THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Saint Mark's Episcopal Church

315 East Pecan Street San Antonio, Texas

December 10, 2017

WELCOME!

As Christians formed in a rich liturgical tradition, we believe that when we assemble for worship, we are gathering as the Body of Christ. Liturgy, a word we use for our way of worship, literally may be translated as "the work of the people." We are enriched by your presence and participation whether this is your first time visiting with us or you are a committed member of our parish.

We are a vibrant downtown community that is ready to welcome you wherever you may find yourself on your journey. We believe that the radical hospitality offered by Jesus Christ is one that we should model in our community life together as we seek to live out the Good News.

Our core vocation is to Feed San Antonio with the Bread of Life; we do this in ministry by:

Feeding the hungry with real food Feeding those who are hungry for knowledge and meaning Feeding those who are hungry for beauty and creativity

For more information about our community, see announcements at the back of this leaflet and please visit our website at www.stmarks-sa.org

Visitors: Please take a moment and fill out a Welcome Guest card that can be found in the pews. This can be placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher or greeter. If you would like to fill out a guest card but did not fill one out at church, visit our Welcome page at www.stmarks-sa.org or call us at 210-226-2426.

Nursery Available

Our Nursery, located in the Parish House, is available for children, ages 6wks-5yrs. Also, please see the pew card for further information about including children in our worship experience.

Children's Chapel

At the 10am service, there is a special Children's Chapel for the Liturgy of the Word that begins in the Jerusalem Chapel for preschool and elementary aged children. Children join their parents in the church at the Peace in time for Holy Communion.

Holy Communion and Gluten Free Wafers

Holy Communion is available to all baptized Christians regardless of denominational affiliation. We welcome children to receive at the table as well. Gluten free communion wafers are available by request. If you prefer to not receive communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest so we will know this is your desire.

Free parking is available for Sundays and weekday church activities in either of the two church lots.

The east lot is located at the corner of Jefferson and Pecan,
and the west lot borders Pecan Street between the bus station and St. Mark's.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I 7.45 AM

THE ACCLAMATION	BCP 323
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.	
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.	
THE COLLECT FOR PURITY	
Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom	nom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the
thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly holy Name; through Christ our Lord. <i>Amen</i> .	love thee, and worthily magnify thy
GLORIA	BCP 324
THE COLLECT OF THE DAY	
Merciful God, who didst send thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance as	nd prepare the way for our salvation:
Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and	n joy the coming of Jesus Christ our
THE LESSONS	
The First Lesson – Isaiah 40:1-11 (see p. 9)	
At the Gradual, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13	BCP 702
The Holy Gospel – Mark 1: 1-8 (see p. 9)	
The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. <i>Glory be to Thee, O Lord.</i>	
The Gospel is read.	
The Gospel of the Lord.	
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.	
THE SERMON	The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton
THE NICENE CREED	BCP 326
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	329
THE CONFESSION	330
THE PEACE	332
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING—Eucharistic Prayer II	
Sursum Corda and Preface	340
Prayer of Consecration	342
The Lord's Prayer	336
THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD	337
THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT	
THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER	339

THE BLESSING and THE DISMISSAL

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II 10.00 AM

HYMN IN PROCESSION 59

Merton

OPENING ACCLAMATION BCP 355

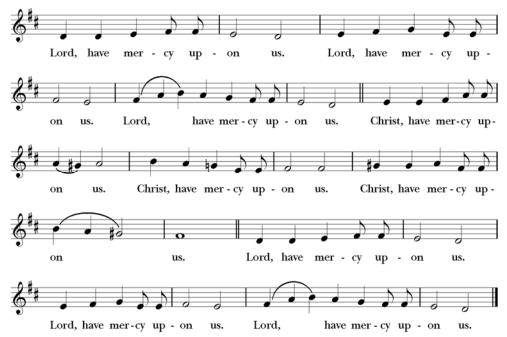
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.*

KYRIE, S 91 Healey Willan



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us 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 First Lesson – Isaiah 40:1-11 (see p. 9)

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

James Dykman and Rebecca Morgan, soloists

The tree of life my soul hath seen Laden with fruit and always green The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree

His beauty doth all things excel By faith I know but ne'er can tell The glory which I now can see In Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought And pleasure dearly I have bought I missed of all but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil Here I will sit and rest a while Under the shadow I will be Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit does make my soul to thrive It keeps my dying faith alive Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

The Second Lesson – 2 Peter 3:8-15a (see p. 9)

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

At the Sequence, Hymn 76

Winchester New

The Holy Gospel – Mark 1:1-8 (see p. 9)

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The Gospel is read.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton

THE 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 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

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.

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, Form II

The Congregation may stand or kneel.

