St Mark's EPISCOPAL CHURCH love is our tradition

The First Sunday After Christmas Lessons and Carols Service December 29, 2024 Rite 2 Year C

> Thank you for joining us in worship. We are glad you are here.

Please let us know what questions you might have And if you would like to be on our mailing list.

We Love God

St. Mark's is a community of people who believe in the power of God's love as expressed through God's son, Jesus Christ.

We Love Each Other

Our love for God compels us to love and welcome others with open arms regardless of age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or social status.

We Love Our Community

Our love for God compels us to serve our community by being active in service to those in need.

We Love Our Faith

We celebrate our God, for each other and for our community through Episcopal worship that keeps us grounded in our faith.

520 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond VA 23220 804-358-4771 stmarksrva.org

Preparing for Worship

In today's hectic world, it is good to have time for silence. Take time to sit quietly and open yourself through silent prayer, meditation, or reading over the bulletin.

Lessons and Carols With Holy Communion The Word of God or The Liturgy of the Word

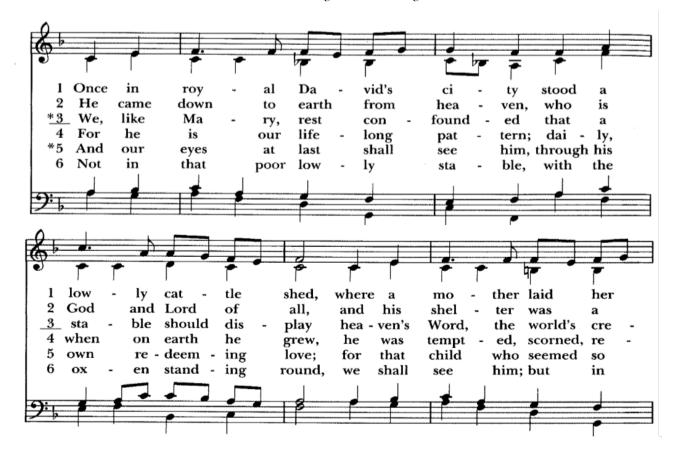
A Word of Welcome

(Please stand as you are able)

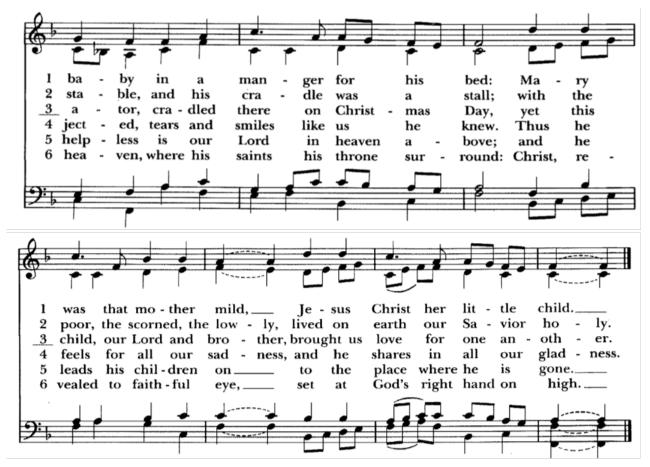
Hymn 102

Once in royal David's city





Continued Next Page



A Bidding Prayer

Presider: Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide, let it be our care and delight to hear again the message of the Angels, and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child; and let us make this place glad with our carols of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world; for peace and goodwill over all the earth; for the mission and unity of the Church for which he died, and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart, let us at this time remember in his name the poor and the helpless, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore and in a greater light, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in this Lord Jesus, we for evermore are one.

(Continued Next Page)

These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:

All: 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 Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **AMEN**.

