



For God so
loved the
world that he
gave his only
Son... ☆ John 3:16



HOLY COMMUNION: RITE II at 10:00 A.M.

St. Mark's Sunday worship starts at 10 a.m. in the Erwin Chapel and on Zoom

Today we welcome the Reverend Cathi Bencken as our Celebrant and Preacher.

Curtis Searle is our e-verger this week.



Entrance Hymn 538 "God of mercy, God of grace"

Lucerna Laudoniae



THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: **His mercy endures for ever.**

Collect for Purity

Celebrant: 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.*

Opening Anthem

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray together.

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Numbers 21:4-9

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from the Book of Numbers.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.
(silence)

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Volunteer

Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, *
People: and his mercy endures for ever.
Leader: Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim *
People: that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
Leader: He gathered them out of the lands; *
People: from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
Leader: Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; *
People: they were afflicted because of their sins.
Leader: They abhorred all manner of food *
People: and drew near to death's door.
Leader: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, *
People: and he delivered them from their distress.
Leader: He sent forth his word and healed them *
People: and saved them from the grave.
Leader: Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy *
People: and the wonders he does for his children.
Leader: Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
People: and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

The Second Lesson

Ephesians 2:1-10

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

(silence)

Sequence Hymn 490 *"I want to walk as a child o the light"*

Houston

The Holy Gospel

John 3:14-21

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

[Jesus said,] "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the

judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
(silence)

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Cathi Bencken

The Creed

Celebrant sets the pace.

People and Celebrant, remembering to pause at the punctuation:

**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 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 VI

Leader: Volunteer

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader: For this community, the nation, and the world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader: For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Jeffrey and Laura our Bishops; and for all Priests, and for all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions

Leader: Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great.

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings

Leader: We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions

Leader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant: Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

People: **And also with you.**



THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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.**

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

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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:

Sanctus

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: 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;**

Celebrant: 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 St. 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.*

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

**Celebrant and People: 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

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

All baptized Christians are invited to Communion. Receiving the bread alone is sufficient for full participation. Those who wish to receive from the chalice by intinction are asked to approach the chalice first. Only after those who wish to receive in this way have intincted, should those who wish to drink from the chalice approach to receive.

The Prayer of Spiritual Communion *(To be recited by those worshipping on Zoom)*

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves to you, and embrace you with all the affections of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live and die in your love. Amen.

Postcommunion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant and 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

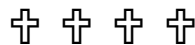
Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord. Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Dismissal Hymn 533 *“How wondrous and great thy works, God of praise”* **Lyons**

Announcements

Priest, Deacon or
Worship Leader: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.



Thank you to everyone who participated in putting the service together today.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 10		Day Light Savings Time Starts - Spring Forward!
Sunday, March 10	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel The Rev. Cathi Bencken
Tuesday, March 12	6:45 p.m.	Cooper Hall Vestry Meeting
Sunday, March 17	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel The Rev. Joseph Pace
Sunday, March 24	10:00 a.m.	Cooper Hall - Palm Sunday The Rev. Carol Gadsden
Thursday, March 28	TBA	St. James, Farmington - Maundy Thursday
Friday, March 29	7:00 p.m.	Erwin Chapel - Good Friday - Stephen Hard, Worship Leader
Sunday, March 31	TBA	St. James, Farmington - Easter Sunday



PALM SUNDAY SERVICE- MARCH 24, 2024 - 10:00 A.M.

We will begin in Cooper Hall with the Blessing of the Palms and then process back to Cooper Hall for our service.

See the bulletin board outside the Parish Office to sign up to read a part in the service.

March 2024 Worship Schedule for St. Mark's

**Below is a listing of our Sunday worship schedule for March 2024.
Please note that this list may be subject to change at any time.
Any changes will be noted in our weekly bulletin and on our website:
www.stmarksnewbritain.org.**

Date	Time	Place	Celebrant
March 10	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel	The Rev. Cathi Bencken
March 17	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel	The Rev. Joseph Pace
March 24 - Palm Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel	The Rev. Carol Gadsden

Holy Week Schedule on page 10.

Holy Week Schedule - 2024



Thursday, March 28 - Maundy Thursday - Time TBA St. James, Farmington

MAUNDY THURSDAY gets its name from 'mandatum' meaning commandment – the commandment to the disciples and to us, to 'love one another' as Jesus loves. This commandment came within the setting of the Last Supper and so on this day we recall the institution of the Holy Eucharist as we break bread together for the last time before we celebrate the risen Christ. Jesus himself enacted the commandment to love by washing the disciples' feet and in our liturgy we are given the opportunity to do likewise and wash one another's feet as a sign of the ways we serve one another as Christ served us. Following the Eucharist the altar is stripped as we remember how Jesus goes from the upper room to the Garden awaiting his trial and arrest.



Friday, March 29 - Good Friday - 7:00 p.m. - Erwin Chapel - Stephen Hard, Worship Leader



Sunday, March 31 - Easter Day - 6:30 a.m. - South Church

10:15 a.m. St. James, Farmington

The Third Sunday in Lent - March 3, 2024

Longterm prayers are asked for: Stacey Albert, Irene Alibrio, Patricia Anderson, Aaron, Georgie Bethel, Bill Briggs, Michael Campbell, Barbara Canzonetti, Elora Cass, Jose Chavez, Bea Chevalier, Cletus Cone, Patricia Cone, Ben Gryk, Eileen Hamilton, Cheryl Hanson, Norm Holland, Gary Hudkins, Margaret Hughes, Mike Krumrine, Florence Kruvka, Claire Lucid, Ann Maltais, Manny Monteiro, Kelly Nauss, Rae Robinson, Francis and Joann Rusczyk, Brody Searle, Harry Thompson, and Frank Williams.

Healing: Mark Giulietti, Richard, The Rev. Carol Gadsden, Rose Wollman, Josephine Pelligrini, Lauren Kiefer, Rebekah Maxim, Cynthia Hudson, Patricia Anderson, Barbara Campbell, Norm Holland, Janet Marshall, Betty Ann Hadder, and Manny Monteiro.

ECCT Cycle of Prayer: St. Monica's, Hartford; Trinity, Hartford; St. Peter's, Hebron; St. James', Higganum; All ministries to, with, and for women and the Girl's Friendly Society and The Episcopal Church.

Those who serve our country: Ryan Alexander, Tiana Baptiste, Ryan Beaudoin, Parker Browne, Michael Johnston, and Ed Priesser.

Parish families: Molly Sherman and family, Christine Stohl, Joy Tomasso, Brian, Seyenam, Selasi and Sefakor Tompkins and David and Dena Tompkins.

Those who have died, and those who are remembered today: Bette Stahl, Capt. Paul Stahl, Elsa and Paul Stahl and Helena and Charles Winchell.

PRAYER CHAIN: To activate the chain call or email:

Barbara Campbell – Phone: 860-673-7607 Email: campbellba24@gmail.com

Please remember to send in your pledges and offerings to the parish. The mail in the St. Mark's post office box is picked up several times a week. Your pledge payments are compiled at least once a month and deposited.

Mailing address for financial contributions:

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church PO Box 1538 New Britain, CT 06050-1538
or send checks electronically to the Church via your bank.**

St. Marks keeps going in God's way, God's time, and to God's glory.

The worship services, the parish office, and ministry to the community adapt and continue. Your contributions of time, talent, and treasure are appreciated to make it happen.

The Food Pantry ministry continues on Mondays (9 to 2) and Thursdays (9 to 2).

Ninety

From riteplanning.com.

Copyright © 2024 Church Publishing Inc. All rights reserved.

Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under One License #401592M All rights reserved.