Celebrant: Standing or kneeling, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for David and Jennifer, our Bishops; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people; we pray for Donald, our President; Greg, our Governor; and Ron, our Mayor.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed, especially...

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

I ask your prayers for: (here the parish prayer list is shared)

I ask your thanksgiving for ...

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

CONFESSION OF SIN BCP 360

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

Silence may be kept.

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 ABSOLUTION BCP 360

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*.

THE PEACE

AT THE OFFERTORY, An Anthem

And the glory of the Lord (from *Messiah*)

G. F. Handel

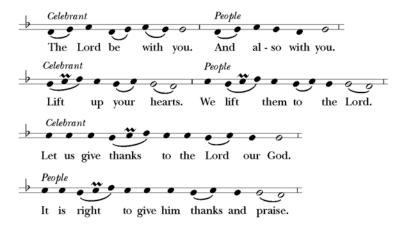
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

AT THE PRESENTATION, HYMN

Picardy

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Eucharistic Prayer B



Celebrant:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. [Here, a Proper Preface is spoken.] 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, S 114

Healey Willan

The people stand or kneel.

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 blessed Mark and 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 say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our 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.

AT THE FRACTION, S 158 Willan

At the Distribution

HYMN 75

Ascension

HYMN 67

Psalm 42

EUCHARISTIC VISITORS' DISMISSAL

Celebrant: In the name of God, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that others may share in the communion of

Christ's body and blood.

People: We who are many are one body, because we are one in Christ Jesus.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

HYMN IN PROCESSION 66 Stuttgart

THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661 J. S. Bach

THE ADVENT GREENS AT THE ALTAR THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Pauline Gillespie Gossett, his wife,** by Robert F. Gossett, Jr.

The First Lesson - 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.

The Second Lesson - 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.

The Holy Gospel - Mark 1:1-8

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."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WAYS YOU CAN HELP THIS ADVENT

Coats for Crockett Elementary

Thank you for your enthusiasm for our first project "Adopt a Crocketeer" for Christmas! Look for another display board in the Gosnell Hall this week for coats. There will be opportunities for you to pick up a name and coat size until January 7.

MUSIC AT ST. MARK'S

Advent Lessons and Carols – Sunday December 10 at 5.00pm - The Choirs of St. Mark's sing a service in celebration of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Christmas Pops Concert – Saturday, December 16 at 5.00pm - A festive evening of music for the entire family. Highlights include Tchaikovsky *Nutcracker Suite*; Leroy Anderson *Sleigh Ride*; *Frosty the Snowman*; and *'Twas the night before Christmas*.

CAROLLING IN TRAVIS PARK

Tuesday, December 12 at 6.30pm

Join St. Mark's in this festive opportunity to reach our neighbors! We will meet at St. Mark's at 6.30pm and walk over to Travis Park around 6.35pm to carol before the movie *Elf* is shown. Joe will provide sheet music for all. Please dress festive in red and green!

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Wednesday, December 13 from 1.30-2.30pm at the Bishop Jones Center, St. John's Chapel

This is a very special St Marks ministry whose primary focus is to give those who are caring for loved ones with long term illness a place to share their stories and to simply be. We do not try to "fix" but we place emphasis on the spiritual value of each and every one of us. By hearing each caregiver who wants to share an issue, we grow in relationship with our Lord as well as with one another. If you are a caregiver and would like more detailed information, please call Annabelle McGee, 210-824-6965, or Lillian Morris at 210-822-7897.

MIND THE GAP CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday, December 15 from 6.30-9.00pm

Hope you can join us for our final Symposium of the year - Christmas party style! Dinner at the Wises' House begins at 6.30ish and then we will shift into discourse around 7.15. For more information, contact The Rev. Matt Wise at 210-226-2426 or mwise@stmarks-sa.org.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSAL

Pageant rehearsal will be Saturday afternoon, December 16 at 3.30pm

If you would like for your child to participate in the Christmas Pageant, please email Joe Causby (jcausby@stmarks-sa.org). The Christmas Pageant will take place at 9.00am on Sunday, December 17.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND SERVICE TIMES

Consider making a contribution to the Altar Flowers Fund for Christmas flowers in memory of, in honor of, and in thanksgiving for family and friends. The Christmas floral display will be in the church on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Forms can be found on the website or in the church. Include a \$25 donation for each memorial or honorarium. Thank you for adding to the seasonal beauty of St. Mark's. Deadline is Monday, December 18. Direct questions to Ann Coiner at 210-828-3452 or atcoiner@gmail.com.

Christmas Eve Service Times

Sunday, December 24

3.45pm Prelude, 4.00pm Holy Eucharist

7.00pm Holy Eucharist with St. Mark's Choir

10.00pm Prelude, 10.30pm Holy Eucharist with St. Mark's Choir (with incense)

ALAMO BAROQUE FESTIVAL

January 8-13

St. Mark's will host three public performances and a panel discussion during this week-long festival.

