

The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 24, 2019

The Last Sunday After Pentecost

Christ the King

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Mission

We are an inclusive community of faith, reflecting Christ's love,
ministering to all who hunger in body, mind, and spirit.

Vision

Our strength as a faith community depends on our inner vitality, inclusive welcome, and outward action.
Grounded in these values, we continue our strong tradition of liturgical worship and education for all ages.
We advocate for justice, serving those in need.

Welcome to St. Mark's

Welcome to St. Mark's community of faith! If this is your first visit with us, please know that we are delighted you are here. Please, introduce yourself and be sure to sign our guest book at either entrance to the Sanctuary and/or fill-out a Visitor's Welcome Card. Our order of worship is provided here for your convenience and is taken from the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP) starting on page 355. Our hymnals, *The Hymnal 1982* (Blue) and *Wonder Love and Praise* (Green) and the *Lift Every Voice and Sing* (Red) can be found in the pews. "S" numbers are found in the front of *The Hymnal 1982*. We recognize that language in liturgy could be more inclusive and hope for a time when that will be a reality. We invite you to join us for refreshments and conversation following today's Service. Know that you are always welcome to be with us, and we would look forward to having you worship with us again.



Weekly Worship at St. Mark's: Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Eucharist and Healing Prayer at noon.

Safety and Security on Sundays: Please take a moment to locate the exit nearest you in the event of an emergency. If you see something abnormal or concerning, please see an Usher for assistance.

Sundays at St. Mark's: Services are at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. **The Breakfast Café**, a program of our outreach ministry, is at 8:15 a.m. Following the 8:00 a.m. service we gather to socialize in the third level Conference Room. *Exit to your left, go up the stairs on your left, and up the next set of stairs – the Conference Room is on the top level to the left at the top of the stairs.* Our 10:30 a.m. service is also followed by a social hour and occasional special receptions in our Parish Hall. *Exit to your left, and the Hall is straight ahead.* **All are welcome!**

Children: Faith Formation for children and youth in 4th-12th grade takes place Sunday mornings at 9:30 on the 3rd floor. Childcare is available at that time so families can arrive together and parents can either attend Adult Formation or relax and socialize. Children's Chapel for Pre-K through 3rd grade takes place during the first half of the 10:30 service. Please bring your child downstairs to check them in. We will escort children into the service after "the peace." Nursery care is available for infants and little ones through age three throughout the 10:30 service. Children are brought into service during the Peace so families can receive Communion together. For more information, please speak to **Laura Kozminski**.

Junior and Senior High Youth: Grand Rapids Episcopal Youth: G.R.E.Y. is a joint youth ministry between St. Mark's and St. Andrew's Episcopal Churches for youth in grades 6-12. We have weekly formation gatherings during the school year and service and social activities throughout the year. On Sundays during the school year, youth gather from 9:30 a.m.-10:20 a.m. to explore Faith Lens, a weekly Bible study that engages them in connecting world events with the Bible, faith, and everyday life. On Wednesdays evenings during the school year, youth meet for Oasis, our weekly youth group gathering, with potluck at 6 p.m. followed by program from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Both classes meet in the 3rd floor youth room at St. Mark's. Please contact our Director of Youth Ministries, Jeff Brown, for more information: jeffatgrey@gmail.com.

Adults: We offer the *Education for Ministry* seminar during the academic year as well as an *Inquirers' Class* for those preparing for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirming one's faith. On Sunday mornings, we have adult devotional groups. Seasonally, there are Wednesdays at St. Mark's from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a potluck, presentation, discussion, and Evening Prayer. Please see **Father Christian** for more details.

A Note about Cell Phones and exits: We ask that you turn off your cell phone; if you are on call, please turn it to vibrate when you enter the church. **Rest Rooms** are located on the main level of the Parish House under the exit sign at the top of the hallway ramp.

Parking on Sundays: Street Parking is available on Pearl, Ionia, Lyon, Fountain and other streets near the Church. Parking is available in the Parish lot, the upper and lower levels of the GRCC building on the corner of Division and Lyon (access from Lyon) and the Ellis Parking Lot at 210 Ionia just west of Lyon Street **with entrances off both Ionia and Crescent**. For the Ellis Lot: Please, pick up an exit ticket from an Usher, a Greeter or at the Front Desk of the Parish House. Parking is free on Sunday only. A white ticket is required to accompany the parking ticket and to exit the lot.