(Please be seated)		
The First Lesson	Genesis 3: 8–15; 17–19	Nick Roberts

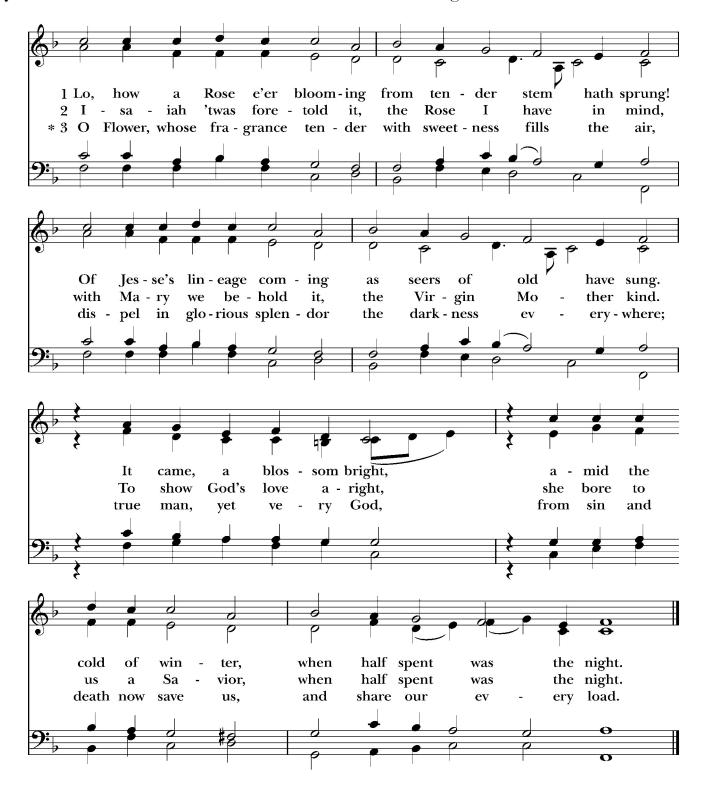
God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

The man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." And to the man he said,

"Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it', cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

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



5

The Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

The Word of the Lord.

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

All: Thanks be to God. Hymn 79 O little town of Bethlehem St. Louis Unison or harmony 0 lit Beth - le - hem, how still lie! 1 tle town of we see thee 2 For Christ is born of Ma and gath - ered all bove, ry; a 3 How si lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won-drous gift given! is bove thy deep and sleep the si - lent dream - less by; 1 Α stars go 2 while mor-tals sleep, the keep their watch of love. an - gels won-dering 3 So hu - man hearts the bless-ings God im-parts to of his heaven. thy dark streets shin eth the ev last - ing Light; yet in er -1 morn - ing stars, 2 0 geth er pro - claim the ho - ly birth! to _ 3 No may hear his com ing, but in this world of sin. ear -

Continued Next Page

O little town of Bethlehem



The Third Lesson

Isaiah 11: 1–3a; 4a; 6–9

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. With righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

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



Continued Next Page



and with his blood our life hath bought.

Refrain

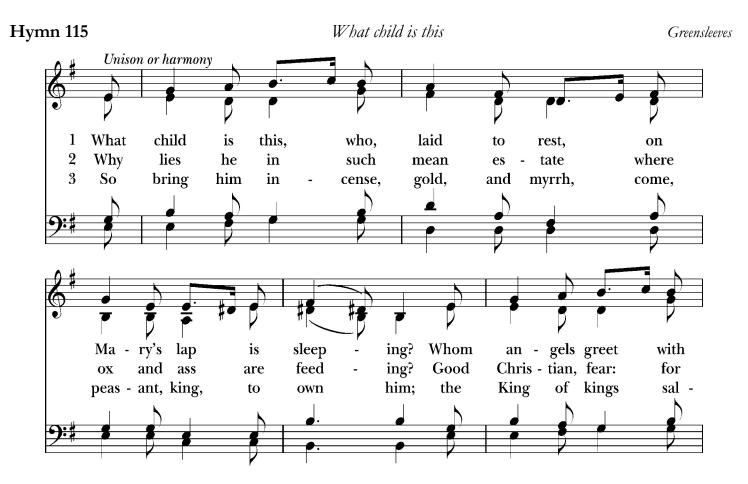
The Fourth Lesson

Luke 1: 26–35; 38

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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



Continued Next Page

What child is this



Luke 1: 39-56

Mary visits her relative Elizabeth and proclaims the greatness of the Lord.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