January 10, 10.30am Public Concert: Festival Faculty in Alamo Plaza

January 11, 11.00am Panel Discussion at Trinity University

January 11, 7.00-9.00pm Faculty Concert at St. Mark's Concert Finale at St. Mark's

For a full list of events, check out the wwww.alamobaroquefestival.org.

CONFIRMATION

Adult Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation classes will be held on Wednesday evenings January 17, 31, February 21, 28, March 7, 21, April 11, and 18 from 6.30-8.00pm. We will also gather at the Bishop Jones Center on Saturday, April 14 from 9.00am-2.00pm, where we will share a meal, meet the bishop, and cover some additional ground. Confirmation will be on Sunday, April 29 at the 11.15am service. The class will meet in the Dean Richardson Room.

Youth Confirmation is for 8th graders and any high school students who would like to be confirmed. The class will meet during the 10.10am formation hour on the following Sundays: January 14, 21, February 4, 18, 25, March 4, 18, April 8, 15, and 22. Students are expected to attend all session as well as to participate in the Day of Prayer and Service on Sunday, March 18 and to attend a dinner with the Bishop during the week prior to confirmation (date to be announced at the first class). Confirmation will be held on the Feast of St. Mark Celebration Sunday during the 9.00am Eucharist on Sunday, April 29. This class will meet in the Dean Richardson Room.

Registration for both adults and youth is available on the Sign Ups/Reservations page of the website. Questions? Speak with The Rev. Carol Morehead or The Rev. Matt Wise.

SUNDAYS DURING ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Morning worship services will be held at 7.45am and 10.00am every Sunday in Advent.

Programs begin at 9.00am in Gosnell Hall before the combined worship service at 10.00am. Breakfast will be provided.

December 10 - Advent II Las Posadas

We'll gather in the Church at 9.00am to participate in this 400-year-old Mexican tradition. As we sing songs and parade through the church and the parish house, we'll re-enact Mary and Joseph's search for "posada" (lodging or accommodation), a place to rest and to birth the coming baby Jesus. We "peregrinos" (pilgrims) will find our journey's end in Gosnell hall in a joyful celebration with food and a piñata.

December 17 - Advent III Christmas Pageant and Living Nativity

Our annual Christmas Pageant will be performed by the children at 9.00am in Gish Hall. Following the pageant, live animals including goats, ducks, sheep, and the famous "Seth the Donkey" will help us create our own living nativity - a great opportunity for families to take pictures and videos and to enjoy meeting the animals.

December 24 - Advent IV Congregational Advent Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist

Join us for a 10.00am combined morning service at which we will expectantly sing of the coming of Christ.

December 31 – First Sunday after Christmas

10.00am combined service. No 7.45am service.

PRAYER LIST

<u>Immediate Needs:</u> <u>Those with long-term concerns:</u> <u>Deaths:</u>

Elizabeth Breazeale Jamie Cooper Mary Gail Campbell

Faith Campbell David Franz
Allison Duesing Helen Glass
John Hollje Christopher Haff
Ruth Peyton Hudson Hanselman
Eleanor Phelps Sherridan Harrison

Patricia Scott Lee Holder
Glenn Smith Eleanor Johnson
Marilyn Stokes Marcia Krech

Jennie Lou Leeder Bo Leeuwendal Alice Lynch Geoffrey Martin

Amanda Marie Macdaniel

Margie Matthews Jim McCutcheon

JD Monk Amanda Ochse Kristopher Raygoza Mel Richards

Walter Schoellmann

Chris Siegle

Barbara Smith-Townsend

David Spoor George Stewart Sebastian Terrell Mike Vivroux Frank Van Wagoner Gloria Williams Erik Wolfe

7.45am Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Altar Guild: Norma Baird, Anne Church Lector/Eucharistic Minister: Mike Austin Ushers: Raymond and Norma Baird Preacher: The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton

10.00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Altar Guild: Megan McPheron, Laura Gunn, Dee Whiteside, Shirley Crews

Lector: Murphy Brumlik, Keith Neisler

Intercessor: Polly Spencer

Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Bridwell, Bob Cotton, Jean Van Gee, Helen Ballew

Acolytes: Olivia Briley, Emma Matthews, Evan Alderman, Louisa Matthews, Ally Lozano, Audrey Lozano, Carmen Grimes,

Jacqueline Grimes, Anna Lane

Ushers: Tom Duesing, Don Beardslee, Bobby Cavender, Dick Johnson, Greg Merritt, Robert Sheldon, Damon VanZandt

Preacher: The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton **Celebrant**: The Rev. Carol Morehead **Gospel**: The Rev. Matthew Wise

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH