

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fincastle, Virginia

10 a.m.

December 3, 2023

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Service of Confirmation and Holy Communion, Rite II

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Arr. M. Hayes

OPENING HYMN

LO! HE COMES, WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

(#57)

- 1 Lo! he comes, with clouds descending,
once for our salvation slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.
- 2 Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at nought and sold him,
pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.
- 3 Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshipers;
with what rapture
gaze we on those glorious scars!
- 4 Yea, amen! let all adore thee,
high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory;
claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending, #57 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

Bishop: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Bishop: There is one Body and one Spirit;
People: There is one hope in God's call to us;
 Bishop: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People: One God and Father of all.

Bishop: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
 Bishop: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your 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 living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

People Sit

A READING FROM THE EPISTLE OF 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18

BCP 702

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, ***
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 **O LORD God of hosts, ***
how long will you be angered

despite the prayers of your people?

- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors, ***
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, ***
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; ***
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

GRADUAL HYMN

SLEEPERS, WAKE!

(#61)

- 1 **"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us,**
the shout of rampart guards surrounds us:
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
Midnight's peace their cry has broken,
their urgent summons clearly spoken:
"The time has come, O maidens wise!
Rise up, and give us light;
the Bridegroom is in sight.
Alleluia!
Your lamps prepare
and hasten there,
that you the wedding feast may
share."
- 2 **Zion hears the watchmen singing;**
her heart with joyful hope is springing,
she wakes and hurries through the
night.
Forth he comes, her Bridegroom glorious
in strength of grace, in truth victorious:
her star is risen, her light grows bright.

- Now come, most worthy Lord,**
God's Son, Incarnate Word,
Alleluia!
We follow all
and heed your call
to come into the banquet hall.
- 3 **Lamb of God, the heavens adore you;**
let saints and angels sing before you,
as harps and cymbals swell the sound.
Twelve great pearls, the city's portals:
through them we stream to join the
immortals
as we with joy your throne surround.
No eye has known the sight,
no ear heard such delight:
Alleluia!
Therefore we sing
to greet our King;
for ever let our praises ring.

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us, #61 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944). Copyright © 1982, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT MARK 13:24-37

Bishop: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,

the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Bishop: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

People Sit

THE SERMON

THE RT. REV. MARK A. BOURLAKAS, BISHOP

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

BCP 415

Bishop: The Candidates will now be presented.

Presenters: I present Paul Murphy, Amanda Murphy, Philip Adkins, Jenine Culligan, and MaryStone Garland for Confirmation.

Bishop: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidate: I do.

Bishop: Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidate: I do, and with God’s grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People: We will.

Bishop: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

BCP 416

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: 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.**

Bishop: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Bishop: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help.

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

BCP 305-306

Bishop: Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

Leader: Deliver Paul, Amanda, Philip, Jenine, and MaryStone O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Bishop: Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE CONFIRMATION

BCP 418

Bishop: Defend, O Lord, your servants with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until they come to your everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

Bishop: Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BCP 419

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

People: And also with you.

Presentation of the St. Mark's 2024 Voluntary Offering to the Diocese

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. M. Bober

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 people remain standing.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP 367

Eucharistic Prayer B

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Bishop: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Bishop: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Bishop: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your 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 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

Plainsong

People kneel or remain standing

Bishop: 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,

Bishop and People:

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Bishop 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 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,

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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

AGNUS DEI

Plainsong

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

[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.**

[Originally written by prisoners who were unable to receive communion during Apartheid, and now recited by us in recognition of the way that the Pandemic has limited our togetherness.]

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

COMMUNION HYMN

Wachet auf

arr. L. Borwick

Bishop: Let us pray.

Bishop 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

CLOSING HYMN

REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS

(#68)

- 1 Rejoice! rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear!
The evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising,
and soon he will draw nigh;
up, watch in expectation!
at midnight comes the cry.
- 2 See that your lamps are burning,
replenish them with oil;
look now for your salvation,
the end of sin and toil.
The marriage-feast is waiting,
the gates wide open stand;
rise up, ye heirs of glory,
the Bridegroom is at hand!
- 3 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, thou Sun so longed for,
above this darkened sphere!
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption,
and ever be with thee!

Rejoice! rejoice, believers, #68 from *The Hymnal 1982* — Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.