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

Hymn 105

God rest you merry, gentlemen

God Rest You Merry



The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2: 1; 3–7

Carol

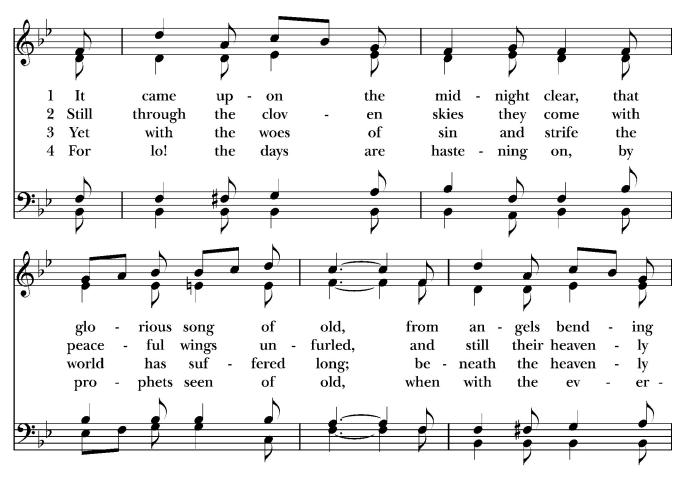
St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

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

Hymn 89

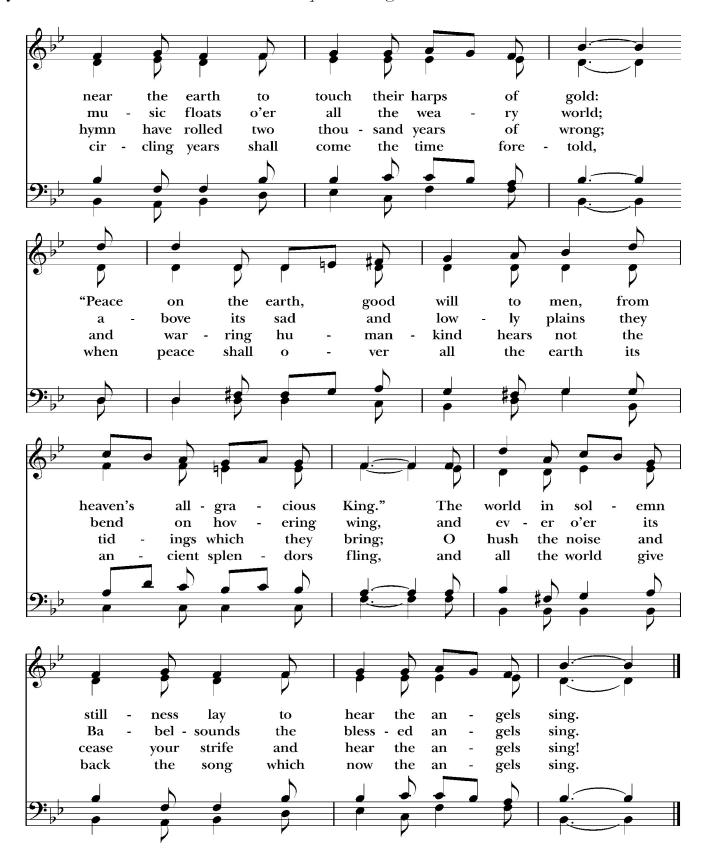
It came upon a midnight clear



Continued Next Page

14

Hymn 89



The Seventh Lesson

Luke 2: 8-16

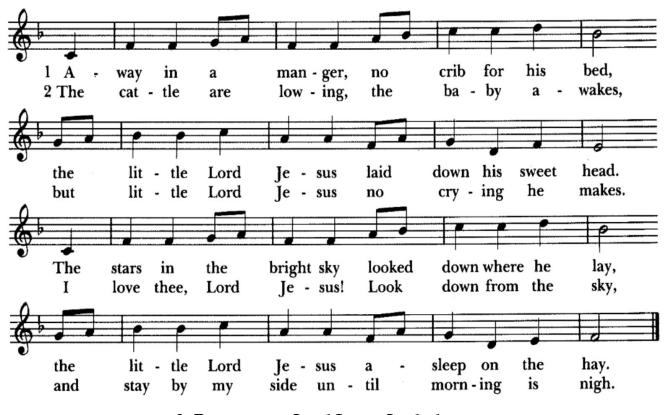
The shepherds go to the manger.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

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



3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay. Close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

The Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2: 1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

`And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'''

