



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fincastle, Virginia

10:00 a.m.

December 10, 2023

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Service of Holy Communion, Rite I

PRELUDE

Christmas Carol from Anjou

C. Franck

OPENING HYMN

THERE'S A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS CRYING

(#75)

- 1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
Prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where the Lord our God may go!
- 2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,
get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay,
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass like a dream away;
- 3 but the word of our God endureth,
the arm of the Lord is strong;
he stands in the midst of nations,
and he will right the wrong.
He shall feed his flock like a shepherd,
the lambs he'll gently hold;
to pastures of peace he'll lead them,
and bring them safe to his fold.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP 323

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

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

COLLECT FOR PURITY

BCP 323

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 thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE SUMMATION OF THE LAW

BCP 324

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, 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.

THE KYRIE

Plainsong

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP 159

Merciful God, who sent thy messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

CHILDREN'S HOMILY

People Sit

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,

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

THE PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13

BCP 708

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.**
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.**
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.**

GRADUAL HYMN

COMFORT, COMFORT YE MY PEOPLE

(#67)

- 1 Comfort, comfort ye my people,
speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
comfort those who sit in darkness
mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.**

**Speak ye to Jerusalem
of the peace that waits for them;
tell her that her sins I cover,
and her warfare now is over.**

**2 Hark, the voice of one that crieth
in the desert far and near,
calling us to new repentance
since the kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
let the valleys rise to meet him
and the hills bow down to greet him.**

**3 Make ye straight what long was crooked,
make the rougher places plain;
let your hearts be true and humble,
as befits his holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord
now o'er earth is shed abroad;
and all flesh shall see the token
that the word is never broken.**

Comfort, comfort ye my people, #67 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Psalm 42*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF **MARK 1:1-8**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

People Sit

THE SERMON

THE REV. G. WILLIS LOGAN

I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and of all things visible and invisible;
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the quick and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life,
who proceedeth from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified;
who spake by the Prophets.
And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins;
and I look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PARISH PRAYERS

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world, remembering
especially all on our Pews News Prayer list.

(The congregation responds with "Jesus, hear our prayer".)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Celebrant and People:

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.

ABSOLUTION

BCP 332

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*

COMFORTABLE WORDS

BCP 332

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

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

THE PEACE & WELCOME

BCP 332

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

People: And with thy spirit.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

O Come, Emmanuel

arr. M. Hayes

People Stand

DOXOLOGY (SUNG)

Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow

(#380, v. 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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

SURSUM CORDA

BCP 340

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. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS

Plainsong

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP 336

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

BCP 337

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

AGNUS DEI

Plainsong

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

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.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

BCP 338

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.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (Celebrant prays with those on Zoom)

[from the South African Book of Common Prayer (1989).]

**Jesus, may all that is you flow into me.
May your body and blood be my food and drink.
May your passion and death be my strength and life.
Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.
May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.
Let me not run from the love which you offer but hold me safe from the forces of evil.
On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.
Keep calling to me until that day comes when, with your saints, I may praise you for ever. Amen.**

(recited by prisoners who were unable to receive communion during Apartheid)

COMMUNION MEDITATION OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN arr. M. Hayes

POST COMMUNION PRAYER BCP 339

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

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN PREPARE THE WAY, O ZION (#65)

- 1 Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.**

*Oh, blest is Christ that came
in God's most holy Name.*

- 2 He brings God's rule, O Zion;
he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding,
for grace and joy abounding.**

Refrain

- 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zion;
your Savior's rule embrace.
His tidings of salvation**

proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow before him,
their voices will adore him.

Refrain

Prepare the way, O Zion, #65 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999). Copyright © 1982, Charles P Price. Music: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; harm. *Koralbok för Svenska Kyrkan*, 1939, alt.

DISMISSAL

BCP 340

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Greensleeves

M. Bober

St. Mark's Weekly Prayer List

Prayer requests for individuals and families are left on for 4 Sundays unless requested.
If you wish for someone to be left on longer, please let the office know at the time you make the request.

