

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE PIONEER CHURCH OF WYOMING



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

THE FIRST WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT

December 4, 2024 | 5:30 PM

WELCOME



Dear Friends,

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church. We are glad you've joined us this evening for our weeknight Advent service - a service of quiet reflection and prayer. As we journey through this season of preparation, these Wednesday evenings offer a time to step away from the busyness of life and draw near to the mystery of Christ's coming.

This spoken service, rooted in the beauty of the Rite I liturgy, invites us into the sacred language of our tradition, reminding us of the hope and light that Christ brings to the world. May this time of worship be a blessing to you and deepen your anticipation of the joy to come.

Blessings,

The Rev. Christian Paul Basel
Rector, St. Mark's Episcopal Church


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Scan the QR Code to fill out the Digital Welcome Card. Welcome to St. Mark's!

COFFEE WITH THE RECTOR

Have pastoral concerns, ideas, or just want to chat? Scan here to set up a coffee meeting with Fr. Christian.



HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE I

THE FIRST WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT

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THE WORD OF GOD

The Opening Acclamation (standing)

BCP 323

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

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

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy would, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Song of Praise (standing)

BCP 324

Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day (standing)

BCP 159

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson (seated)

Isaiah 25:6-9

Reader: A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm (seated, read responsively by whole verse)

Psalm 23, Dominus regit me

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;

**he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.**

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;**

for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

**You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;**

you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,**

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

The Gospel (standing)

Matthew 15:29-39

Gospeller: A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

After Jesus had left that place, he passed along the Sea of Galilee, and he went up the mountain, where he sat down. Great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the maimed, the blind, the mute, and many others. They put them at his feet, and he cured them, so that the crowd was amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the maimed whole, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel. Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, 'I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.' The disciples said to him, 'Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?' Jesus asked them, 'How many loaves have you?' They said, 'Seven, and a few small fish.' Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, he took the seven loaves and the fish; and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left

over, seven baskets full. Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children. After sending away the crowds, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan.

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon (seated)

The Rev. Christian Paul Basel

The Apostles' Creed (standing, said by all)

BCP 53

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. *Amen.***

Prayers of the People (standing)

BCP 328

Celebrant: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Reader: Almighty and everliving God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the

spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other Ministers that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear especially those whose names are printed in this bulletin, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of blessed Mark and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin & Absolution (kneeling, said by all)

BCP 330

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**All: Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:
We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins
and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.
We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.
Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

The Peace (standing)

BCP 332

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

People: And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory

The Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer II

BCP 340

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God.

Because thou didst send thy beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel.

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in

his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood

of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread (kneeling)

BCP 337

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

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

Prayer of Humble Access (kneeling, said by all)

BCP 337

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God, for the People of God.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.

All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward for Communion. Those wishing to receive a prayer or blessing are encouraged to come to the altar rail, crossing your arms over your chest to indicate a blessing. Please inform the priest at the altar rail if you desire a gluten-free wafer.

The Post-Communion Prayer (kneeling, said by all)

BCP 339

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Blessing (kneeling)

The Dismissal (standing)

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*Please join us in the Parish Hall after tonight's service for a Simple Supper and holiday activities for youth and families. Thank you to Girlfriends Unlimited for graciously hosting.
All are welcome!*

The foregoing text of the worship service contained in this order of worship is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 1979.

The Book of Common Prayer alone is of authority in the worship of the Episcopal Church. This program is provided for convenience of use on this occasion.

ST. MARK'S CHRISTMAS SERVICES

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

CHRISTMAS LESSONS & CAROLS 7:00 - 8:30 PM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

RITE I CHRISTMAS EVE EUCHARIST 2:00 PM

RITE II CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE & PAGEANT 5:00 PM

WITH A VISIT FROM SANTA CLAUS

RITE II CHORAL EUCHARIST WITH BRASS & INCENSE 11:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY EUCHARIST WITH CAROLS 10:00 AM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26

FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN (RITE I) 12:00 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27

FEAST OF ST. JOHN (RITE I) 12:00 PM



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