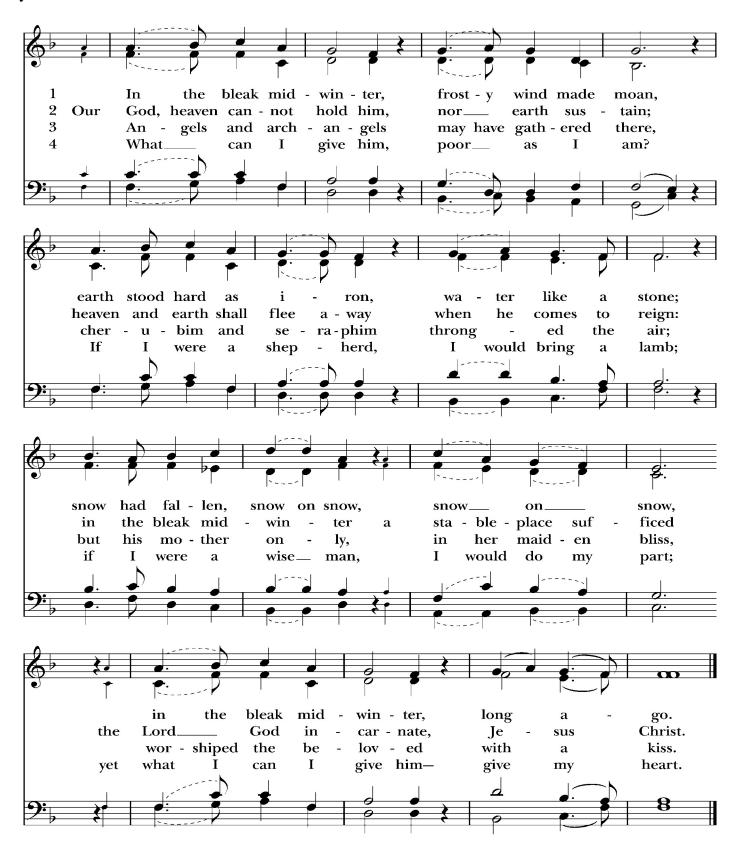
Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Hymn 112

In the bleak midwinter

Cranham



The Ninth Lesson

John 1: 1-14

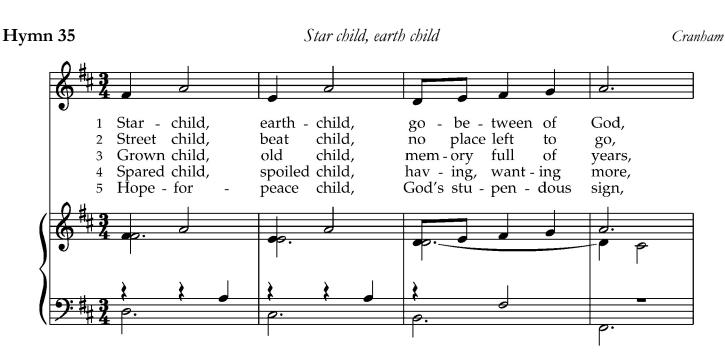
St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.



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

Continued Next Page

Star child, earth child



The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.*All:* And also with you.

(Please stand as you are able. All greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

(Please be seated)

Announcements and News of the Church Community

The Holy Communion or The Liturgy of the Table

Invitation to Holy Communion

Offertory

At The Presentation, Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN.

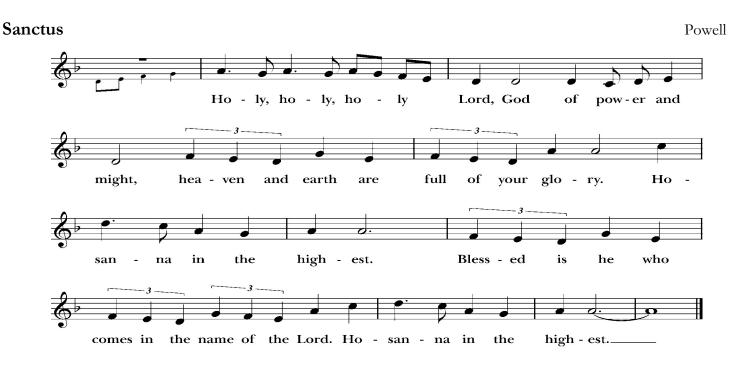
Divinum mysterium

(Please stand as you are able)

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider:	The Lord be with you.
<i>A11:</i>	And also with you.
Presider:	Lift up your hearts.
<i>All:</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
Presider:	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>All:</i>	It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. 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:





SCAN to DONATE

setting by Carl Schalk

The Eighth Tune

(Please stand as you are able)

Presider: 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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 Jesus 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, We remember Christ's death, We proclaim Christ's resurrection, We await Christ's coming in glory;

