

# ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Fincastle, Virginia

9:30 a.m.

December 5, 2021

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Service of Confirmation and Holy Communion, Rite II

PRELUDE

SILENT PROCESSIONAL

OPENING HYMN      LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

(#57)



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain;      thou - sand      thou - sand  
dread - ful ma - jes - ty;      those who      set at  
daz - zling bo - dy bears,      cause of      end - less  
thine e - ter - nal throne;      Sa - vior,      take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
power and glo - ry;      claim the king - dom for thine



train:      Al - le - lu - ia!      Al - le - lu - ia!  
tree,      deep - ly wail - ing,      deep - ly wail - ing,  
ers;      with what rap - ture,      with what rap - ture,  
own:      Al - le - lu - ia!      Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia!      Christ the      Lord re - turns to reign.  
deep - ly wail - ing,      shall the      true Mes - si - ah see.  
with what rap - ture      gaze we      on those glo - rious scars!  
Al - le - lu - ia!      Thou shalt      reign, and thou a - lone.

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

Merciful God, who sent your 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 lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*People Sit*

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF BARUCH

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,  
 and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God.  
 Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God;  
 put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting;  
 for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven.  
 For God will give you evermore the name,  
 "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory."  
 Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height;  
 look toward the east,  
 and see your children gathered from west and east  
 at the word of the Holy One,  
 rejoicing that God has remembered them.  
 For they went out from you on foot,  
 led away by their enemies;  
 but God will bring them back to you,  
 carried in glory, as on a royal throne.  
 For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low  
 and the valleys filled up, to make level ground,  
 so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.  
 The woods and every fragrant tree  
 have shaded Israel at God's command.  
 For God will lead Israel with joy,  
 in the light of his glory,  
 with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

(5:1-9)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

THE SONG OF ZECHARIAH

*Benedictus Dominus Deus*

BCP 92

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
he has come to his people and set them free.  
He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
born of the house of his servant David.  
Through his holy prophets he promised of old,  
that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
and to remember his holy covenant.  
This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,  
Free to worship him without fear, \*  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,  
To give people knowledge of salvation \*  
by the forgiveness of their sins.  
In the tender compassion of our God \*  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the  
shadow of death, \*  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

(1:3-11)

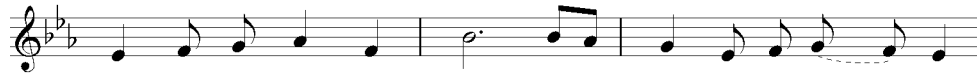
Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN      THERE'S A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS CRYING      (#75)



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O                      Zi - on, that bring - est good tid - ings, get thee  
 3 but the word of our God            en - du - reth, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst



high - way, a high - way for our God! The  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the  
 na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 flowers of the field they            per - ish, like  
 feed his            flock like a shep - herd, the



lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of  
 lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll



pla - ces where the Lord our            God            may go!  
 na - tions shall            pass like a dream            a - way;  
 lead them, and            bring them            safe to his fold.

Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music: *Ascension*, Henry Hugh Bancroft (b. 1904) Copyright ©1938, Henry Hugh Bancroft. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SAINT LUKE

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

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.  
Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth;  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'

(3:1-6)

Bishop: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*People Sit*

THE SERMON

THE RT. REV. MARK A. BOURLAKAS, BISHOP

PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

Bishop: The Candidates will now be presented.

**Presenters: I present Penny Waddle and Lisa Nichols 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

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

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

**Leader: Deliver Penny and Lisa, 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

Bishop: Defend, O Lord, your servant with your heavenly grace, that she may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until she comes 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.*

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

**People: And also with you.**

## THE PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*People Stand*

### DOXOLOGY

(#380, v. 3)

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

BCP 367

#### Eucharistic Prayer B

*The people remain standing.*

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 (ALL)

(HYMNAL S-130)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*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 (SUNG)

(HYMNAL S-164)

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
Give us your peace, give us your peace.**

#### 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.]

#### THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

#### COMMUNION HYMN

ANNA PRESTON

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

PREPARE THE WAY, O ZION

(#65)



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.



Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

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DISMISSAL

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

## **Serving Us Today**

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

ASSISTANT MINISTER: THE REV. G. WILLIS LOGAN

INTERCESSOR: MIKE PARISH

LECTOR: ANN LAYMAN

MUSICIAN: ANNA PRESTON

ORGANIST: TOMMY HUNTER

ALTAR GUILD: ALL MEMBERS

USHERS: GEORGE SYDNOR, DAN COLLINS

COUNTERS: PATTI SUITE, PETER HOWARTH

### **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  
Peter Howarth, Property Manager      Mary Garland, Children's Minister

#### Vestry (Lay Leadership)

Danielle Alexander (Senior Warden) \* Charlie Echols  
Patti Suite (Associate Warden) \* Trudy Trammell  
Lisa Uotinen \* Bruce Wilsie \* Brian Wood

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willis@stmarksfincastle.org (Willis)  
office@stmarksfincastle.org (Gina)

# WELCOME & INFO

*A Very Warm Welcome to you!*

We are so glad that you are with us today. Our prayer each Sunday is that St. Mark's will be a place of refuge, rest, restoration, and love.

We would LOVE to get to know you better, so please fill out a newcomer card found in the pew and drop in the offering plate or click on "CONNECTION CARD" on our website home page ([stmarksfincastle.org](http://stmarksfincastle.org) - only 2 pieces of info to fill in!). More information about membership below. We hope you will join us each week.

A few notes about Sundays at St. Mark's:

**Communion** - Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and wine. You may receive only the bread or the wine if you wish. If you want to come forward and receive a blessing, then please cross your arms as you come to the Communion Rail. Follow the usher's direction about coming to the Altar. Communion is received standing or kneeling.

**Adult Education + Fellowship** - Beginning at 8:30am in the Ministry Center Library (building below the Church), we have fellowship with study. Examples include: Bible and book studies, individual presentations, table fellowship and much more. Please come and join us!

**Offertory** - The loose plate offering on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month is directed to the Rector's discretionary account.

**Membership** - Looking for a church home? We are looking for you! Willis would love to talk to you about Baptism, Confirmation and joining the church. Note that once you walk through our doors, we consider you a "member"!

**Social Hour** - light refreshments are offered immediately following the 9:30am service on the patio or in the Parish Hall.

**Zoom** - Currently all our worship services, bible studies and meetings are accessible VIA Zoom. We are in our hybrid format.

## Weekly offerings:

**Sundays** - 8:30am - Adult Education (coffee and water/no food); 9:30-10:30am Holy Communion and occasionally Morning Prayer; 10:30am Social Hour

**Wednesday** - 7:30pm Service of Evening Prayer by Zoom

**Thursdays** - 12pm Brown Bag Bible Study in the Ministry Center Library and by Zoom

**Saturdays** - The Botetourt Food Pantry will distribute food by drive-up service from 9:30am to noon

**SUNDAY: Adult Education, 8:30am [No Class today!]**