The Gathering of the People

Prelude – Chorale

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

Introit – Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Geongyong Lee

Gathering Hymn – Blue Hymnal 494: Crown him with many crowns

Diademata

Welcome and Greeting

Presider: †Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.

People: **And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.**

People: **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.**

Confession and Absolution

Presider: Let us confess our faults and admit our frailty.
(Pause for reflection)

People: **Before God, with the people of God,
we confess to our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.**

**We lay down what is past
and look to the future.
We take into daily life
signs of hope and healing.
We reach beyond ourselves,
to share the lives of others
and touch the wider world.**

Presider: †May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit enable us to grow in love.

People: **Amen.**

1. Glo-ry to you, Lord God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of
praise; glo - ry to you. 2. Glo-ry to you for the ra - di - ance of your
ho - ly Name; we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

3. Glo-ry to you in the splen - dor of your tem - ple; on the throne of your
ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to you. 4. Glo-ry to you, seat - ed be - tween the Cher - u -
bim; we will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

5. Glo-ry to you, be - hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of hea - ven,
glo - ry to you. 6. Glo-ry to you, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit;
We will praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

The Hebrew Scripture (*Seated as able*)

Jeremiah 23: 1-6

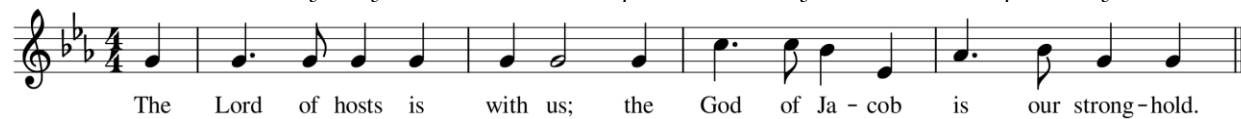
A Reading from the Prophet Jeremiah

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46 (8:00 a.m. Prayed by all; 10:30 a.m. Antiphon intoned by the choir and repeated by all)



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

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

3 Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

Antiphon

4 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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

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

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

Antiphon

8 The LORD of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

9 Come now and look upon the works of the LORD, *
what awesome things he has done on earth.

10 It is he who makes war to cease in all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; *
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth."

Antiphon

A Reading from the Second Letter to the Colossians

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Sequence Hymn: Red Hymnal 96: He is the king of kings

African-American Spiritual

The Gospel Reading (*standing as able*)

Luke 23: 33-43

Presider or Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

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

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Presider: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato

The Nicene Creed (*Please note the language for the Spirit.*)

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, the Spirit is worshiped and glorified. The Spirit 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.

Prayers of the People *(All remain standing as able)*

Intercessor: In peace, let us pray to God:

For the Church of God, especially here at St. Mark's, that we may be filled with love, generosity and truth to transform our communities and the world;

May your light guide us and shine through us.

For the Intercessors of our nation, our state, our city and of all nations;

May your light instill compassion and good judgment in them and guide them in the ways of justice and peace.

For all who hold authority in your Church, that they may shine your light brightly;

May your Spirit inspire them with creativity, renew their energy, and give them wisdom and love.

For blessings on all our human endeavors. Bless our Stewardship Season with your grace and with generous hearts to sustain our ministry in 2020.

May we serve you as we shine your light in our communities and beyond. Lead us to free the world from poverty, gun violence, famine, racism, bullying and greed.

For the sick in body, mind or spirit. We remember all those on our Parish Prayer Lists, those for whom we have promised to pray and those we now name silently or aloud. *(Pause to add names)*

We pray:

May your light bring hope and healing to all who suffer.

For all who have died, those who grieve and for those we now name silently or aloud; *(Pause to add names)*

We pray:

May your perpetual light shine on all the saints who have gone before us.

