



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Baptism

The Rev. Dr. Christian F. Brocato, Rector
The Rev. Susan York, Associate Priest
The Rev. Dr. Hugh Dickenson, Associate Priest
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon

The Gathering of the People

The Service of Light

All are invited outside the main doors of the Church for the lighting of the Paschal Fire and Candle. Please, come and bring your bulletin.

Presider: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Dear friends in Christ:

Welcome on this holy night when we bless fire and our Paschal Candle, the symbol of the light of Christ. Fire has long been a sign of God's presence. The Hebrew Scriptures are full of examples: the burning bush on Mount Sinai, the pillar of fire in the desert, the tabernacle lamps, and the sacrificial fires on the altar of the temple in Jerusalem. Early Christians viewed the kindling of a new fire as a symbol of the presence of their resurrected Lord, the new pillar of fire.

Presider: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, you are like a refiner's fire, and your Spirit kindles the hearts of your faithful people. Bless this candle and those of us who keep the Easter celebration so that, burning with desire for life with you, we may be found fit to take part in the festival of Light which has no ending, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Presider: Jesus Christ, yesterday and today, the beginning and the ending, Alpha and Omega; all time belongs to him, and all ages; to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

People: Amen.

Presider: Let us pray together.

Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ; renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism and shine as a light in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Presider: Having blessed fire and lighted the Paschal Candle, the symbol of the light of Christ, let us enter the Church in silence as we continue our celebration.

Versicle and Response: The Light of Christ



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell,
and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God,
is your mercy and loving-kindness to us,
that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night,
when wickedness is put to flight,
and sin is wash'd away.

It restores innocence to the fallen,
and joy to those who mourn.

It casts out pride and hatred,
and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night,
when earth and heaven are joined
and humanity is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your
honor; may it shine continually to drive away all darkness.

May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning—
he who gives his light to all creation,
and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.



The congregation extinguishes individual candles.

The Word of God

Presider: Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how God saved God's people in ages past; and let us pray that God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption. **Amen.**

The Story of Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Reader: A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night.

And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear."

And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth."

And it was so. God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky."

So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth."

And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26 (*Prayed responsively by half verse*)

Reader: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,

People: **for his mercy endures for ever.**

Give thanks to the God of gods,
 for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the Lord of Lords,
 for his mercy endures for ever.

Who only does great wonders,
 for his mercy endures for ever.

Who by wisdom made the heavens,
 for his mercy endures for ever.

Who spread out the earth upon the waters,

for his mercy endures for ever.

Who created great lights,

for his mercy endures for ever.

The sun to rule the day,

for his mercy endures for ever.

The moon and stars to govern the night,

for his mercy endures for ever.

Who remembered us in our low estate,

for his mercy endures for ever;

And delivered us from our enemies,

for his mercy endures for ever;

Who gives food to all creatures,

for his mercy endures for ever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven,

for his mercy endures for ever.

Presider: Let us pray. (*silence*)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Flood

Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18, 8:6-18, 9:8-13

Reader: A reading from the Book of Genesis

The LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground." And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind-- every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in.

The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him.

He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more.

In the six hundred first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry.

Then God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you.

Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh-- birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth-- so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives.

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

Psalm 46:1-8 (*Prayed in unison*)

**God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.**

**Therefore, we will not fear,
though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains be
toppled into the depths of the sea.**

**Though its waters rage and foam,
And though the mountains
tremble at its tumult.
The Lord of hosts is with us,
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

**There is a river whose streams
make glad the City of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

**God is in the midst of her;
She shall not be overthrown;
God shall help her at the break of day.**

**The nations make much ado,
and the kingdoms are shaken;
God has spoken,
and the earth shall melt away.**

**The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Presider: Let us pray. (Silence)

Almighty God, you have placed in the skies the sign of your covenant with all living things: Grant that we, who are saved through water and the Spirit, may worthily offer to you our sacrifice of thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea

Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21

Reader: A reading from the Book of Exodus.

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Responsorial Canticle 8 (*Antiphon intoned by the choir and repeated by all*)



You stretched forth your right hand;
the earth swallowed them up.

With your constant love you led the people you redeemed;
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling. *Antiphon*

You will bring them in and plant them
on the mount of your possession,

The resting-place you have made for yourself, O Lord,
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established. *Antiphon*

The Lord shall reign for ever and ever. *Antiphon*

Presider: Let us pray. (*silence*)

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Valley of Dry Bones

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Reader: A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel.

And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act," says the LORD.

Responsorial Psalm 143 (*Prayed alternating lectern (left) and pulpit (right) sides*)

Lord, hear my prayer,
and in your faithfulness heed my supplications;
answer me in your righteousness.

Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.

For my enemy has sought my life;
he has crushed me to the ground;
he has made me live in dark places like those who are long dead.
My spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is desolate.

I remember the time past;
I muse upon all your deeds;
I consider the works of your hands.
I spread out my hands to you;
my soul gasps to you like a thirsty land.

O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me;
do not hide your face from me
or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.
Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,
for I put my trust in you;
show me the road that I must walk,
for I lift my soul to you.

Deliver me from my enemies, O Lord,
for I flee to you for refuge.
Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;
let your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Revive me, O Lord, for your Name's sake;
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.
Of your goodness, destroy my enemies
and bring all my foes to naught,
for truly I am your servant.

Presider: Let us pray. (*silence*)

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Easter Acclamation (*Bells ring and lights throughout the church are raised and all candles are lit*)

Presider: Alleluia. Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed. ALLELUIA!

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace___ to his people on earth. Lord
God, heavenly King, al - might-ty God and Fa - ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo-ry Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb ___ of
God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the
right hand of the Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer, For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One,___
you a-lone___ are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most___ High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly
Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of God___ the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Christian Scripture

Romans 6:3-11

Reader: A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

Presider: The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Parents and Sponsors: I present Jackson Asa Ilem to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Presider: Will you be responsible for seeing that he is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I will with God's help.

Presider: Will you by your prayers and witness help him to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Response: I will, with God's help.

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Response: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Response: I renounce them.

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Response: I do.

Question: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Response: I do.

Question: Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Response: I do.

The Presider addresses the congregation, saying

Question: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support them in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

Presider: Through the Paschal Mystery, dear friends, we are buried with Christ by Baptism into his death, and raised with him to newness of life. I call upon you, therefore, now that our Lenten observance is ended, to renew the solemn promises and vows of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and all his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in his holy catholic Church.

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: 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.

Presider: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

Deacon: Let us now pray for Jackson Asa who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth. Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open his heart to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send him into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring Jackson Asa to the fullness of your peace. Be with all those in need of your help, especially those on our Parish Prayer Lists and all for whom we have promised to pray.

(Pause to add names or intention either silently or aloud)

We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Help us to one day be numbered with all the Saints in light, following in the footsteps of those who have gone before us. May we remain faithful and one day be with you in eternal life.

We pray:

Lord, hear our prayer.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, God, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

The candidate is presented to be baptized. Blessed water is poured as the presider says:

Jackson Asa, I baptize you in the †Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Then the Priest places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross and saying,
You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

Anointing with Chrism

Presider: Let us pray.

Heavenly God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The Baptismal Candle

To recall the Paschal Candle, a small baptismal candle is lit and given to the parents or sponsors with these words:
Deacon: Receive the light of Christ. May it ever shine brightly in your heart. **Amen.**

Presider: Let us welcome the newly baptized into Christ's community. Let us pray.

People: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Presider: May the peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

People: And always with you.

The Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory – Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

R.S. Thatcher

Presentation Hymn – Blue Hymnal 380 vs.3

Praise God from whom all blessings flow:

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Presider: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

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.

Breaking of the Bread and Distribution - Fraction Anthem – S 154

David Hurd

Presider intones, then All sing the alleluias
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Presider sings the verse
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.

All sing the alleluias
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Let us take them in remembrance that Christ died for us, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All who seek a deeper relationship with Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. Parent(s), please feel free to make a decision for your child even if not baptized. If you are able, please come forward toward the High Altar, entering on the organ side, filling in the Communion rail from right to left, and returning to your seat from the Lectern side. At the 10:30 am Service, you may choose to receive the Eucharist at the communion station to the left of the Lectern. Consecrated bread and gluten-free bread are available on both levels. You may also choose to receive consecrated wine from the shared cup or from a separate smaller cup of intinction (dipping). If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward and cross your hands over your chest.

