

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

508 Harry Street | Conshohocken, PA 19428
stmarksconshy.org

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
February 24th, 2019

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

“Lobt Gott, ihr Christen, allzugleich”

settings by Johann Gottfried
Walther

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates us and forms us,
who redeems us and calls us,
who unites us and sends us.

Amen.

Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty and loving God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**
We seek our own way.
We divide the body of Christ.
In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us.
**Let the words of our mouths,
the thoughts of our hearts,
and everything that we do
be filled with faith, hope, and love.**
Amen.

Hear the voice of Jesus:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me
to proclaim release to the captives.”

In the name of † Jesus Christ,

I proclaim to you

that your sins are forgiven and you are released.

The joy of the Lord is your strength,

and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

Amen.

Gathering Song

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

ELW 707

HYFRYDOL

Greeting

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Kyrie

“Lord have mercy”

ELW p. 120

Gloria

“Glory to God”

ELW p. 121

Prayer of the Day

The presiding minister prays the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is
hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where
there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to
console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and
reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good, to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

The First Reading is from the 45th chapter of Genesis:

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; God has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ” ¹⁵And Joseph kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The low-ly shall pos-sess the land; they will de -
light in a - bun - dance of peace.

¹ Do not be provoked by | evildoers;
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither | like the grass,
and like the green grass | fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the Lord| and do good;
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight | in the Lord,
who shall give you your | heart's desire. R**

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,
and see what | God will do.

⁶ **The Lord will make your vindication as clear | as the light
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait | patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who
succeeds in | evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil. R**

⁹ For evildoers shall | be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall pos- | sess the land.

¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall | be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will | not be there.**

¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

**³⁹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O Lord;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ You, O Lord, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge. **R**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles Creed, we speak of the “resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.” Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ’s perfect life into eternity.

The Second Reading is from the 15th chapter of First Corinthians:

³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body according to God’s own choosing, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, “The first Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first human was from the dust of the earth; the second human is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the one made of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood

cannot inherit the dominion of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 124

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even to enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the sixth chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, who is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down,

shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

The assembly is seated.

Children's Sermon

We invite our children forward for a lesson before either returning to their seats or heading off to the nursery.

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

ELW 605

DE

The Apostles Creed

Together with the whole church let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles Creed:

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,**

and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence is kept.

Each petition ends:

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The prayers are concluded:

Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Announcements

Announcements are made on behalf of the community

Offering

An offering is gathered to support the mission of the church. Funds gathered today will help sustain our ministry efforts at St. Mark's, support the wider national church and help those in need. You can also contribute electronically via our "Give+" giving app on your phone, available in the Apple Store and Google Play. If you give electronically we invite you to take one of the green slips and place it in the offering plate as a way to include your electronic gifts in the offering time.

Offertory

Musical selections are offered to the glory of God. The conclusion of which gifts of bread, wine, money and other gifts are brought forward.

God's Hands

by Mark Burrows

Faith Formation Singers

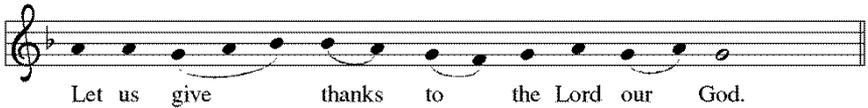
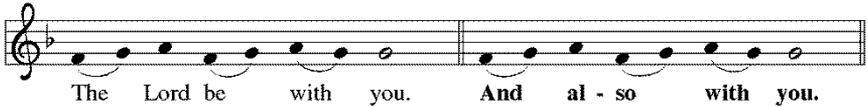
Offering Prayer

God of all creation,
all you have made is good,
and your love endures forever.
You bring forth bread from the earth
and fruit from the vine.
Nourish us with these gifts,
that we might be for the world
signs of your gracious presence
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

ELW pg 129

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks



“Holy Holy Holy”

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Great Thanksgiving concludes:

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us 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.**

Invitation to Communion

Here at St. Mark's we invite all people to the Lord's Table no matter where you are on your faith journey. This is Christ present for you – freely offered in bread and wine – all are welcome to commune.

Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

The bread may be broken for the communion

Agnus Dei

ELW p. 135

“Lamb of God”

Distribution of Communion

Today we will receive communion around the altar rail. At the direction of the usher you are invited forward to receive communion.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond -- Amen.

Communion Hymns

ELW 603 - God, When Human Bonds are Broken

MERTON

ELW 615 – In All Our Grief

FREDERICKTOWN

Post Communion Blessing

The Assembly stands.

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Nunc Dimittis

ELW p. 135

“Now, Lord Let Your Servant”

Prayer after Communion

We thank you, O God,
that you have fed us at your banqueting table
with bread and wine beyond compare,
the very life of Christ for us.
Send your Spirit with us now,
that we may set the captive free,
use your gifts to build one another up,
and in everything reflect your glory
revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and send us in mission to the world

Blessing

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Sending Song

O Christ, Our Hope

ELW 604

LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN

Dismissal

Go in peace, Christ is your light.
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Hyfrydol

setting by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Leading us in Worship

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Bryan Penman	
Director of Music	Emily Ballentine Erb	
	<i>This Week</i>	<i>Next Week</i>
Assisting Minister	Joe Jacovino	Theodora Morley
Communion Asst.	Lara Hoffman	Lauren Parkin
Readers	Joe Jacovino	Kathy Pokalo
Nursery	The Powells	The Holts
Acolytes	Gavin Kriebel	Don Turkowski
Altar Guild	Sandy Portzer Joanne Copestick	Jennifer Schreiter
Ushers	Theodora Morley Karen Hanna	George Pokalo Kathy Pokalo
Counters	Pam Keebler Stephanie Conklin	Rhea Moore LJ Kriebel
Offering Recorder	Jennifer Schreiter	Kathy Pokalo
Fellowship Hour	The Fikes	The Holts
Faith Formation	Becca Casey, Allison Fike	Holly Holst Joe Ruggiero
Altar Flowers	Given by the Conklin family in thanksgiving for many blessings	The Penmans

Worship Ministry Announcements:

Ways we gather in praise of God

Do you like to sing?

Emily and Pastor Bryan will again be hosting a “Music Makes Community” practice group on Friday March 1st here at St. Mark’s. This group gathers practitioners and lovers of a style of paper-less singing. We have been doing some of that work in worship and weekly at our Dinner Church worship service. We invite you (if you are able) to join the group for practice Friday from 1 – 2:30pm.

Help us purchase more hymnals for the sanctuary

We need some more hymnals to fill the pew racks, and we’re inviting members of the congregation to purchase a hymnal to place for use in worship. You’re invited to include your dedication (for example, in memory of a loved one, to the Glory of God, for blessings received)--a book plate will be set in the hymnal identifying the giver and dedication. The cost is \$25 per book. Place your check or cash in one of the white pew envelopes and label it HYMNAL. On the back of the envelope, write your name and what you’d like to have included in the dedication.

Dinner Church @ 6PM on Thursdays

“Dinner Church” has great roots in the Christian tradition. Meals feature prominently in our great tradition of faith, from pot lucks, to picnics, to the Holy Supper we share in communion – food plays a central role in who we are as Christians. We like to say that we are also “fed” by the experience of worship, so Dinner Church seeks to feed you both spiritually and physically. Dinner Church is a very relaxed worship experience; some come right from work, some right from the gym, some from just picking the kids up. This coming week we’ll be looking at a story in Mark 12 where Jesus compares the money contributed by rich people with the offering of a poor widow.

The Sign-Up sheet to bring a main dish, soup or salad is in the “sign-up hallway” across from the McCarney room.

No matter where you are on your faith journey you are welcome here at Dinner Church.

Memorial Service for Ann Beatty

The memorial service for our sister in Christ, Ann Beatty, will be held on Saturday March 16th here at St. Mark's. The family will receive visitors from 10 – 11 with the service beginning at 11am.

Ash Wednesday Service March 6th @ 7pm

Join us as we mark the entry into the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent begins with a solemn call to repentance as we begin the season of preparation for Holy Week. This service will include the imposition of Ashes (an ancient tradition acknowledging our mortality and need for God's mercy), special music, Holy Communion and time for prayer. Join us as we begin our journey to the cross.