Presider: O God in your infinite generosity, help us to let light shine so brightly that the whole world can witness your love and your mercy. We pray: **Amen.**

The Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Announcements

Prayer in Anticipation of Thanksgiving

Presider: Let us give thanks to God for all the gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

**For this community of faith and all the blessings bestowed on us,
For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea,
For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friend,
For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,
For the freedoms we enjoy while owning the price that others have paid,
For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,
For your great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord,
To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Music – Christ Is the King

Richard Peek

Presentation (*standing as able*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow:
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (*spoken at 8 a.m. and sung at 10:30 a.m.*)

EOW Eucharistic Prayer 2

The musical notation is written on four staves. The first staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you." The second staff is for the People, with the lyrics "And al-so with you." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise."

Presider: We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Holy, Holy, Holy (*Spoken at 8:00 a.m. and sung at 10:30 a.m.*)

Robert Powell

The musical notation is written on three staves. The first staff has the lyrics "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, hea-ven and earth are". The second staff has the lyrics "full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who". The third staff has the lyrics "comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The notation includes triplets indicated by a '3' over a bracket.

The people may stand or kneel as the Presider continues.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God.

Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

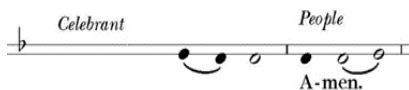
On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friend. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

† Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us with St. Mark and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.



And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Distribution (*Spoken at 8:00 a.m. and sung at 10:30 a.m.*)

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Gerald R. Near



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 our hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.**

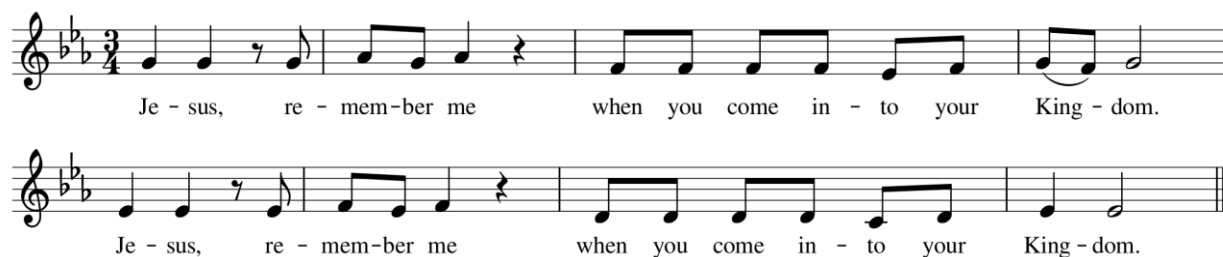
Healing Prayer: When a Healing Minister is present during Communion, you are invited to receive a prayer for healing and wholeness for yourself or for a loved one near the Meditation Chapel.

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.

Communion Music – Blue Hymnal 324: Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Picardy

Post-Communion Chant



Post-Communion Prayer (*standing as able*)

Presider: Let us pray:

All: **Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed, that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

The presider blesses the people, saying:

May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May God give you peace in your going out and in your coming in, in your lying down and in your rising up, in your labor and in your leisure, in your laughter and in your tears. And may the blessing of God, †Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us this day and remain with us always, we pray. **Amen.**

Hymn of Sending Forth – Blue Hymnal 460: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Hyfrydol

Dismissal

Priest or Deacon: Let us go forth to love and serve God and all God's people. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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

Postlude – Allegro

João Faustini

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.

Following the 8 a.m. service, all are invited to the Social Hour in the third-floor conference room.
(Please use the double doors on your left and take the Foyer stairs to access the upper levels.)
Host: Bea Rocco

Following the 10:30 a.m. service, all are invited to the Social Hour in the Parish Hall.
(Please use the double doors on your left and cross the gathering area.)
Hosts: Josh and Cat Gonzalez

A reminder that when the Rector preaches, his homily is available on the resource tables of the church. Please feel free to take a copy for further reflection. All homilies are video-taped and can be found at www.stmarksgr.org at the Media tab and on YouTube at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Grand Rapids, MI.