IN OUR ARMED FORCES: Patrick Funkhouser; Erin Funkhouser; Caleb Bradley; Nathan Bradley; Mason Alexander; Reeve Alexander; Jimmy Brown; Gavin Zachary; Eric Burton; Ali Taha; Griffith Wood; Logan Ching; and First Responders.

THANKSGIVING: For those celebrating birthdays this week:
Mahlon Kidd (12/11); Danielle Plumb (12/14); Jenine Culligan (12/15).

SEMINARIANS: Jake Webb, Parker Hughes.

THOSE IN NEED:

Jason Christian Bayer
Kris Browning
Bob Bryant
Adam Burkley
Lynn Clark
Angela Coon
Cora
Jacob Crawford
Jeremiah Crawford
Bryce Dalton
Josh Di Palma
Eva
Christine E.
Brooke Forney
Yvonne Frazier
Chuck Geiger
Jim Harris
Laura Holt McCann
Pat Honts
Tommy Hunter

Meg Johnson
Kay
Lynne Kessler
Jim Ketron
Sue Ketron
Sharon LaVonne Kidwell
Yvonne Killers
Allen Layman
Leslie
George Lester
Mary
Phillip Maye & family
Greg Miller
Ella Mitchell
Liz Moore
Lisa N.
Charley Neil
Edward Neil
Matthew Neil
Judy Newbern

Juliana Nganele
Janet P.
Doug Paysour
Emily Perdue
Douglas Pomrenke
Sis Proffitt
Roman
Brook Roncinske
Mario Saade
Savannah
Aubrey Scaletta
Ray Smith
Naomi Stoltzfus
Dave VanAken
Sherry Vinson
Jeanie Walker
Chad Whitaker
Denise Williamson
Kim Wyrick

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Nancy Wells

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING: Wells and Honts families.

St. Mark's Prayer Ministries

Willis is available to talk and pray: call, email or text him.

We Care Ministry: A prayer and service ministry for St. Mark's

Contact: Carole Geiger (geiger.caroleb@gmail.com)

Prayer Chain: Emergency situations contact Susan Hays by phone

Parish Activities – Week of December 10, 2023

Sunday, December 10, 2023 – The Second Sunday of Advent

9:00am - Adult Education – Hymnody and Theology, Class I - Advent Classics!

10:00am - Holy Communion, Rite I

Monday, December 11

12:00pm - Bridge group meets

6:00pm - Vestry meeting

Tuesday, December 12

7:00pm - Open AA

11:00am - Holy Communion at The
Glebe

Wednesday, December 13

4:00pm - BMA Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 14

11:00am - **Christmas Luncheon at The Glebe! Music by Botetourt Music Academy** 🎵

Friday, December 15

Office Closed

Saturday, December 16

9:30am - Noon Food Pantry

7:00pm - Open AA meeting

Serving Us Today

CELEBRANT & PREACHER: THE REV. G. WILLIS LOGAN

INTERCESSOR: EMILY TALBOT-GUILLOTE

CRUCIFER/CHALICE BEARER: WALTER MICHAEL

LECTOR: KAREN BEASLEY

MUSICIAN: ANNA PRESTON

ORGANIST: TOMMY HUNTER

ALTAR GUILD: SUSAN HAYS

COUNTERS: KAREN BEASLEY, DANIELLE ALEXANDER

USHERS: PENNY NEIL, DANIELLE, MARYSTONE, HAZELLEIGH



Take a photo of QR code with
your smartphone to go to St.
Mark's Facebook page

The Rev. G. Willis Logan, Rector

Tommy Hunter, Organist

Anna Preston, Music Minister

George Sydnor, Treasurer

Sue Spickard, Bookkeeper

Gina Painter, Office Manager/Vestry Clerk

Allison Caldwell, Children's Minister

Vestry (Lay Leadership)

Karen Beasley (Senior Warden) * Dan Collins (Junior Warden)

Charlotte Hagan * Meggan Laucher * Walter Michael

Trudy Trammell * Bruce Wilsie

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