Music at the Communion – Blue Hymnal 335: I am the bread of Life

I am the Bread

Post-Communion Prayer (standing)

Presider: Let us pray.

People: 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, Holy God, 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.

Solemn Easter Blessing

The Presider blesses the people, saying:

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us children through the resurrection of the Son, Jesus, the Christ, bestow upon us the riches of Christ's blessing. **Amen. Alleluia!**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make us holy and worthy to be united with Christ forever. **Amen. Alleluia!**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring us to our eternal inheritance. **Amen. Alleluia!**

†And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us forever. **Amen. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Hymn 296 – We know that Christ is raised

Engelberg

Dismissal

The musical score consists of three staves. The first staff is labeled 'Deacon' and contains a simple melodic line with a few notes. The second staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The third staff is labeled 'People' and contains a similar melodic line with lyrics 'Thanks be to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.'

Postlude – Carillon on “O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!”

Richard Keys Biggs

You are invited to participate in the tradition at St. Mark's to remain seated until all the candles are extinguished and the postlude has ended, fitting ways to conclude our worship together. Thank you.

Reception in Parish Hall: Please, join us for a time of refreshment, a continuation of our celebration and to greet Jackson Asa Ilem. All are welcome.

**Join us for Easter Sunday
Services 8 am and 10:30 am
Easter Egg Hunt for Children at Noon
Happy Easter!**



**The Easter Flowers are given to the Glory of God;
in thanksgiving & loving memory of:**

In Thanksgiving for:
**The Ministries of Fr. Christian Brocato,
Rev. Sue York, Rev. Hugh Dickinson &
Deacon Jan Gockerman**
By the Armour Family

In Loving Memory of:
**Augustine & Margaret Boychan; Charles
& LaRue Balsler; Karl & Betty Balsler**
By Vic & Barb Balsler and Family

In Loving Memory of:
G. Stevens Bernard & May Root
By Shirley Bernard

In Loving Memory of:
Steve & Rachel Kraut
By Susan Brasic

In Loving Memory of:
Pam Scherer
By Father Christian Brocato

In Memory of:
Robert & Katherine Moore
By Robert & Katherine Brower

In Loving Memory of:
**James B. Burr, Sr.; Elizabeth L. Burr;
William L. Burr; Lydia B. Gardner; Denise
Kelley; David S. Magee**
By Tom Burr

In Honor of:
Carolyn Rehmann
By Ben & Rachelle Busman Family

In Loving Memory of:
Stanley Pitylak; Harvey & Jean Busman
By Doug & Linda Busman

In Loving Memory of:
Orion & Marian Ensfield
By Sharon Ensfield Buursma

In Loving Memory of:
**My Parents Malcolm & Yvonne
Tunncliffe**
By Judy Coby

In Loving Memory of:
Martha & Del Millican
By Ed & Linda Cox

In Loving Memory of:
**David, Beryl, & Richard Livingston; Al-
bert, Margaret & Sandra Dickinson**
By Rev. Hugh & Margery Dickinson

In Loving Memory of:
Ada, John & Esther Faber; Bill Thickstun
By Roger & Carol Faber

In Loving Memory of:
Vernon Fairbrother
By Geraldine Fairbrother

In Loving Memory of:
Ann Brown
By Marguerite Falkenstern

In Loving Memory of:
Jacque & David Frerichs
By Catherine Frerichs

In Loving Memory of:
**Frances & Charles Leinenkugel;
Frances & Arthur Boyden;
Virginia Danforth; Judy Thorsen;
The Rev. Eugene Snoxell; Marguerite
Snoxell; Dorothy Merrill;
The Rev. Joseph Howell**
By Jan Gockerman & Wendy Wenner

In Loving Memory of:
Loved Ones Departed
By Dee Hamm

In Loving Memory of:
Dick Gabrielse
By Megan & David Harding

In Loving Memory of:
Janice & Patrick Barr
By Shawn Harding

In Loving Memory of:
**Barbara & Jay Carduff; Bea, Jack &
Tom Heisler**
By Stacey & Bill Heisler

In Loving Memory of:
**John I. Deckard; Jack Deckard;
Everdean & Harold Hiskes**
By Anne & Rich Hiskes