Altar Flower Sponsorship

We have openings for Altar Flowers in March. Cost is \$40.00 for the week and please indicate if you would like to keep this as an annual memorial, or just a memorial for this year.

Faith Formation Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can deep your faith life

Faith Formation Classes after worship

We offer two faith formation opportunities after worship today, a class for young disciples and their families and an adult forum (for disciples young at heart!) Today, both classes meet following worship downstairs in the auditorium, our young persons' class begins following communion and the adult forum starts shortly after the fellowship hour.

Pastor's weekly email

Pastor sends out a weekly message with reflections on the coming Sunday's readings as well as announcements upcoming during the week at church. To sign up for this email check out our homepage www.stmarksconshy.org to enter your email address or let Pastor know to add you to the list.

Service Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can do God's work with your hands

Pipe Organ Appeal

Our congregation continues to raise funds to repair and rebuild our Pipe Organ. The instrument is in major need of refurbishment and new parts, the cost of which is \$53,000. To date we have raised a little over \$24,000 for this work with more to go. Please consider making a donation to the Capital Appeal to support this work; we have until June to raise the rest of the funds for this work.

Knitters & Crocheters

We're still collecting 12" knitted or crocheted squares to be assembled into blankets that we'll take to the Coordinated Homeless Outreach Center (CHOC) in Norristown. If you have any questions, please speak to Kathy Pokalo or Karen Hanna.

Items Needed at Our Local Food Bank

Our local food bank run by our friends over at Colonial Neighborhood Council have a special need for Chef Boyardee products and canned fruit. Collection baskets in the back of the sanctuary. Items are delivered to CNC weekly.

2018 Year-End Giving Statements Available Now

Please pick up your 2018 Year-end Giving Statement and 2019 Offering Boxes in the back of the sanctuary today.

Now is a good time to enroll in electronic giving

Now is a great time to enroll in electronic giving to continue your support of our congregation. Regular consistent giving helps us maintain our budget for the year. To sign up – download the “Give+” app on either Apple or Android, search for St. Mark’s in Conshohocken (make sure you get the town, there are a few St. Mark’s churches) and then set up the amount and frequency of the offering; either one time, or on a recurring basis. As always, thank you for all that you do to support the work and ministry of St. Mark’s.

Sharing God's Love with Blessing Bags

Thanks to the many who helped put together 75 “Blessings Bags” during the Faith Formation hour and after worship last week. “Blessings Bags” are bags filled with energy & granola bars, and other items that can be eaten right away. In addition, the bags contain dry socks – an especially prized item during the winter months. The bags can be placed in your car, tote or briefcase to distribute to those experiencing homelessness. We have all experienced that strange feeling of embarrassment mixed with guilt when we encounter folks on the streets and these bags are a tangible way to show concern and compassion and give the encouragement that they, too, are both a blessing and blessed by God.

Evangelism Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can share your faith with others

Saint Patrick Day Parade

We are currently looking for volunteers who might be willing to “staff” a table for St. Mark’s at the St. Patrick Day Parade on Saturday March 16th which starts at 2pm. We usually have free pretzels and water to give away at the event and socialize a bit with our neighbors here in Conshohocken. If interested please email the church office info@stmarksconshy.org or speak to Pastor.

Easter Egg Industry Continues

Our annual Easter Egg Candy making fundraiser production continues! Volunteers needed on Monday and Wednesday evening for candy making and chocolate coating as well as Friday mornings to assist with packing. This is St. Mark’s largest fundraiser and we need lots of help to make the 101st year another successful season in the longstanding Conshohocken tradition.

Monday Evenings 6pm – 8pm: Volunteers are needed to help roll / cut fondant centers. We are in special need of folks who can volunteer from 5pm – 7pm in the kitchen to assist with making the candy batches.

Wednesday Evenings 6pm – 8pm: Volunteers are needed to help coat the candies in dark chocolate, each candy is hand coated so we need lots of hands to help coat the candies!

Friday Mornings 9am – 11am: Packers are needed to help pack and weight the candies in boxes.