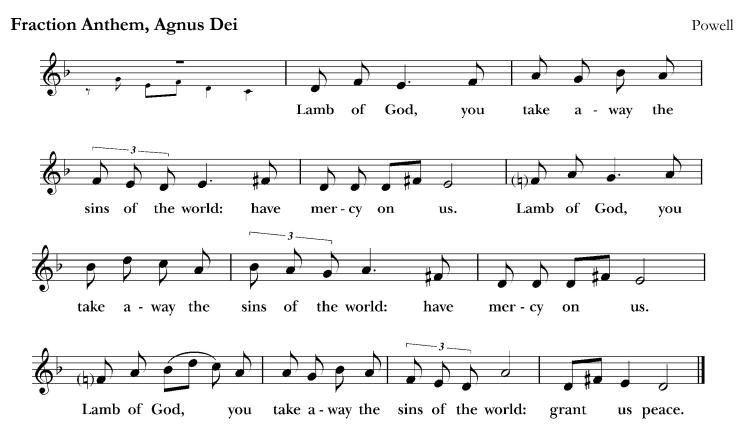
Presider: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 [______and] all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN**.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us,*All:* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



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

The Holy Communion: ALL are welcome to share in Communion.

Holy Communion

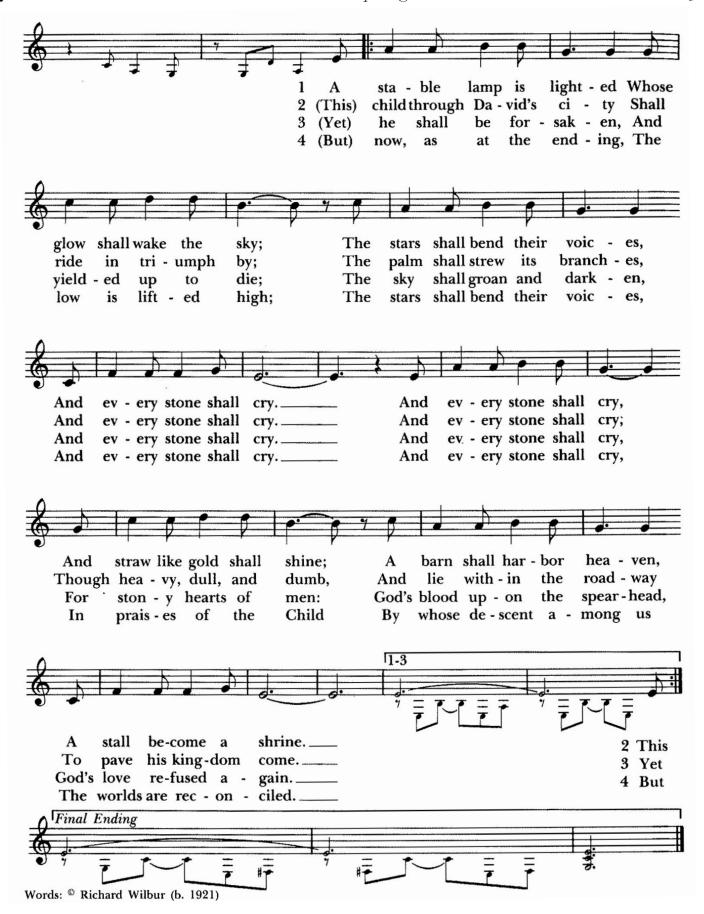
Come forward as the ushers direct you. When you arrive at the rail you may put out your hands to receive the bread/wafer. You may then either consume it, dip it lightly into the chalice, or take a sip of wine from the chalice. If you prefer a blessing only - cross your arms across your chest.

If you have any mobility concerns please alert the usher

and the clergy will bring communion to you.

A stable lamp is lighted

Andujar



Post Communion Prayer

Presider: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. AMEN.

The Blessing

(Please Stand)

Hymn 107

Good Christian friends, rejoice



The Dismissal

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, and one another. *All:* Thanks be to God.

The Bible texts of the Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel lessons are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Church of Christ in the USA, and used by permission.

Sanctus and Agnus Dei by Robert Powell © 1985, GLA Publications, Inc. "Star-child, earth child" © 1994, Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. OneLicense #A-400994.

RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN by placing it on one of the tables at the back of the room.

