

Saint Mark's Church

Geneva, IL



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist Rite II

December 20, 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 **My Soul Magnifies the Lord. BWV648**

Bach

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

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lessons

The people sit

Reader

A reading from the Second Book of Samuel.

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

When the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All say

Canticle 15, The Song of Mary, *Magnificat*

BCP p. 91

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *

and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *

and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *

for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, *

to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The Epistle

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand

The Gospel **Luke 1:26-38**

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

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

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Amy Peeler, Associate 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

Leader Show us your mercy, O Lord;
People **And grant us your salvation.**

Leader Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
People **Let your people sing with joy.**

Leader Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
People **For only in you can we live in safety.**

Leader Lord, keep this nation under your care;
People **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

Leader Let your way be known upon earth;
People **Your saving health among all nations.**

Leader Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
People **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

Leader Create in us clean hearts, O God;
People **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

Leader 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.

People **For all who serve God in His Church.**

Leader For the thanksgivings, special needs and concerns of this congregation. We invite you to pray silently or aloud.

Priest 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 Holy Communion

BCP p. 367

Offertory Magnificat in D

Brewer

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God, my Saviour.
He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.
From henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His Name.
And His mercy is on them that fear Him throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm,
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He hath sent empty away.
He remembering His mercy hath holpen His servant Israel,
as He promised to our Forefathers, Abraham and his seed forever.
Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the
beginning, now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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 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 Gabriel's Message

Manz

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 438 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Woodlands

- Verse 1* Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.
- Verse 2* Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;
his holy name — the Lord, the Mighty One.
- Verse 3* Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
- Verse 4* Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and forevermore!

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

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

Postlude Von Himmel hoch

Pelz

*Musicians: Kate Peeler, 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 Elisabeth and Brian Ferrill, in honor of the baptism of Adelyn Elisabeth Ferrill.

We give thanks for the life of Arde Yavari, who died Tuesday, December 15. He is the husband of Alice; father of John (Cynthia); and grandfather of John, Taylor, and Jordan Yavari. We pray for comfort for his family.

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

We received for Holy Baptism yesterday Adelyn Elisabeth Ferrill, daughter of Elisabeth and Brian Ferrill. Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church. A warm welcome to the candidate, her family, sponsors, and friends. We pray for their growth in Christ.

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

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 Jan 7.** amy.peeler@gmail.com

Opportunities to Serve: Ministries in our Community

We next serve at Lazarus House Sat, Dec 26. The church will be open 2-4 pm that day to receive your food donations. **Sign up on our website** at stmarks-geneva.org/serve/locally/ Thank you for your generosity!

Global Outreach

As you consider end-of-year giving please think of the cross-cultural workers St. Mark's supports throughout the year. As it has been for all of us, 2020 has been a year filled with surprises, challenges and for some, returning to the US to wait out the pandemic. The easiest way to provide a gift is via <https://stmarks-geneva.org/serve/globally/>. If you do not see a link and would still like to make a gift, please send or drop off your note and gift to the Mission Commission box at St. Mark's. Thanks for remembering those we partner with throughout the world!

Advent & Christmas Webpage

Prison Fellowship Angel Tree signups to provide gifts is available on the Advent & Christmas webpage — **sign up now**.

Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*: Restrictions prevented us from presenting this traditional play in 2020, but please enjoy a recent-year production on the Advent & Christmas webpage.

Children's Christmas Pageant 2020: *Scene-by-Scene by St. Mark's* will be posted to the Advent & Christmas webpage in time for Christmas Eve. Watch for the link in the pre-Christmas special edition newsletters.

Need to subscribe to the newsletter? You can do that at the bottom of any page on our website. Be sure to check that you want *The Saint Marker*.

Cornerstone Ministry

Young Adult (20s and 30s): Monday 7:30-9:00 pm in Geneva. Contact Andrea Hodge, andrea.cladis@gmail.com, 630.234.0071. Engaging and supportive. We are a growing, fellowship and service-oriented group. We'd love to have you!

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.

Tax Time Reminder

Your contributions must be postmarked or received in the office by Dec 31 to be included in your 2020 Contributions Statement.

(Announcements continue on next page.)

More Announcements

Christmas Services

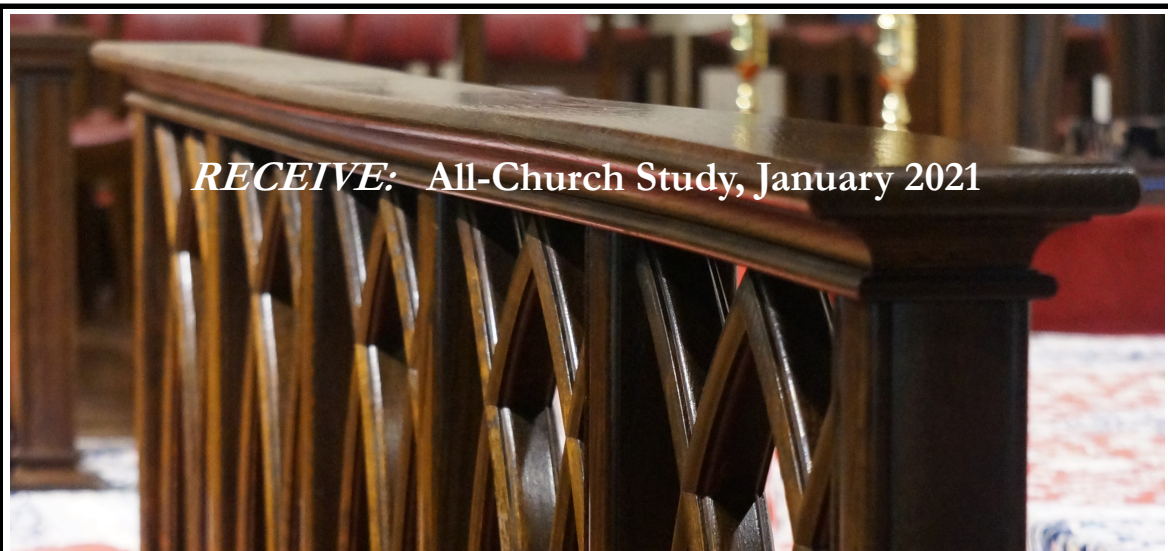
Christmas Eve	2:00 pm
<i>Curbside Communion</i>	2:00-3:00 pm
	4:00 pm
	10:00 pm
Christmas Day	10:00 am

For home-delivered communion on Dec 24, **sign up by 5pm Wed, Dec 23 at stmarks-geneva.org/worship/communion-under-special-circumstances/**

We have 4 priests available to provide safe seating during live services on Christmas Eve.

If seating exceeds allowed numbers in the nave, there will be overflow in the narthex, the fellowship hall and the chapel. You may feel safe to attend in person, if you choose.

Online options are also available.



RECEIVE: 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.

St. Mark’s “e-mail” Prayer Warriors: If you have a prayer need or would like to join the prayer warriors, please send an e-mail to prayer@stmarks-geneva.org.



St. Mark's Church

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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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