

Saint Mark's Church

Geneva, IL



The Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist Rite II

December 6, 2020

Welcome in the Name of the Lord

We're glad you are here! If you are visiting, please introduce yourself to the clergy after the service, and fill out one of the response cards at the Information Table. We would like to get to know you.

About Communion

All baptized Christians who know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to the Communion table. Scripture assures us that God forgives and welcomes all who come to him in repentance and faith (1 John 1:19).

To receive communion, stand and hold out your hands, palms up, one hand over the other. The sealed bread and wine will be placed in your hand. Please move down the altar rail as indicated, first take the bread, then take the wine, and place the chalice in the receptacle provided.

Children are welcome to receive communion. If you prefer, they may receive a blessing rather than communion.

To receive a blessing rather than communion, please cross your arms over your chest.

Our Discipleship Strategy

The pathway to transformation at St. Mark's consists of:

1. Weekly participation in a Eucharistic service.
2. Participation in a Cornerstone Group.

Eucharistic Worship is the historic form of Christian worship through liturgy. Our expression is based on the Book of Common Prayer. It is where our community gathers to receive Christ in the Word and Sacraments, offer praise and thanksgiving through excellent music, and pray for our needs and those of others.

Cornerstone Groups are where we create Christian community, engage historic teaching, and participate in Christ's mission.

This booklet faithfully follows the order for the Holy Eucharist, Rite II,
from the 1979 Book of Common Prayer.

Cover Artwork: *The Annunciation* by Henry Ossawa Tanner, 1898. Oil on canvas,
Philadelphia Museum of Art <http://www.the-athenaeum.org/art/detail.php?ID=45464>.

Prelude **Prepare the Royal Highway**

Manz

The Word of God

BCP p. 355

All stand

Celebrant

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

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. 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.**

Trisagion

All say

**Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us. (3x)**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

All pray

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

The people sit. The Old and New Testament Scriptures are read.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

<i>Reader</i>	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

All say

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

BCP p. 708

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O Lord, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Reader

A reading from Peter's second letter.

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

All stand

The Gospel Mark 1:1-8

Priest The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

***People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

***People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Mark A. Tusken, Rector

All stand

The Apostles’ Creed

BCP p. 96

All say I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

BCP p. 97

<i>Leader</i>	Show us your mercy, O Lord;
<i>People</i>	And grant us your salvation.
<i>Leader</i>	Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
<i>People</i>	Let your people sing with joy.
<i>Leader</i>	Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
<i>People</i>	For only in you can we live in safety.
<i>Leader</i>	Lord, keep this nation under your care;
<i>People</i>	And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
<i>Leader</i>	Let your way be known upon earth;
<i>People</i>	Your saving health among all nations.
<i>Leader</i>	Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
<i>People</i>	Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
<i>Leader</i>	Create in us clean hearts, O God;
<i>People</i>	And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.
<i>Leader</i>	We pray for our friend and fellow St. Marker, Lidia, that you would bless her time in the U.S. with her children and new grandchild and that you would protect her health and safety.
<i>People</i>	For all who serve God in His Church.
<i>Leader</i>	For the thanksgivings, special needs and concerns of this congregation. We invite you to pray silently or aloud.
<i>Priest</i>	Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

The Confession

BCP p. 360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence is kept.

People 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.

Celebrant 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.**

All stand

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

BCP p. 367

Offertory Comfort, comfort ye my people

arr. Hopson

Comfort, comfort, O my people, tell of peace, now says our God;
Comfort those who still in darkness bowed beneath oppression's load.
Speak unto Jerusalem; speak of peace that waits for them;
tell them that their sins I cover; tell that warfare now is over.

Hark, the herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near,
bidding us to make repentance since the kingdom now is here.
O that warning cry obey: Now prepare for God away;
let the valleys rise to meet Him; let the hills bow down to greet Him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;
And all flesh shall see the token, that the word is never broken.

The Great Thanksgiving

BCP p. 367

The people remain standing.

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 him thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant proceeds.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

The Sanctus

All 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 if able. 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,

**All say We remember his death,
 We proclaim his resurrection,
 We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. 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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

**All 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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.
The Bread and Wine are given to the communicants with these words*

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Communion Music

Instrumental The People that in Darkness Sat

Parry

Celebrant and People

Post-communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

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.

The Celebrant blesses the people

Hymn 74 Blest be the King whose coming (*vs 1,2,4*) *Valet will ich dir geben*

Verse 1 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!
Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he;
but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!

Verse 2 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard;
pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed
the Christ who is the Promise, who has atonement made.

Verse 4 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need.
Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be,
for he would have us bear it so he can make us free.

Priest Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude The King shall Come

Johnson

*Musicians: Elaine Bennington, Soprano; Sue Steele, Mezzo Soprano;
Ricky Rivera, Tenor; Theo Farrell, Bass
Dr. Lance Peeler, Organist*

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Announcements

The flowers are given to the glory of God by Anne Fortin, in loving memory of her parents, Dr. George Hawley & Louise Sundberg, and her husband, John J. Fortin.

We give thanks for the life of John Beh, who died Tuesday, December 2. John is the father of Catelin, Shannon, Allison, and Kelly. We pray for comfort for his family, for Godly wisdom and direction, strength, and courage.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Festival flowers for Christmas. Forms available online. Your gift and completed forms are due in the church office **no later than Mon, Dec 14.**

Rector/Associate Rector Studies

Rector's Study has a series about Moses on Saturdays, 8am. Attend **BY ZOOM ONLY** at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/77163049583> Meeting ID: 771 6304 9583

Sunday Lectionary Study: The Rev. Dr. Marcus Johnson's class meets in Larrabee House at 9am on Sunday mornings. Due to restrictions, class size is limited to 10. Please sign up online weekly.

Associate Rector's Cornerstone Study Group: Thursdays 10am, at St. Mark's. This group is led by Dr. Amy Peeler and reflects on scripture and periodically participates in a service project together. **Meets every other week, next on Dec 17.** amy.peeler@gmail.com

Opportunities to Serve: Ministries in our Community

Salvation Army Food Pantry Ingathering is Dec 13. Please bring peanut butter & jelly, canned meats, paper products, soaps/detergents, or feminine hygiene items. Bins will be at entrances, and at curbside communion pickup. Leave donations on your doorstep if communion is delivered to your home. **Please be generous — the food pantry has very high demand now.**

Our ministry to Hesed House is Mon/Tues, Dec 13/14. Please sign up online to provide a casserole or some of the food items (located under "Serve/Locally/Hesed House/sign up to provide food" on our website). **Donations needed in the kitchen 11:30am-1:30pm on Sun, Dec 12. Precooked casseroles needed in the kitchen 2-4pm on Mon, Dec 13** while we are making sandwiches. **Monetary donations also accepted,** checks to St. Mark's Church, memo "Hesed House."

Christmas Preparation

Ring the Salvation Army Red Kettle Bells at Geneva Ace Hardware, Dec 5, 12, and 19. **Sign-up now on St. Mark's website. YOUR HELP NEEDED!**

2020 Salvation Army Christmas – “Un-Decorate” the Gift Tree ALL GIFTS DUE TODAY DEC 6

Thank you for the incredible generosity you have shown in years past supporting our mission to help local families at Christmas, through the Salvation Army. **We have an easier format this year.**

A Christmas Gift Tree is set up in the Narthex with gift tags. Some tags list a single gift item and some tags have 2-4 gift items. If you pick a tag with multiple gift items, please purchase all of the items. Each tag has a number on it. Please write the Tag Number(s) you select in the binder near the Christmas tree along, with your name, phone number, and email address.

When you pick up your curbside communion, you may come into the narthex to sign out a Gift tree tag.

As in the past, please do not wrap the presents.

The Salvation Army's greatest need is gifts for 12-18 year olds. Gift cards valued at \$25 would be welcome and greatly appreciated, but please feel free to donate any gift (no tag necessary). **Gift tree tags are also available on our website.**

Return gift(s) to St. Mark's (please drop them off in the parlor) by Dec 6. If you shop online, you can ship directly to the Salvation Army, **to be received there before Dec 6 — be sure to add the gift tag number to the address:**

The Salvation Army
Attention Tag # ____
1710 South 7th Ave.
St. Charles, IL 60174

Thank you so much for your generosity and for helping to “un-decorate” the gift tree!

Prison Fellowship Angel Tree will be available a little later in December.

(Announcements continue on next page.)

More Announcements

Please return your 2021 Commitment Card. Need offering envelopes? That's where to note it. Or call the office.

Cornerstone Ministry

All-Church Study: January 2021: Beginning Jan 6, for a third consecutive year, Saint Mark's will journey together from Epiphany to Holy Week by connecting, through the lectionary readings, three vital environments for our parish:

- Weekly Eucharistic Services
- Cornerstone Groups
- 5-Minute Daily Devotions

This year's study is entitled **RECEIVE** and will provide a great opportunity to test-drive a Cornerstone Group (our small groups). Check out the church website for more information on groups.

Christian Fellowship Group: Focusing on connection, community, and the basics of the Christian Faith. This group typically gathers on Thursday 6:30-8:00 pm in a Geneva home; however, during the duration of the Covid19 crisis will gather weekly via Zoom. Contact Carl Ball, carlrball@att.net, 847.309.3235.

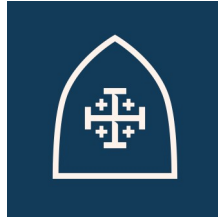
Advent Evening Prayer

Advent Evening Prayer is offered in the Chapel at 6:30pm on Wed, Dec 9, 16, 23. Wear a mask, limited to 10 people.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care Needs? We must count on you to let us know of pastoral care needs for yourself or family members. Please call the office if there is a death in your family, someone is hospitalized, or you have other pastoral needs.

Sermon Notes



St. Mark's Church

320 Franklin St.
Geneva, IL 60134
630.232.0133
stmarks-geneva.org
office@stmarks-geneva.org

Who We Are

We are a Christian community that worships God in the Anglican tradition,
engages the historic teaching of the church,
and participates in Christ's mission.

The Rev. Dr. Mark A. Tusken	Rector
The Rev. Dr. Amy Peeler	Associate Rector
The Rev. Dr. Marcus Johnson	Associate Rector

Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II Online Worship Available
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist Rite II Online Worship Available

Curbside and Home Delivery of Communion available 8:00-11:00 am
(Online Sign up for Home Delivery required by 5:00 pm Saturday)

Saturday

7:30 am	Morning Prayer (Chapel)
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