



Since 1858.

WELCOME TO ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Mark's is a welcoming community of dedicated believers in Christ who support and strengthen one another through worship, fellowship, study of the Word, and serving others.

St. Mark's has adjusted many worship practices to follow COVID-19 safety protocols over the past years. We are constantly adapting our procedures and we urge worshipers to participate at whatever level makes them most comfortable. *If you are visiting, we are glad you are here.* We welcome all who gather to worship each week, either in-person or on-line. Our Sunday service at 10:15 may be seen on our Facebook or YouTube channel and is linked through our website, www.saintmarksepiscopal.com. The password to the church wifi as a guest is *timetoprayer*.

About the Service

The service has two parts: the liturgy of the word, when Holy Scripture is read and celebrated, followed by liturgy of the table, when we celebrate Jesus's life, death, and resurrection with the Eucharist, (communion).

About Communion

All are welcome at the altar to receive communion or a blessing. Bread only is sufficient for the Eucharist to be valid. You may receive the bread and wine from common vessels or individual containers at the altar rail. Come forward to the altar as ushers release the pews and return to the pew to consume the bread and wine, if taken from the baskets. If a blessing is desired, place your arms across your chest. Place empty containers in receptacles at the exits. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Notify an usher if you would like a priest to bring communion to the pew.

Enhancing Your Experience

Limited mobility seating is available in front of the pulpit on the left side of the sanctuary. An elevator, entered through the garden doors at the rear of the church, allows access to all three levels of the church. *Offices and classrooms* located on the second floor are accessible via stairs or elevator. Ask for assistance, if needed. *Restroom facilities* are located on the ground level; ladies' room on the right, men's room on the left. *An ADA accessible restroom* is located just off the hall to the right of the chancel.

An AED device is located in the hall to the right of the chancel.

Welcoming Families

We provide a nursery for infants and toddlers during the 10:15 Sunday service. Grade school age children join in class upstairs for activities and lesson. The children return for communion and are always welcome to worship with their families. All are welcome to the parish hall following the 10:15 service for coffee and light refreshments.

On-line Giving

For members and guests, it is simple, easy, and secure to make an on-line donation or purchase using *Realm*, our giving platform. Gifts may be one-time or recurring; funds may be dedicated to a specific purpose. Simply text the word **Lion** to **73256** and follow the prompts to complete the process, using a credit/debit card, checking or savings account.



Click to Connect

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
HOLY EUCHARIST—RITE II
SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026—5:00PM
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026—8:00AM & 10:15AM
St. Mark's Guest wifi password *timetoprayer*

WELCOME

PRELUDE (10:15)

BELL

PROCESSIONAL (10:15)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II *All standing*

Book of Common Prayer 355

Celebrant

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

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen

COLLECT FOR PURITY (all)

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.

GLORIA

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,*

*you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People ***Amen.***

THE LESSONS (*seated*)

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Proper 12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?” It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 119:129-136 (*responsively by half-verse*)

129 Your decrees are wonderful; *

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *

it gives understanding to the simple.

131 I open my mouth and pant; *

I long for your commandments.

132 Turn to me in mercy, *

as you always do to those who love your Name.

133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *

let no iniquity have dominion over me.

134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *

and I will keep your commandments.

135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *

and teach me your statutes.

136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *

because people do not keep your law.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

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

GOSPEL HYMN (10:15)

THE GOSPEL *(stand)*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to **Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52**
People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

HOMILY

Rev. Alan Akridge, Rector

THE NI-

This space provided for notes and memos:

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

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 Scripture; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*sit or kneel*)

Deacon: With Solomon and the great sages of our lineage, let us now turn our hearts to God and seek true wisdom, saying: O God, hear our prayer.

Leader: For the leaders of religious communities and parishes throughout the earth, as they journey towards truth and clarity, we pray for God's wisdom:

People: *O God, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For government officials, caught in the arms race, locked in an age of deceit and suspicion, we pray for God's wisdom:

People: *O God, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For the sick, especially Diane, Hayden, Owen, Cheri, Sandy, Marion, Joice, Nancy, Melinda, Louise, Maxwell, Marsha, Barbara and Dan, Jeff, Eric, Ronald, Evie, Perry, Brad, Gary, and Sara, for the dying victims of incurable disease, for those chained by depression, fear, and addiction, and for those who minister to them, we pray for God's wisdom:

People: *O God, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For the youth in our age in their search for the pearl of identity, we ask for God's wisdom:

People: *O God, hear our prayer.*

Leader For all mothers and fathers who awake today without food for their children, we ask for God's wisdom:

People: *O God, hear our prayer.*

Leader: For those who seek but never find, for those who travel without purpose, and for those blind to the needs of others, we ask for God's wisdom;

People: *O God, hear our prayer.*

Deacon: Astonish us once again, O God, and bring forth from the storeroom of your heart the abundance of wisdom. May all who ask for your prayers know your love, and may we give testimony to your grace in our lives of compassion. In the name of Christ we pray. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP 359