In Loving Memory of:
Glenda Carpenter
By Janice Hoekstra

In Loving Memory of:
**Marguerite Sorrelle; Tom &
Steven Sorrelle**
By Michelle Jennings

In Honor of:
Our Children & Grandchildren
By Doug and Cathy Karsen

In Loving Memory of:
David R. Kidd
By Louise Kidd

In Loving Memory of:
Art & Neil Lensink; Rosalie Lensink;
In Honor of:
Notre Dame Cathedral
By Jack Lensink

In Gratitude for:
The Gift of St. Mark's
By Donley Mackey & David Messelink

In Loving Memory of:
**Koray Doğan; Barbara Carduff;
Wilbur & Dorothy Manglitz**
By Lawrence Manglitz

In Loving Memory of:
Anne Mc Donald
By Dan Mc Donald

In Loving Memory of:
Alex Mc Intire
By Carmela Mc Intire

In Loving Memory of:
Maureen Abid
By Wendy Muma & Shannon Gould

In Loving Memory of:
Family Members Living & Deceased
By Bill Nasser Family



**The Easter Flowers are given to the Glory of God;
in thanksgiving & loving memory of:**

In Loving Memory of:

Bazal Ray

By Shetal Bazal Ray

In Loving Memory of:

Our Loved Ones

By Mike & Betsy Redman

In Loving Memory of:

Goldie Koen

By Amy Richards-Duncan

In Loving Memory of:

Roger Rollins

By Mary Rollins

In Loving Memory of:

Nellie & Charles Puzenga;

Rev. Sidney Rood;

Rev. Eugene Snoxell;

William Nickerson

By Dr. Robert & Phyllis Rood

In Loving Memory of:

Walter & Pauline Roy

By Pat & Laura Roy

In Loving Memory of:

Rodney Baker; Carolyn Schuurmans

By Mark & Jeannine Schuurmans

In Loving Memory of:

Dr. & Mrs. Fernly Stoneman

By Holly Green & Heidi Stoneman

In Loving Memory of:

Charles Howie, MD

By Wendy Stock

In Loving Memory of:

Clyde & Harriet Schoff

By Glory Strey & Mark Haga

In Honor of:

Love of Family

By Jackie Taylor

In Loving Memory of:

Leonard Mahoney; Charles &

Ina Lou Walker

By Tom & Judy Freeman Walker

In Loving Memory of:

Donald, Jo & Frank Sare; Mike &

Gert Curtis

By Debbie Weinrick

In Loving Memory of:

John & Blanche Niewiadomski;

Patricia Wells; Della Pugsley;

James Schmalz; Gerald VanLew

By Jeff and Aleta Wells

In Honor of our Families:

The White's; The Noren's; The

Harrison's; The Vande Werken's

& our Blessed Daughter Charlotte

By Jeffrey & Stephanie White

In Loving Memory of:

Siblings Helena & Florence

By Dottie Wiersma

In Loving Memory of:

**John & Dot Woudstra; Velma
& Norman Kruse**

By Tom & Nancee Woudstra

In Thanksgiving for Many Blessings

By Rev Susan & Roger York

In Loving Memory of:

**My husband Robert & Loved Ones
Departed**

By Cleo Zylstra



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St. Mark's News

Happy Easter! Wishing you and all those whom you love a blessed and peaceful Easter Day and Easter Season to come. Let us give thanks for the many blessings which are ours and certainly the blessing of the Risen Christ. May you have a joyous Easter! ~ Christian+

May Wednesday Series 2019: Beginning May 1, we will have a Wednesday Series with a potluck at 6:00 followed by a presentation and discussion beginning at 6:30. Compline (night prayer) will round off the evening at 7:45. Our speakers will include a representative from the Baha'i Faith Tradition, the head of Mothers Against Gun Violence, a woman who does puppet and clown ministry in children's hospitals, a representative from Arbor Circle and someone from Dwelling Place. Please, plan to join us for these Christian formation opportunities. ~ Christian+

Sundays in May: This year, we are asking children and youth formation for the Sundays in May to attend worship with family members. We're hoping that this will encourage families to worship together at the 10:30 Eucharist. As part of those Services, there will be a Children's Message each week, more involvement with youth in worship and opportunities for a parent(s) to encourage their child or children in ways to participate in worship. The Children's Message on May 19 will be given by Nancy Greiner from the Funnybone Foundation, a puppet and clown ministry to children in hospitals and rehab centers. Nancy will also be the speaker on Wednesday, May 15, for the May Wednesday Series. We hope that these opportunities will be life-giving for all.