Volunteers Today, with Gratitude:

8 a.m. Service: Assisting Minister – Dan McDonald; Lector – Roger York; Ushers – Kenny Williams-Buck and Jack Lensink; Altar Guild – Becky Bocskey, Brenda Holland, Karen Hunter and Megan Harding
10:30 a.m. Service: Verger – Margaret Stretton; Crucifers – Stuart Lamar and Lauren Goodyear; Acolytes: Landyn York and Liv York; Chalice Bearers – Jan Gockerman, Chris Trevathan, Judith Claytor and Sandy VanKley; Lectors & Intercessor – Bea Rocco, Kenny Williams-Buck, Amy Richards; Ushers – Judy Fetterhoff, Larry and Sandy Snellink; Healing Prayers 10:30 – Kate Dykema

Sustaining St. Mark's Ministry in 2019

Thanks to all those who sustain our ministry together at St. Mark's with pledges and offerings. The total budget for 2019 is \$726,157, which requires an estimated \$13,888 income per week. Last week we received \$8,834, contributions in pledges and offerings.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Contributions Received YTD | Needed YTD | Difference YTD |
| \$ 594,113 | \$ 638,831 | \$ (44,718) |

A reminder that we gratefully receive pledges at any time throughout the year. (Pledge cards and envelopes are available on the resource table in the church, which can be given as cash, check, or direct deposit.) Want more details about the Parish's giving or finances? Please, email questions to our Finance Manager, Pam Stevenson, at pams@stmarksgr.org.

Save the Date

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service – Nov 25, 7 p.m.
Happy Thanksgiving – Office closed Nov 28 and 29
Christmas Fair – Dec 1
Advent Retreat – Dec 7
Sacred Sounds Concert – Dec 8
Cookie Walk – Dec 8
St. Mark's Caroling Party – Dec 15
Women's Spa Day – Dec 19
Greening of the Parish Church – Dec 22, 3 p.m.
Christmas Eve Services – Dec 24 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.
No Christmas Day Service

Sunday News – November 24

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, Nov. 25: Please, join in a unique Thanksgiving celebration offered through the Kaufman Interfaith Institute. Join with others in giving thanks for the many gifts we are given as individuals and as a community. The Service will be held where it was first held twenty years ago at St. Andrew's Catholic Cathedral at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to contribute finger foods, cookies, etc. for the reception to follow, please bring them to the Cathedral prior to the Service. Cathedral volunteers will direct you to the parish hall in the lower level of the Cathedral. The Cathedral is located at 215 Sheldon Blvd.. SE, Grand Rapids, one block east of Division Ave. South. All are welcome! ~ *Christian+*

Stewardship Season Continues: As of Friday afternoon, November 22, we received 124 pledges with an amount of \$439,350 pledged toward the goal of \$525,000. We are very grateful to all those who have pledged and look forward to receiving many more pledges in support of the ministry needs for 2020. If you have not yet pledged, please consider joining others in support of the Parish as proposed in the 2020 budget. Copies of the entire budget are available at the Welcome Desk in the Foyer of the Parish House. Pledge cards are available in each of the pews and also on the welcome desk. Please, consider the many gifts given by God and consider making a pledge for 2020. We need as many of us as possible to make a pledge for 2020. Blessings and thanks! ~ Stewardship Ministry Team

Thanksgiving Eucharist Service, Nov. 27 at 12 p.m.: St. Mark's will offer the mid-week Eucharist as a Thanksgiving Service this coming Wednesday with Eucharist and Healing Prayer. Please use the Intercom at the parking lot gate for parking. The Service will be held in St. Mary's Chapel. All are welcome.

Christmas Fair: On Dec.1 during the 10:30 a.m. social hour, we will host a mini-Christmas Fair with handcrafted gifts from Global Gifts, a fair-trade store on 28th street, crocheted teddy bears made by a participant at Families Against Narcotics and small art works from Heartside Ministry. This is a great opportunity to complete some of your Christmas shopping.

Special Thanksgiving Food Pantry Collection Today: Thanks to all who brought food for our local food pantry.

Westminster Food Pantry Collection, Dec. 1: Each first Sunday we collect food donations for our local food pantry, Westminster Presbyterian Church. Bring in non-perishable food items to help support our neighbors in need. December's featured food item is Cold and Hot Cereal.