To place orders: you may order in person during production, fill out an order form (available in the back of the sanctuary) and turn it into the church office, or you may contact our order coordinator Donna Kobi 610.825.3021, or you may place an order using our website (www.stmarksconshy.org)

Becoming Members of St. Mark's

Are you interested in finding out more about becoming a member of the St. Mark's community? Speak with Pastor about taking the next steps to join our congregation.

Council Corner:

News from the leadership of the Congregation

Newly Elected Council Officers & Ministry Leads for 2019

Each year from our elected Council officers, the group elects executive officers and appoints ministry leads over our key ministry areas. This past week at the Council meeting the following people were elected as executive officers of the church council:

- **President:** Kathy Pokalo
- **Vice-President:** Joe Ruggiero
- **Treasurer:** Aaron Moul
- **Secretary:** Liz MacNeal

And those appointed to serve our “key ministry” areas:

- **Faith Formation:** Stef Conklin
- **Worship:** Becca Casey
- **Service:** Brooke Logan
- **Evangelism and Fellowship:** Brooke Kenna

Please help congratulate these Council members and thank them for their willingness to serve this year. But more importantly, pray for them and help support them as they continue to move our ministry forward on behalf of the whole congregation. Members of the congregation are invited to attend meetings. Upcoming dates are March 19, April 16, May 21, June 11; meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

This Week @ St. Mark's

Monday <i>Office Closed</i>	<i>6-8pm Easter Egg Industry</i>	<i>6am: Meals on Wheels 7pm: Boy Scouts</i>
Tuesday <i>3pm – 7pm</i>		<i>6am: Meals on Wheels 7 pm: Cub Scouts</i>
Wednesday <i>10am – 12N</i>	<i>6-8pm Easter Egg Industry</i>	<i>6 am: Meals on Wheels 8:00pm: AA Group</i>
Thursday <i>3 – 7pm</i>	<i>Dinner Church 6-7pm Adult Choir Rehearsal – 7pm Bell Choir Rehearsal – 7:45pm</i>	<i>6am: Meals on Wheels</i>
Friday <i>10am – 12N</i>	<i>9-11am Easter Egg Industry 1pm – Music Makes Community Practice Group</i>	<i>6am: Meals on Wheels 7 pm: AA / Al-Anon 8:30 AA Group</i>
Saturday		<i>7 pm: AA Group</i>
Sunday	<i>9:30 am – Worship Service 10:30am - Faith Formation</i>	<i>7 pm: AA Group</i>

Pastor will be out on vacation this week Sunday – Thursday. Should you need pastoral care during this time please contact Pr. Mary Konopka @ 215-285-9106.

Connect with us online

Are you a “fan” of the St. Mark’s facebook page? Did you like the photo we posted on Instagram? Did you know we could be trending on Twitter? St. Mark’s offers a variety of ways to connect virtually beyond our worship services. Check out our online presence, share our messages with friends and family as we seek to spread God’s love with those who need to see the greatness of God’s grace!



Welcome to St. Mark's, We're so glad you are with us today!

No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you have a place here. *This is Christ's Church. There is a place for you here.* We are a church that shares a living and daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person - questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Children are always welcome to participate in worship. To help our youngest worshippers, "Little Lutheran Activity Bags" are located in the rear of the sanctuary which have crayons and worship appropriate coloring pages. We offer a "Soft Space" for infants and toddlers to spread out a bit in during worship. Worshiping with children is important to us, and so we hope you find these things helpful so that you may worship together as a family.

Restrooms are located through the back left – exit the sanctuary, go up the stairs, through the first room to the end of the hallway. If you need assistance, please see the attendants (ushers) at the back of the sanctuary.

Cell phones and other electronic devices are welcome to be used to Post, Tweet and Instagram the "Good News" you hear today, but we kindly ask you to turn the sound off on them so that they do not cause a distraction to other worshippers.

Our team of ushers is available throughout the service to be of any assistance you might need. Assistive Listening devices are available. Please see an usher.

Are you new or visiting St. Mark's? If you would like to receive more information about St. Mark's, we have several methods where you can leave your information with us: Visitor books at the entrance to the sanctuary Yellow Visitor Cards in the pew backs, just drop them in the offering plate We would be delighted to keep you informed about the many events and opportunities here at St. Mark's and hope you will join us again.