DISMISSAL

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

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

arr. M. Hayes

Serving Us Today

CELEBRANT & PREACHER: THE RT. REV. MARK A. BOURLAKAS, BISHOP

ASSISTANT MINISTER: THE REV. G. WILLIS LOGAN

INTERCESSOR: WALTER MICHAEL

CRUCIFER/CHALICE BEARER: BRIAN WOOD

LECTOR: GEORGE SYDNOR

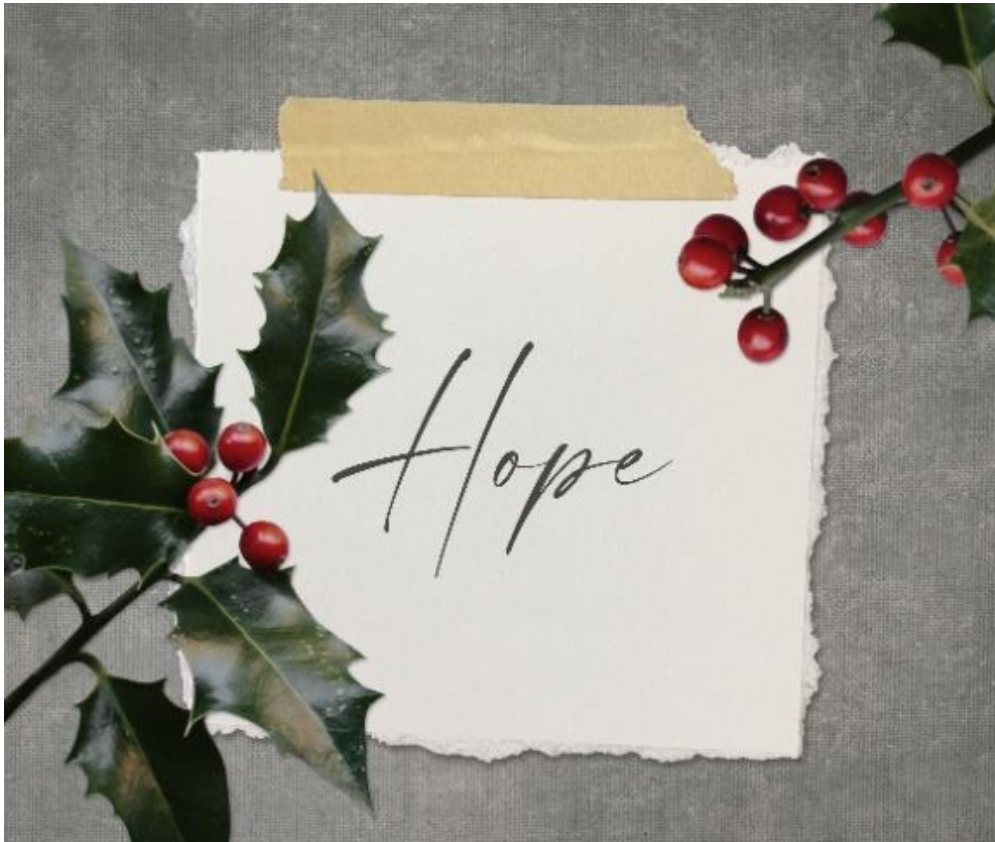
MUSICIAN: ANNA PRESTON

ORGANIST: TOMMY HUNTER

ALTAR GUILD: ALL MEMBERS

USHERS: JOHN & DANIELLE ALEXANDER

COUNTERS: TRUDY TRAMMELL, MIKE PARISH



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:

Delores Wood (12/6); Walter Michael (12/9).

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: Carolyn Corswandt; Nancy Wells

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING: Corswandt, Guillote, Meloy, and Talbot Families; 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 3, 2023

Sunday, December 3, 2023 – The First Sunday of Advent ~ Service of Confirmation and Holy Communion

9:00am - Adult Education – Time with the Bishop

10:00am - Holy Communion, Rite II, Confirmation

Please join us after the service for a reception for the Bishop and those who were confirmed.

Monday, December 4

12:00pm - Bridge group meets

Tuesday, December 5

7:00pm - Open AA

Thursday, December 7

10:00am - Dorcas Guild

11:30am - **Brown Bag Bible Study**
Holiday Edition. We will watch A
Christmas Carol and Lunch
provided!

Friday, December 8

Office Closed

Saturday, December 9

9:30am - Noon Food Pantry

7:00pm - Open AA meeting

Serving Us Today

CELEBRANT & PREACHER: THE RT. REV. MARK BOURLAKAS

ASSISTING MINISTER: THE REV. G. WILLIS LOGAN, JR.

INTERCESSOR: WALTER MICHAEL

CRUCIFER/CHALICE BEARER: BRIAN WOOD

LECTOR: GEORGE SYDNOR

MUSICIAN: ANNA PRESTON

ORGANIST: TOMMY HUNTER

ALTAR GUILD: SUE LOESCHEN, TRUDY TRAMMEL

COUNTERS: TRUDY TRAMMELL, MIKE PARISH

USHERS: JOHN & DANIELLE ALEXANDER



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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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