St. Mark's offices will be closed, Monday, April 22nd in observance of Easter Monday. A blessed Easter to all! He is risen, He is risen indeed!

Dr. Phyllis Danielson Gillie Celebration of Life: April 27, 11:00 a.m.: Dr. Phyllis Danielson Gillie passed away earlier this year. Her Celebration of Life will be at St. Mark's on Saturday, April 27 at 11 a.m. She will be interred in our columbarium alongside her husband, Lawrence Gillie. Dr. Gillie was the former President of Kendall College and a parishioner at St. Mark's for a number of years. She rests peace. May all those who mourn her passing be comforted.

Food for the Poor, May 5, 2019: On Sunday, May 5, we will welcome The Rev. Canon Howard Williams from Food For The Poor as our preacher at both Services. Food For The Poor is an amazing organization which seeks to save lives by transforming communities and renewing hope for the future. Theirs is a ministry built on faith and trust. Food For The Poor feeds hundreds of thousands of people very day primarily in seventeen countries throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. As a Christian non-profit, Food For The Poor takes responsibility to be good stewards of all donations very seriously. Envelopes are available at both Resource Tables of the Church. Please, see the brochure which accompanies the envelope for more information. Come on May 5 to meet and greet Fr. Williams and help to welcome him to St. Mark's. ~ *Christian+*

Social Hour Hosts Needed: Weekly, we have social hours following both Services. We are very much in needed of ministries or small groups of individuals to host one of the Social Hours, particularly the one following the 10:30 Eucharist. We encourage all ministries to choose a Sunday and to host the Social Hour(s) as a way of highlighting the ministry as well as serving the worshipping community. A reminder that we are reimbursed for the cost of the goodies for the Social Hour up to \$75. 'Lavish spreads' are lovely but not necessary. Please, consider signing up to be of service and for which all present will be most grateful

Walk for Good Food 2019: Who's ready to get out and enjoy the spring weather? The annual Access Walk for Good Food will happen on May 5th in downtown Grand Rapids. St. Mark's is a partnering agency with Access and we are putting together a Walk team. Register to walk at the table in the parish hall during social hour. Not a walker? You can still support the team by sponsoring those who are walking. You can also register or donate online. Please contact Jeff Brown or Scot Gogle if you have any questions, or to learn more by linking through our website or visiting accessofwestmichigan.org/walk. #Walk4GoodFood, #W4GF, #AccessWM

St. Mark's Episcopal Youth: Oasis, Our Wednesday evening Oasis programming has concluded for the school year, but stay tuned for news about some intergenerational programming on Wednesday nights in May. Sunday Morning Formation at St. Mark's Students in grades 6 - 12 meet from 9:30 - 10:25 a.m. so that they can attend the 10:30 service with their families. During this formation time youth will explore Faith Lens, weekly Bible studies that engage them in connecting world events with the Bible, faith, and everyday life. Class meets in the 3rd floor youth room at St. Mark's. We'll meet two more times, April 21 & 28, before concluding for the school year.

Budget 2019 Update and Need: We give thanks to the 148 of us who have offered a pledge for which we are very grateful. It isn't too late to join in support of our ministry together. Please, consider making a pledge for 2019 in any amount if you have not yet pledged. The current pledged amount for 2019 is \$446,773 towards \$722,156. Pledge cards are available at both entrances of the Church, and a proportional giving chart is on the reverse side for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Buursma, Treasurer, or Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager. May God bless us in 2019.

Dismantling Racism: The Dismantling Racism Ministry is organizing an April 27th visit to the Jim Crow Museum at Ferris State University. A 2:00 PM tour (FREE) has been arranged. Visitors must be 12 years of age or older. Visit the welcome desk for sign-ups and more details. Questions? Contact Julie Connors (915-6643 or jaconnors71@gmail.com)

From the Archives: The Tenacious Mrs. Church - stop by the archives display case to learn about Mary Elizabeth Church, organist for St. Mark's for fifty years. Note that the beautiful windows above the balcony were given in memory of Mrs. Church, thus, the famed harp also in her memory as a musician.

