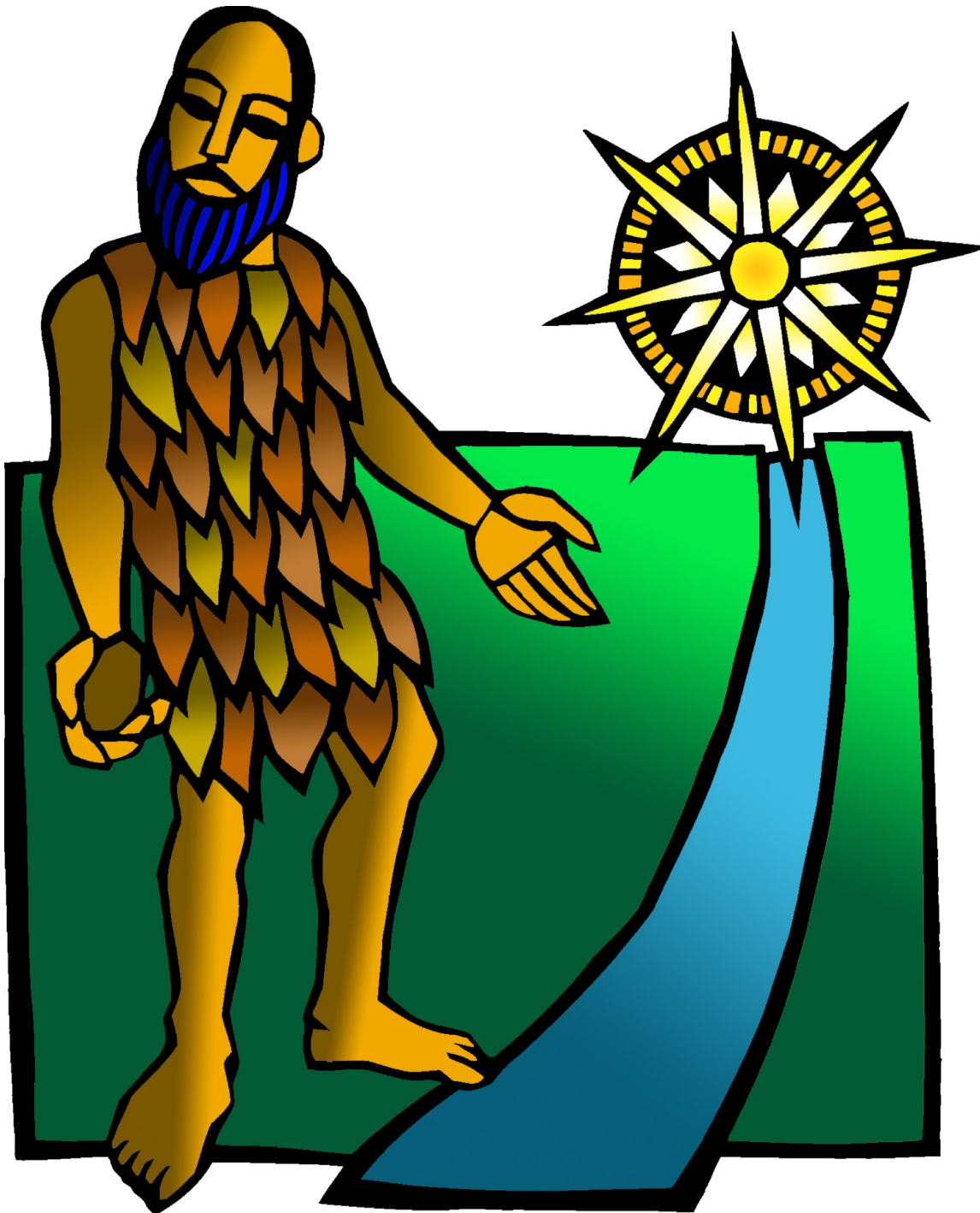


St. Mark's



Episcopal Church



www.stmarksnewbritain.org
www.facebook.com/saintmarksnb

P.O. Box 1538
90 Main Street
New Britain, CT 06050-1538
Parish Office: 860-225-7634
E-mail:
parishoffice@stmarksnewbritain.org

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

ZOOM & IN-PERSON SERVICE INFORMATION

Welcome. Our service will always be available on Zoom with Meeting ID 500-865-037. You can enter via the parish Web link at <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>. You may also enter by calling 1-646-558-8656. Please either print or have the bulletin open on a separate browser tab to participate fully in the service. (For more information on the Zoom service, please go to the back page of the bulletin.)

If there is a significant negative change in the trajectory of the Covid-19 pandemic, we will switch to Zoom-only worship. An email will be sent out to the parish to alert everyone if the service is to be Zoom only.

In-person services at 90 Main Street **will no longer require** that everyone wear a mask and maintain a safe distance inside the buildings of South Church. Please use your best judgement concerning mask use if you have been exposed to someone who tested positive. Masks will be available for those who need them. Thank you. *(Please see page 9 for more information.)*

Today we welcome the Reverend Joseph Pace as our Celebrant and Preacher.

Curtis Searle is our e-verger this week.



Entrance Hymn 65 *“Prepare the way, O Zion”*

Bereden väg för Herran



Lighting of Advent Candles and Collect

Lighting of Advent Candles and Collect

Responsive Litany - He Will Be Called Prince of Peace

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Prince of Peace.