Church Tour, Dec. 1: If you would like to know more about the church's history meet at the main doors on the west side of the sanctuary following the 10:30 a.m. postlude.

Advent Retreat, Dec. 7: Please, consider this opportunity for prayer and reflection on the first Saturday of Advent. Using an ancient method of praying the Scriptures, *Lectio Divina*, we will explore important Scripture passages and have periods of silence in the Dominican Chapel and elsewhere. The retreat will begin at 9:15 and conclude after lunch at 1:00. If possible, a \$15 contribution to help offset the cost of the retreat would be much appreciated. (checks made out to St. Mark's or cash). The Dominican Center at Marywood can be found at 2025 Fulton Street, Grand Rapids with parking in the lot on Lakeside Drive. A sign-up sheet is available at the Welcome Desk in the Parish House for fourteen participants. Please, consider this opportunity for Advent. ~ *Christian+*

St. Mark's Annual Cookie Walk, Dec 8: St. Mark's annual Cookie Walk will be held December 8 after the 10:30 Eucharist. Bakers are invited to bring their cookies to the kitchen before the service. Following the Service you may purchase these freshly baked cookies by the bag. Funds collected will go towards Children's Formation programming.

Giving Tree: The Giving Tree stands in our sanctuary ready to accept our gifts of warm hats, gloves, mittens, scarfs, fleece blankets and underwear for men and women. Toiletries for both men and women are also good choices. Soon the tree becomes a wonderful Symbol of Giving and Gratitude as the branches fill with our gifts to our breakfast café neighbors. The children of our parish and their families will fill gift bags with these and other gifts the week of Christmas, and we will distribute them on the morning of Sunday Dec.22. May our Giving Tree be a reminder of all that we have been given and of our promise to Jesus that we will love our neighbor as ourselves.

Sacred Sounds: A Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols: Dec. 8: Anticipate Christ's birth in this service of scripture readings and new and traditional carols sung by the St. Mark's Choir under the direction of Gregory Crowell.

St. Mark's Caroling Party, Dec. 15: Meet at the church at 3:45 p.m. for a fun evening of caroling. Caroling teams depart at 4 p.m. Chili supper in the parish hall starting at 6 p.m. Chili, Mac N Cheese and Cider provided. Please bring a side or desert to pass. Festive holiday attire encouraged (break out those Christmas sweaters). Come spread some cheer. See Kelley Stoppels or sign up at the welcome desk.

St. Mark's Liturgical Calendar: Free wall calendars are available for you on the resource table in the north transept. These calendars include the dates for the Principal Feasts, Holy Days, Days of Special Devotion and Requiem Eucharist. The book of common Prayer guides the usage for each entry in this Ordo Kalendar.

Women's Spa Day, Dec. 19: Please consider volunteering to help with this day in which we open up the doors and parish house to pamper women in need. Women are invited in for a boutique, foot care, dental care, hair care, crafts, massage and a delicious meal. Many hands are needed to make this a great day. A signup sheet is located on the welcome desk. If you have any questions please contact Mother Sue.

Greening of the Parish Church: The tradition of decorating the Church for Christmas, "Hanging of the Greens" will take place on Sunday, Dec. 22 at 3 p.m. If you wish to help, please come!

Grants Ministry Update: The Grants Ministry group has been meeting for about the last 16 months. In the last fiscal year (2018-19) we received grants from the Frey Foundation for \$8,000 (for the building planning feasibility) the Cook Foundation for \$14,000 (for food for the Cafe) Meijer Donations for \$2,000 (for Cafe food) and the Whittemore Foundation for \$8,039 (for security personnel). We are happy to announce that this week we learned that the Wege Foundation has committed \$35,000 over the next two years. This new funding will pay for a (15 hour per week) kitchen coordinator and for additional food for the Breakfast Cafe. As we have let the community learn about our outreach efforts in the downtown neighborhood, they are willing to assist us in this effort and are helping us plan for safety, other needed training, and the necessary building enhancements at the same time. We are so grateful to all of our partners and thrilled to have the Wege Foundation join us in this work.