Family Fellowship Event: What: Family Fun Night! When: Saturday, April 27th Time: 4:30pm-7:30pm

Where: The Ilem's house: Family Fun Night is an evening of food and fellowship for families with children 5th grade and younger. It is an opportunity to build community among families with young children (including extended families like grandparents) in a low key setting. Although aimed at young families, families with older children are always welcome! The evening will include a potluck style dinner and activity. The location will be at individual homes, with the location rotating based on size of the group and interest. Our next event will take place on **Saturday April 27th**, and we will be playing outdoor games (weather permitting). David and Allison Ilem will host. Please RSVP to Jackie Yam at: jackie.j.yam@gmail.com

Stepping out for Jesus - A Mother's Day Shoe Fashion Show and Tea: The Phil-Mar Saints of Grand Rapids: St. Philip's and St. Mark's, cordially invite you to join them in "Stepping Out for Jesus" which is a Mother's Day Shoe Fashion Show and Tea on Saturday May 11 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. here at St. Mark's. Please RSVP by April 26 to Becky Bocskey (bocskey54@sbcglobal.net) 245-9846 or Pamela Chapman (stphilipsgr@att.net) 451-9865. Feel free to wear your own favorite or special pair of shoes).

Charles Brown on Reinhold Niebuhr on April 28: Our parishioner, librarian and Niebuhr specialist will be presenting a talk on Sunday, April 28th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Institute for Global Education on "Reinhold Niebuhr, His Life and Thoughts and His Relevance Today!" The Institute is located at 1118 Wealthy St. S. C. Grand Rapids. Please, see the flier in the Parish House foyer for more information. ~ Christian+

Blessing of Bicycles, May 13, 6:00 p.m.: Come, one and all! Bring your bicycle for a prayer and blessing with holy water in the Sanctuary. All are welcome! ~Christian+

Fr. Christian Away: Fr. Christian will be away from April 23-29 to attend a celebration of a dear priest in Boston who is receiving an award. Mother Sue will be on call for emergencies and pastor care concerns. Please, feel free to contact her.

Please pray for:



Prayers are requested:

Jack Begrow
Casines-Abreu family
Bridget Crowell
Lola Dodge
Jayne Dusendang
Jim Duesendang
Roger Faber
Gerry Fairbrother
Daniel Hawley
Mary Hunter
Ty Karsen
Tom Klein
Ryan Konarske
Joyce Krushinsky
Rev. Floyd Kunce
Robert Leacock
Pamela Leddick
Sarah McIntire & Kate Goebbert
Alissa Monsalvo
Family of Michael Moberg
Ruthanne Nelson
John Oatley
Aila Olivia
Philip Rocco
Scott Sawicki
The Schmidt-Fitz Family
Jacob Schulz
Stewart Swihart
Shari Takus
Barb Wheelock
Carl Zirbel

***Our inbound and semi
-inbound***

Gerry Fairbrother
Irene Haizman
Jane Jawahir
Doris Olson
Earle & Mary Slenker
Lee Strodman
Shari Takus
Margaret Tanase

Officers and Vestry Members

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chris.t@tds.net
Michelle Jennings, Jr. Warden
michelle@sorrelleagency.com
Andrew Knapp, Clerk
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Sharon Buursma, Treasurer
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Through 2019

Anne Hiskes
Chris Trevathan
Kenny Williams-Buck

Through 2020

Sharon Buursma
Nick Fletcher
Michelle Jennings

Through 2021

Scot Gugle
Dustin Hopkins
Andrew Knapp

Through 2022

Mike Armour
Brandon Beyer
Brian Topolewski

Those in Military Service

LTC Timothy Brower, Sr., USA
LCpl Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC
MAJ Todd Murray, USAF
1/SGT Deidre Piechocki, USA

The Right Rev. Wayne M.
Houglund, Bishop of the Diocese of
Western Michigan

Clergy and Staff of St. Mark's:

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Natalie Green, Robin Green, Samantha
Green, Nursery Caregivers
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