The Deacon or Celebrant says:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant: May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you. (people greet one another)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY PRAYER *(those with birthdays or anniversaries coming up are invited to the altar rail)*
God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they celebrate another year on their journey. Grant that they may grow in wisdom, grace, and love, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome at the altar rail to receive communion or a blessing. Communion is served in individual containers and from the paten and common chalice. If receiving from individual containers, return to the pew to consume the bread and wine and place containers in recycling containers at the exits. To receive a blessing, place your arms across your chest. Offerings may be placed in the available offering plates positioned at the front pews. Communicants at home may request communion to be delivered by calling or texting 912.222.8746. Personal Prayer Warriors are stationed at the baptismal font to offer private prayer as you return to your pew after receiving communion.

THE OFFERTORY(10:15) *During the Offertory at the Celebrant's bidding, the elements and prayer chest will be brought to the altar for blessing.*

(5:00 & 8:00) spoken

***All things come of thee, O Lord,
and of thine own have we given thee.***

(10:15) sung

***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. Amen***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING EUCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People ***It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

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

Here a Proper Preface is sung or said on all Sundays, and on other occasions as appointed.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

Hymnal S129

Celebrant and People

***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant (people, sitting or kneeling)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mark and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***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.***

FRACTION ANTHEM *(say or sing)*

S154

***Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant

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

The people may remain in the pews until the ushers release the pews; come forward to the altar rail to receive communion or a blessing. Let an usher know if you would like communion in the pew. Personal Prayer Warriors are stationed at the baptismal font to offer private prayer as you return to your pew after receiving communion.

COMMUNION HYMNS (10:15)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant

Let us pray.

People

***Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness
and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN (10:15)

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE (10:15)

Lions at Manna House. The St. Mark’s Lions Fifth Wednesday at Manna House is coming up this week, July 29. Helping hands and &&& are cheerfully accepted. Joyce and Bob Lewis are the crew chiefs for our quarterly service. If you don’t have time to grocery shop, the Lewises and Linda Mahoney will convert cash donations into food to feed more than 200 of our fellow brethren in need. You can direct donations to Joyce or Linda. To join the team for the day, report to Manna House at 9:00 Wednesday morning. You will be the hands and feet of Jesus to feed “the least of these,” as he instructed us to do.



Who knows Gary Olsen?

We’re a little closer to learning the history of this extraordinary needlework of The Lord’s Supper. Cathy Drury and GeorgeAnne Youngner both reported that the work was crocheted by Gary Olsen, a former middle school science teacher, whose wife once sang in the St. Mark’s choir. The piece has been rematted and reframed and is hanging in the parish hall. Does anyone know Gary? We would love to contact him.

BIRTHDAYS

July 26 Kristi Dishman, Leif White
 July 27 Sally Williams
 July 28 Martha Kennedy, Jeff Whigham
 July 29 Craig Cody, Larry McEnerney
 July 30 Betsy Holm, Kim Sapp-Gornto
 Aug. 1 Katie Marshall

ANNIVERSARIES

July 27 Jerry & Judy Williams
 July 31 Mike Whitley & Nancy Breland
 Dan & Leda Burr

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please notify the church office.

Immediate prayer

Marion Nelson
 Joice Grow
 Nancy Ehringer
 Melinda Schneider Roehl
 Louise Atwood
 Maxwell Smith
 Marsha Boyette

Barbara & Dan Johnston
 Cheri Taylor Brewer
 Sandy Fowler
 Jeff Pace
 Eric Croft
 Ronald Chappell
 Sara
 Evie Barnard

Diane Braziel
 Owen Dorsey
 Perry Smith
 Gary Hill
 Brad Youngner
 Hayden Putre

Continuing prayer

Will Whatley
 Nancy MacKenzie
 Frank Matthews
 Dot Barone
 Beverly Dembowczyk

Matthew Dowe
 Jewell Rogers
 Carole Nolan
 Wendy Stubbs
 Jo Strickland
 Ronn ben Aaman

Glenn Kersey
 Jean Patelidas
 Katherine Adams
 Tim Meredith
 Robert Rowell
 Betty June Henderson

In-person Attendance

July 16-19, 2026					
Thurs.	Sat.	8:00	10:15	Total	
25	48	29	116	218	

Financial Update as of 7/21/2026

	<u>Received</u>		<u>Budget</u>	
Pledges	\$	294,102	\$	340,228
General Donations	\$	61,842	\$	65,105

July 9-August 2, 2026

Sunday	8:00am	Spoken Eucharist/Chapel
	10:15am	Holy Eucharist with Choir
	11:30am	Mixon Hour/parish hall
Monday	9:30am	Staff formation and meeting
	6:30pm	NA/Mixon Hall
Tuesday	5:45pm	Vestry/chapel
Wednesday	2:30pm	Music Enrichment/Mixon Hall
	3:45pm	Handbells/Mixon Hall
	8:00pm	AA/Mixon Hall
Thursday	11:00am	Healing Service/chapel
	12:00pm	Bad Girls/Mixon Hall
	5:00pm	Serenity Seekers/Mixon Hall
Friday		Church Office Closed
Saturday	5:00pm	Spoken Eucharist/Chapel
	8:00pm	AA/Mixon Hall
Sunday	8:00am	Spoken Eucharist/Chapel
	10:30am	Holy Eucharist with choir
	11:30am	Mixon Hour/Mixon Hall