Advent Wednesday Series: Please, join us as we join our sisters and brothers at St. Andrew's for three Wednesdays in December. The series will be entitled, "Hope for the Present" and the youth will follow an Advent Curriculum of Journeying the Way of Love. The evening will begin at 5:30 with a potluck dinner; Program to begin at 6:15; Evening Prayer to conclude the evening at 7:00. 12/4 at St. Luke's (3215 4 Mile Rd NE) - Mark Smeby playing piano; 12/11 at St. Andrew's (1025 3 Mile Rd NE) - Pastor Dave Blank talks about Hope in the Community; 12/18 at St. Luke's -- Mother Molly Bosscher talks about Hope in the City. There is parking in the rear of the church property. All are welcome!

Advent Prayer Materials: Please help yourself to the 2019 Advent Meditations. Thank you so much to Anne and Mike Armour who edited and compiled the meditations and all of the writers who gave of their time and talent to give us these meaningful devotions. Two other prayer resources are available as well and all of these materials may be found on the resource tables.

Breakfast Café Assistance: If you can help with dishwashing and cleaning on a Sunday, please consider volunteering. We are in search for a new staff person for six hours to assist with kitchen and other cleaning duties. Please, help if you can, and if you know of anyone, please let me know. ~Christian+

Micah Project Discussion: Find out how congregations and other non-profits in Grand Rapids are coming together to work on social change that matters: Sundays, November 17 and 24, 12:15 - 12:45 p.m., in the Chapel.

Looking for Volunteers! The Children's Formation Program is in need of volunteers! Can you help us pull together a phenomenal Christmas Pageant? We need short-term volunteers to help with costumes, sets and herding children! Are you willing to help occasionally on Sunday mornings with our Children's Chapel program? No matter how much or little you can volunteer, we would love your help. Please contact Laura Kozminski: laurak@saintmarksgsr.org

Sunday, November 25

8:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary)**
8:15 a.m. Breakfast Café (Parish Hall)
8:45 a.m. Social Hour (Third Floor Conference Room)
9:15 a.m. Devotional Group (Canterbury Room)
9:15 a.m. Childcare Nursery (Lower Level)
9:30 a.m. Children 4th through 12th grade (Third Level)
9:45 a.m. Adult Choir Warm Up (Sanctuary)
10:30 a.m. Children age 3 through 3rd grade (Lower Level)
10:30 a.m. **Choral Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary)**
11:30 a.m. Social Hour and Advent Craft making (Parish Hall)
12:15 p.m. Micah Project Discussion (St. Mary's Chapel)
12:30 p.m. Luncheon and Civic Center Musical "Elf"



Monday, November 26

12:00 p.m. Meeting outside group (Third Level)
6:00 p.m. Finance Meeting (Parish Hall)
7:00 p.m. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service (St. Andrew's Cathedral)

Tuesday, November 27

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting (Parish Hall)
5:30 p.m. Meeting – outside group (Level three middle classroom)

Wednesday, November 28

12:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eucharist Service (St. Mary's Chapel)
7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, November 29

Happy Thanksgiving (office closed)

Friday, November 30

Office closed

Saturday, November 30

9:00 a.m. Meeting outside group (Third Level)

Sunday, December 1

8:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary)**
8:15 a.m. Breakfast Café (Parish Hall)
8:45 a.m. Social Hour (Third Floor Conference Room)
9:15 a.m. Devotional Group (Canterbury Room)
9:15 a.m. Childcare Nursery (Lower Level)
9:30 a.m. Children 4th through 12th grade (Third Level)
9:45 a.m. Adult Choir Warm Up (Sanctuary)
10:30 a.m. Children age 3 through 3rd grade (Lower Level)
10:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist (Sanctuary)**
11:45 a.m. Social Hour and Christmas Fair (Parish Hall)
11:45 a.m. Church Tour



Prayers are requested:

Jack Begrow
 Suzanne Brown
 Lynn & Toby Burk
 Sharon Buursma
 The Casines-Abreu family
 Emily Doyle
 Roger Faber
 Patricia Hoxie
 Karie Ingersoll
 Ty Karsen
 Alex Kidd
 Doris Kilmer
 Tom Klein
 Sarah McIntire & Kate Goebbert
 Alissa Monsalvo
 John Oatley
 Aila Olivia
 Robert Pitylak
 Jesse Roby
 Kari Rosema
 Wolf and Inge Schrey
 Howard Soehl
 Kip Taylor
 Ray VanderMeer

Our inbound and semi-inbound parishioners:

Irene Haizman
 Jane Jawahir
 Doris Olson
 Earle & Mary Slenker
 Lee Strodtman
 Shari Takus
 Margaret Tanase
 Jean Zylstra

Prayer for Discernment

Bea Rocco

Those in Military Service

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

Officers and Vestry Members

Chris Trevathan, Sr. Warden
chris.t@tds.net

Michelle Jennings, Jr. Warden
michelle@sorrelleagency.com

Andrew Knapp, Clerk
andrew.n.knapp@gmail.com

Serving through Jan 2020

Anne Hiskes
 Chris Trevathan
 Kenny Williams-Buck

Serving through Jan 2021

Scot Gogle
 Michelle Jennings
 Andrew Knapp

Serving through Jan 2022

Mike Armour
 Brandon Beyer
 Brian Topolewski

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

Clergy and Staff of St. Mark's:

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato, Rector
christianb@stmarksgsr.org