Please Remember in Your Prayers This Week:

<u>Parishioners</u>: Meredith Franklin, the Tucker family, Jerry Long, Kenneth Decker, Garry Land, Bobbie Aiken, Jo Tyler, Mike Craft, Keith MacKay, Betty Leviner, Lisette Johnson, Becky Lee, Robin Goodman, Mike Oliver, Steve Row, Margaret Franklin, Phyllis Iverson, Juette Iverson, Marsha Iverson, David Christiana, Samantha Ridley, and Bill Piercy.

Our extended family and friends: Debbie Abernathy, Jeffrey Matthews, Sandra Painter, Frank Eberly and family, the Owen Family, Ron, Pam, Jodi, Laurence, Sarah Grace, Duncan, Will, and the McDuff Family, John Golden III, Kathy, Suzanne, Cynthia, Barbara Taylor, Jane, Corey Sims, Karen Sokohl, Kathy Treaster, Florence, Edward, Stefan, Olivia, Michelle, Becca and her family, Don Foltz, Norma Hylton, Betty Kuhn, Vickie and her mom, Thorp, Fraser and the boys, Lyle, Candace Franco, Lee Hyden (Anne Kambourian's daughter), the Dummitt family, the Downey family, Elizabeth and David Hardison, Ginny Jones, Ronnie, Nicholas, the Sonant family, Gloria Wiley, Amy Burks, Kristy Rose, Martha, Randi Smith, Marion Broome, and Hollis Daniels.

Those celebrating birthdays: especially Terrance Prokosh, Kevin Cutro, and Izaak Cilyk.

Those celebrating anniversaries: especially Buck and Bobbie Aiken, and Steve and Mary Clark.

Those who have died:

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Pray for all the Baptized into Christ.

<u>Metro Richmond Cycle of Prayer</u>: We pray for the families of Metropolitan Richmond: For peace, reconciliation, and forgiveness among family members, whatever the distance and however old the hurt or grievance.

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Benjamin R. Badgett, Rector

The Rev. Charles D. Aiken, Jr., Associate Rector

The Rev. Dr. Sarah Kye Price, Priest Affiliate

Malinda Collier, Director of Lay Ministry/Formation

Amos Goldie, Minister of Music

Steve Barnes, Parish Administrator

Cassandra Price, Nursery

rector@stmarksrva.org buckaiken4@gmail.com office@stmarksrva.org dre@stmarksrva.org office@stmarksrva.org office@stmarksrva.org

Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday 11-4

Pastoral Emergencies 804-385-6821 OR 804-304-5062

THE VESTRY

2024: Karen Franklin, Pastoral Care Team Liaison

Rob McTier, Worship Team Liaison

Mickie Jones, Parish Life Team Liaison

2025: Blair McDuff, Evangelism Team Liaison

Scott Pennington, Sr. Warden, Property Team Liaison

Paul Shane, Finance Team Liaison

2026: Becky Adams, Education Team Liasion

Gaye Frugard, Outreach Team Liasion

Kate Williams, Jr. Warden, Stewardship Team Liasion

Ex-officio

Treasurer: Suzanne Long

Register: Mickie Jones

ST. MARK'S TRUSTEES:

Harold Wright

Beth Wentworth

Wes Kaufman

MINISTRY TEAMS AND CHAIRS:

Director of Lay Ministry and Formation, Malinda Collier

Gathered Ministry:

Karen Hardison, Worship

Annette Spanel, Pastoral Care

Open, Education

Fred Crowley, Parish Life

Sent Ministry:

Ed Street, Outreach

Suzanne Long, Evangelism

Penny Adams, Justice and Advocacy

Suzanne Long, Interim-Finance

Wes Kaufman & Dee Whitlow, Audit

Howard Pugh, Stewardship

Brent Graves, Property

Scott Pennington, Vestry

Michael Solberg, Personnel

To contact anyone listed above, please send an email to office@stmarksrva.org

All are Welcome Here

Diverse, Urban, Eucharist Centered, Service-Oriented

Thank you for joining us.

Please let us know how we may encourage you to serve the Lord with us by filling out the "Welcome" card found in the rack in front of you and placing it in the Offering Plate.

You may also speak to any clergy or greeters following the worship service.

Founded in 1866 to serve the working people of Richmond, St. Mark's Church is an active member of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia, 110 West Franklin Street, Richmond, VA, 23220, 804-643-8451, and the Anglican Communion.

The Rt. Rev. E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia The Rt. Rev. Gayle Elizabeth Harris, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia



520 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard, Richmond VA 23220 804-358-4771 stmarksrva.org