R. The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of conflict, we look to the One who brings harmony.

R. The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of confusion, we look to the One who brings clarity.

R. The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of division, we look to the One who brings unity.

R. The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of separation, we look to the One who restores the broken.

R. The Lord gives strength to his people and blesses them with peace.



THE WORD OF GOD

Acclamation:

Celebrant: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: You come to your people and set them free.

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.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Word of the Lord.

(silence)

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146:4-9

Volunteer

Leader: Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, *
People: whose hope is in the LORD their God;
Leader: Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; *
People: who keeps his promise forever;
Leader: Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, *
People: and food to those who hunger.
Leader: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind; *
People: the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
Leader: The LORD loves the righteous; the LORD cares for the stranger; *
People: he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
Leader: The LORD shall reign forever, *
People: your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

The Second Lesson

Lector: Volunteer

James 5:7-10

A Reading from the letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

(silence)

R. Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 75 "There's a voice in the wilderness crying"

Ascension

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way before you.'

Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
(silence)

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Joseph Pace

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 III

Leader: Volunteer

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

People: That we all may be one.

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Leader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Leader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest;

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

[People may add their own petitions.]

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.

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.

Offertory Sentence

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



THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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 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:

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: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Celebrant and People: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this

holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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*.

Celebrant: 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: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

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

Communion is open to all baptized Christians, and for precautionary measures, only consecrated bread is distributed. If coming forward to receive the bread, please keep a respectful 6 foot distance from the people in front of you, if you do not live in the same dwelling.

To receive the bread, please extend your hands and keep them level. The priest will drop the wafer into your hands. Please take the bread back to your seat and consume it there, briefly moving your mask, to do so.

In Anglican liturgy, receiving bread is equivalent to receiving bread and wine.

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 Advent Blessing

Celebrant: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Dismissal Hymn 76 *“On Jordan’s bank the Baptist’s cry”*

Winchester New

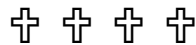
Announcements

Priest, Deacon or
Worship Leader:

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

People:

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.



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



Join us for Coffee Hour in Hart Hall following the service.



SAVE THE DATE

December 11 - 10:00 a.m. - Service in the Erwin Chapel with the Rev. Joseph Pace

December 13 - 6:45 a.m. - Vestry Meeting - Library

Friday, December 16 - Parish Office Closed

December 18 - 10:00 a.m. - Service in the Erwin Chapel with the Rev. Joseph Pace

December 23 & 26 Parish Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

December 24 & 25 - See schedule of Christmas services on page 11

January 1, 2023 - 10:00 a.m. - Service in the Erwin Chapel with the Rev. Joan Phelps

The Third Sunday of Advent - December 11, 2022

Longterm prayers are asked for: Irene Alibrio, Patricia Anderson, Sophia Anderson, Joe Arcari, Russell Atkinson, Bill Briggs, Cletus Cone, Patricia Cone, Dave, Debbie, Gary Hudkins, Margaret Hughes, Rachael Johnston, Katherine, Florence Kruvka, Linda, Lindsay, Louise, Ann Maltais, Christopher McLaughlin, Ron Napper, Gabriella Nauss, Kelly Nauss, Lori Nauss, Nancy Nowlak, Joseph O'Tulak, Olivia Pike, Benjamin Pisseri, P.J., Rae Robinson, Francis and Joann Rusczyk, Debbie Spak, Bud Wilcox, and Zachary.

Healing: Georgie Bethel, Phil Porter, Kelly Nauss, Stacey Albert, Manny Monteiro, Cheryl Hanson, Mike Krumrine, Claire Lucid, Danny, Edward Dubois, and Gail Bates.

ECCT Cycle of Prayer: St. Stephen's, Bloomfield; St. George's, Bolton; Trinity, Branford; Calvary St. George's, Bridgeport; and those who advocate at the local, state, national, or global level for the poor, the lonely, and the oppressed.

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

Parish families: Florence Kruvka, John Mackey, Ann Maltais, and Doug and Cheryl McDowell and family.

Those who have died, and those who are remembered today: William and Cora Scheuy, Harry and Lillie Scheuy, Olive M. Scheuy, Fordyce and Rosalie Coe, and Donald E. and Evelyn Briere.

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).



**2023 Stewardship
Pledge Cards**

Letters with pledge cards have been mailed. If you did not receive a pledge card, please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office and she will send one to you.

Please remember to return your Pledge Card! You may drop them into the plate on Sundays or mail them to the parish office.

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2022

The People of St. Mark's are encouraged to celebrate the birth of Our Savior at one of our local parishes. It is especially suggested that parishioners join one of the five congregations with whom we are considering a merger. Their Christmas worship schedules are as follows:

Grace Church, Newington: Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. Christmas Day 9:00 a.m.

St. Gabriel's, East Berlin: Christmas Eve 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

St. James, Farmington: Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Carol Sing and Family Service
Christmas Eve 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist Worship
Christmas Day 10:15 a.m. Christmas Day Worship Service

St. James', West Hartford: Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Children's Choir
Christmas Eve 9:30 p.m. Choral Eucharist with Musical Prelude

St. Paul's, Southington: Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service
Christmas Eve 9:30 p.m. Musical Prelude with Holy Eucharist
Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service



Grace Church, Newington Invites to St. Mark's

Grace Church in Newington, which we visited on October 16, has invited us to take part in any or all of the activities that they have coming up in the future.

2023

Monday, January 9, 12:00 – Fun and Games in Parish Hall

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