2026 VESTRY

Nathan Williams	2026	(912) 270.0776	nathan@williamslg.com
Dan Burr – Senior Warden	2028	(435) 559.0222	burr@d@mountainwest.net
Daryl Moore	2027	(912) 230.7345	daryl@outoftheboxreceiving.com
Bill Bazzel	2027	(404) 931.7349	wfbazzel@gmail.com
Glenn Segrest	2026	(423) 838.4377	glenn.segrest@gmail.com
Betsy Holm	2028	(912) 580.8567	virginia.betsy.holm@gmail.com
Mark DiGiovanni	2028	(678) 227.8142	markdigiovanni@comcast.net
Noah Brantley	2028	(912) 577.3371	noah_brantley@yahoo.com
Jeff Rush - Junior Warden	2027	(313) 770.6377	jeffreyhrush@gmail.com
Rev. Alan Akridge <i>Rector</i>		(912) 222.8746	aakridge@saintmarkseiscopal.com
Joel Arline <i>Treasurer</i>			
Nathan Williams <i>Chancellor of the Vestry</i>			

STAFF

Rector
Deacon
Assoc/Pastoral Care

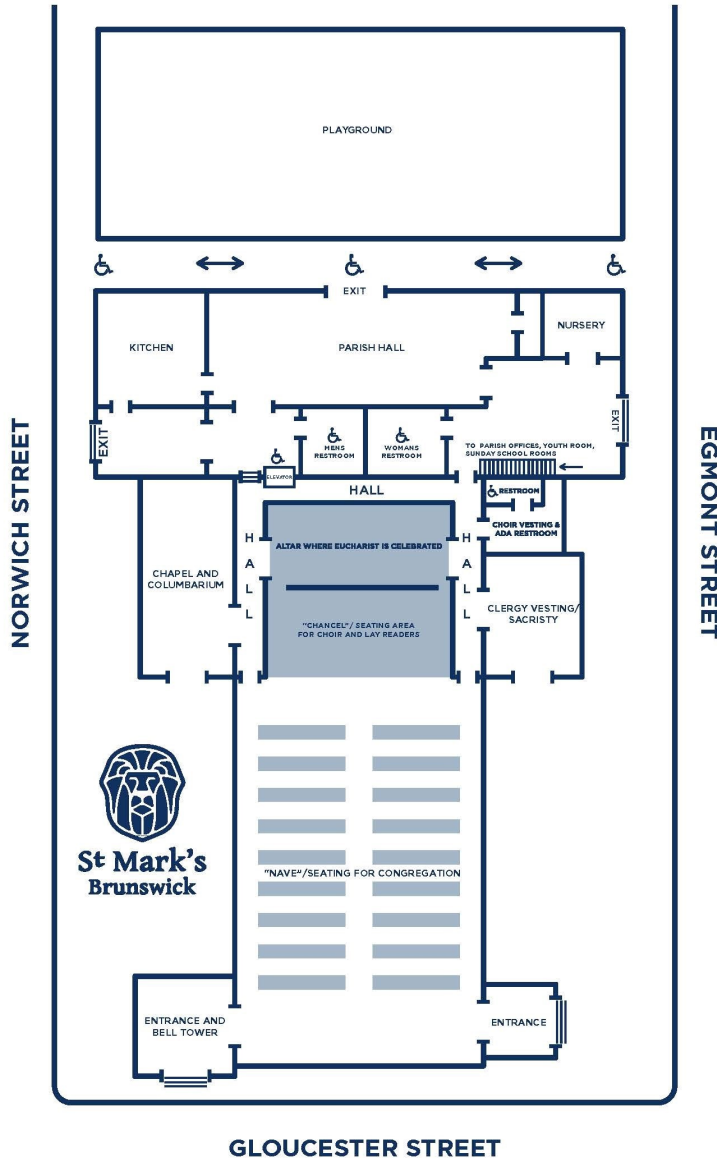
Pastoral Care
Assoc. Pastor
Parish Administrator

Ministry Coordinator
Music Director
Organist
Young Families
Youth Minister
St. Mark's Day School
hello Goodbuy

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Tess Ringle, manager, hellogoodbuy@saintmarkseiscopal.com



SERVICE TIMES

- Thursday** 11:00 a.m.
Healing Service
- Saturday** 5:00 p.m.
Spoken Holy Eucharist
- Sunday** 8:00 a.m.
Spoken Holy Eucharist
- 10:15 a.m.
Holy Eucharist w/ Choir

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed Friday



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Brunswick**

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