at this altar. To you and your service I have devoted myself—body, soul and spirit. In this ministry, you have filled my memory with the record of your mighty words; enlightened my understanding with the Holy Spirit; asking that I center my heart and will on what you would have me do, even as you have entrusted these people to my care.

As I leave this place, be always with me in carrying out the duties of my ministry. In prayer, quicken my devotion; in praises, heighten my love and gratitude; in preaching, give me readiness of thought and expression; that together we might fulfill the duties of a ministry of service, to you, to each other and to the whole creation of which we are stewards. All this I ask through the power of your most gracious Spirit.

Deacon Eric: Fr. Peter the work of ministry is rooted in the gifts of ministry. As a priest you have pledged to use your gifts and skills to lead God's people in worship, preaching, teaching, welcoming the stranger, and reaching out to those in need. Together with the people of this parish you have been committed to this work. I invite you to share signs of these gifts and words of encouragement with the parish so this work of ministry might continue to flourish here in the years to come.

Fr. Peter: Amen. Sue receive these keys to St. Mark's and let the doors of this parish continue to be open to all people. May you continue to say with sincerity and truth that Christ welcomed all, we welcome you.

People: Amen

Fr. Peter: Eric, receive this Gospel Book that the Word of God may be heard by the beloved people of God and preached with power and grace.

People: Amen

Fr. Peter: Claire/Lori Receive this peanut butter and canned food that you may continue to support the work of Church without Walls, the Big Blue Drop-in Center, Loaves and Fishes, and other ministries. Ay St. Mark's continue to reach out to those in need as the hands of Jesus in this world.

People: Amen

Fr. Peter: Meg, receive this study Bible that the people of God at St. Mark's may continue to grow in faith and understanding as they search the depths of their faith in formation and study.

People: Amen

Fr. Peter: Sue, receive this hymnal, that together St. Mark's may continue to praise God with happy voices lifted in harmony.

People: Amen

Fr. Peter: April receive this pilgrim's canteen, that our children and youth may continue on their journey of faith growing into the Christians God calls them to be.

People: Amen

Deacon Eric: Having witnessed the exchange of gifts between Fr. Peter and these representatives of St. Mark's, do you, the people of St. Mark's Church, recognize and accept the conclusion of this pastoral relationship?

People: We do.

Deacon Eric: Let us pray together.

ALL: O God, you have bound us together for a time as priest and people to work for the advancement of your reign on earth in this place: We give you humble and hearty thanks for the ministry that we have shared.

Silence

Especially we thank you for your never-failing presence with us through these years, and for the deeper knowledge of you, each other, and the world we serve.

Silence

We thank you for those who have been joined to this part of Christ's family through baptism, confirmation and marriage. We thank you for opening the hearts and minds of children and young people, that together with them, we might be fed by your sacraments.

Silence

And we pray for those whom we have loved whose lives we have celebrated and those spirits live with you in eternity.

Silence

Now, we pray, be with those who leave and with those who stay, and grant that all of us, drawing ever nearer to you, may always be close to each other in the communion of saints. All this we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

PRAYER FOR MISSION

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

People: Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love. We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side. We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us. We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone. Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom. Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN (H690) Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O thou great Je-ho-vah, pil-grim through this
2 O-pen now the crys-tal foun-tain, whence the heal-ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, bid my anx-ious
bar-ren land; I am weak, but thou art might-y;
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud-y pil-lar
fears sub-side; death of death, and hell's de-struc-tion,
hold me with thy power-ful hand; bread of hea-ven,
lead me all my jour-ney through; strong de-liv-erer,
land me safe on Ca-naan's side; songs of prais-es,
bread of hea-ven, feed me now and ev-er -
strong de-liv-erer, be thou still my strength and
songs of prais-es, I will ev-er give to
more, shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
thee, I will ev-er give to thee.

CONCLUDING SENTENCE

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:
Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.
Amen. Ephesians 3:20, 21

FINAL BLESSING

Deacon Eric:

May God, who has led us in the paths of justice and truth, lead us still, and keep us in his ways.
Amen

Sue Schneider:

May God, whose Son has loved us and given himself for us, love us still, and establish us in peace. Amen

Deacon Eric:

May God, whose Spirit unites us and fills our hearts with joy, illumine us still, and strengthen us for the years to come. Amen

Fr. Peter:

And the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Eric: Be of good courage, follow in the path of God. Be a people of faith, hope and love. Go now in peace, protected and guided by the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

- ***Homebound:*** Mary Jane, William & Barbara, Melissa, Lucy, Fran
- ***Healing:*** Oralia, Doreen, Milt, Dale, Alaina, Matthew, Russ, Gail, Joseph, Jose, David, Phyllis, Joyce, Ann, Andy, Wendy, Jaime, Kim, Jean, Maggie, Mark, Elizabeth, Sandy, Carol, June, Millie, Rick, Jeff, Liz, Dick, Dusti, Justin, Jim, Georgia, Fran, Chris & Family, Ashling, Dan, Holly, Jack, Sue, Gail, Mary, The Tarby's, Liz, Jean, Keith, Colleen, Jeff, Samantha, Gus, Irene, Lisa, Millie, Caroline, Carol, Felicia Gelinis, Donna Marie Haraty, Alicia Gagne, Linda Anderson, Barbara, David, Cher Bean, Pat Harmon, Deb Lewis, Bill Bremmer, Tracie Wright, Caroline, Margaret.

Those celebrating a birthday this week: Barbara Derosé, Mindy Rosengarten, Jane Solitario.