The Rev. Susan York, Associate Priest
susanyork@prodigy.net

The Rev. Dr. Hugh Dickinson,
 Priest Associate
hughd0537@gmail.com

The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon
jangoc@umich.edu

Dr. Gregory Crowell, Music Director
gregc@stmarksgsr.org

Noah Jacobs, Organ Scholar

Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager
pams@stmarksgsr.org

Megan Harding,
 Parish Administrative Associate
meganh@stmarksgsr.org

Jeff Brown, Director of Youth Ministries
jeffatgrey@gmail.com

Laura Kozminski, Director of Children's
 Formation

laurak@stmarksgsr.org

Wendell Chivis, Sexton

Monica Peak, Associate Sexton

Kate Pyles, Communications Ministry
katep@stmarksgsr.org

Natalie Green, Robin Green, Samantha Green,
 Nursery Caregivers

David Messelink, Webmaster

davidm@stmarksgsr.org

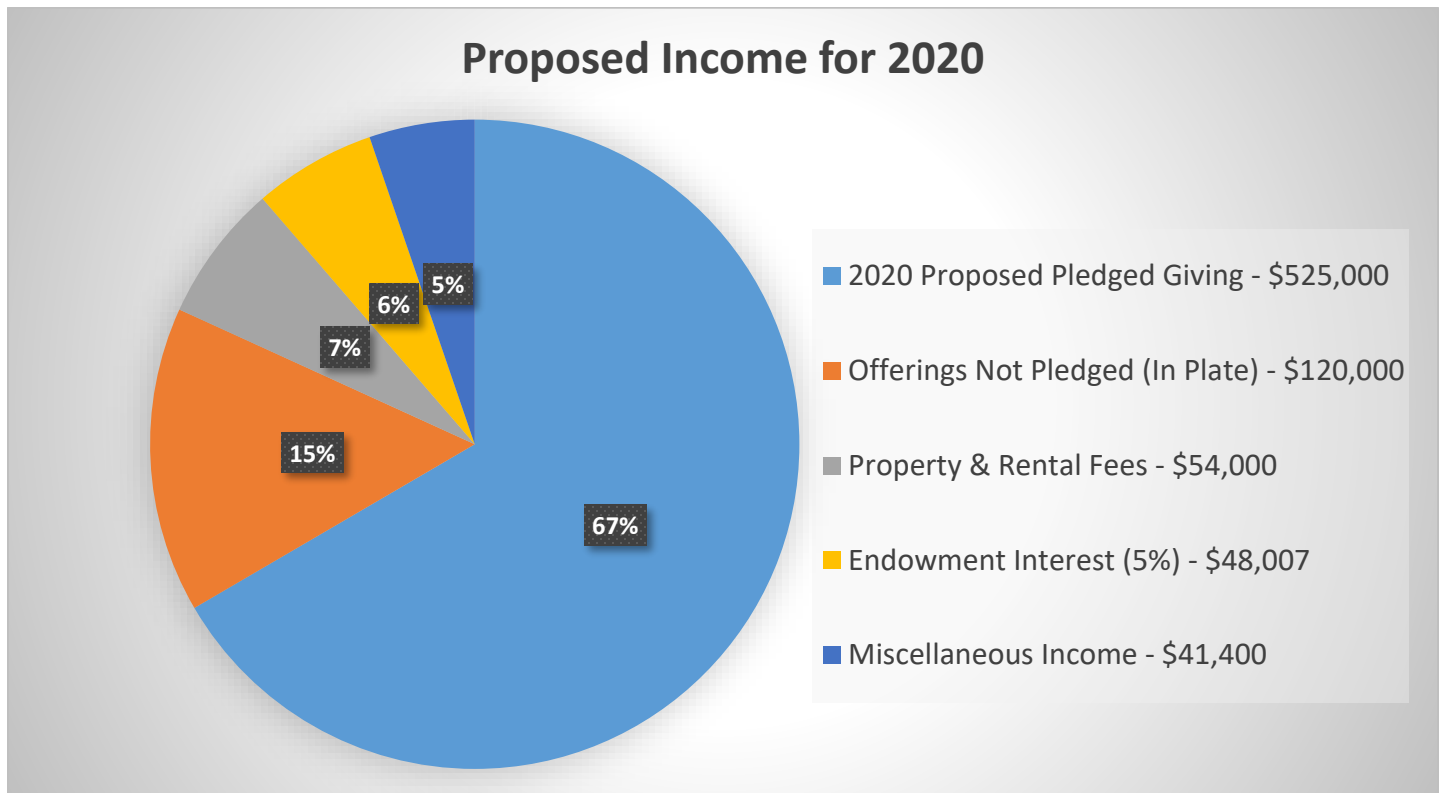
Donley Mackey, Historian/Archivist

donleym@stmarksgsr.org

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
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 616-456-1684
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2020 Stewardship Ministry Snapshot

As we near the giving season and you consider your pledge for 2020, the Stewardship Ministry would like to provide some important information regarding our church's finances to inform your pledge decision. As part of our overall 2020 budget, **our goal is \$525,000 in pledged giving for 2020 to go towards an overall budget of \$779,367.** To date as of November 22, we have received 124 pledges in the amount of \$439,350.



While we are grateful for a variety of income sources that support the work of our parish, **over 67% of our budget comes from parishioners like you.** As can be seen above, pledged giving forms the core of this, allowing us to plan effectively and remain wise stewards of God's gifts.

Our 2020 pledged target of \$525,000 is not an "aspirational" goal, but is derived from the set needs of the important work and ministries of St. Mark's. A snapshot of the 2020 operational budget is provided at right; these categories encompass the broad range of our ministries (such as Dismantling Racism, Youth Formation, Parish Life, and Supportive Care Ministry) as well as our music program, staff salaries, and building maintenance. The new 2020 proposed budget also allows us to hire a full-time sexton, a vital role for a parish of our size.

Proposed Expenses for 2020

| | |
|--|------------|
| • Staff Salaries & Benefits (3 Full-Time Staff, 10 Part-Time Staff) | \$ 430,421 |
| • Diocesan Apportionment | \$ 76,466 |
| • Pastoral Leadership Operational Expenses | \$ 32,550 |
| • Property Expenses | \$ 97,410 |
| • Administration Expenses | \$ 68,478 |
| • Adult Formation Ministry Expenses | \$ 2,000 |
| • Children's Formation Ministry Expenses | \$ 4,100 |
| • Youth Formation Ministry Expenses | \$ 4,775 |
| • Music Ministry Expenses | \$ 7,500 |
| • Supportive Care Ministry Expenses | \$ 1,000 |
| • Dismantling Racism Ministry Expenses | \$ 1,700 |
| • Breakfast Café Ministry Expenses | \$ 52,967 |

Join with us as we seek to continue the work that God has for us in 2020!