

St. Mark's



Episcopal Church



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

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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.

Allison Penick is our e-verger this week.



Entrance Hymn 65 "Prepare the way, O Zion"

Bereden väg för Herran

**Lighting of Advent Candles and Collect****Responsive Litany - He Will Be Called Everlasting Father**

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Everlasting Father.

R. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who knows our deepest thoughts.

R. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who cares for our deepest needs.

R. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who knows our most pressing concerns.

R. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who knows our innermost being.

R. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.



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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 7:10-16

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

The Word of the Lord.
(*silence*)

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Volunteer

Leader: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *

People: shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

Leader: In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *

People: stir up your strength and come to help us.

Leader: Restore us, O God of hosts; *

People: show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Leader: O LORD God of hosts, *

People: how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?

Leader: You have fed them with the bread of tears; *

People: you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

Leader: You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
People: **and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
 Leader: Restore us, O God of hosts; *
People: **show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**
 Leader: Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
People: **the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**
 Leader: And so will we never turn away from you; *
People: **give us life, that we may call upon your Name.**
 Leader: Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
People: **show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

The Second Lesson

Romans 1:1-7

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

(silence)

Sequence Hymn 56 "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

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

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

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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 IV

Leader: Volunteer

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

For all people in their daily life and work;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

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

The People may add their own petitions

Leader: Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great.

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

The People may add their own thanksgivings

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

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

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

The People may add their own petitions

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

People: Who put their trust in you.

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

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 B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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

Because 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: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People: **We remember his death,**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

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

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Mark and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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.**

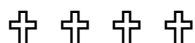
Dismissal Hymn 59 “Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding”

Merton

Announcements

Priest, Deacon or
Worship Leader:
People:

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.



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

Please join us for Coffee Hour in Hart Hall following the service.

THE VESTRY AND STAFF OF ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



WISH EVERYONE A BLESSED AND MERRY CHRISTMAS.

SAVE THE DATE

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

For Christmas Eve and Day Services, please see page 11.

January 1, 2023 - 10:00 a.m. - Service in the Erwin Chapel with the Rev. Joan Phelps
Monday, January 2 - Parish Office Closed - New Year's Day Observed

Tuesday, January 3 - 5:45 p.m. - Executive Committee Meeting - Zoom

Wednesday, January 4 - 7:00 p.m. - Finance Committee Meeting - Zoom

Sunday, January 8 - 10:00 a.m. - Service in the Erwin Chapel with the Rev. Joan Phelps

Tuesday, January 10 - 6:45 p.m. - Vestry Meeting - Zoom or Library

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

The Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 18, 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. Luke's, Bridgeport; St. John's, Bridgeport; St. Mark's, Bridgeport; for the children of the world, the Bishop's Fund for Children, and all ECCT ministries for children at risk.

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

Parish families: Joan Morgan, Edward and Shirley Murr, Kelly and Lori Nauss and family, Lenny and Marjola Nelson and family and Liese Niedermayer.

Those who have died, and those who are remembered today: Michael and Edith Clifford and Eleanor Forester.

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).

Beginning January 8th we will be refreshing our Longterm and Healing prayer lists. Please contact Cheryl in the parish office to keep someones name on the prayer lists. Thank you.



**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.

On-Line access: Zoom: Meeting ID: 786 697 1764

Password: 83043516

Phone number: 1-646-931-3860

St. Gabriel's, East Berlin:

Christmas Eve 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

On-Line access: Zoom: Meeting ID: 546 920 9960

Password: Jesus

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

On-Line access: www.stjamesfarmington.org

Click on the "f" at the top of the page

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

On-line access: Go to - www.stjameswh.org

Click on Livestream Services

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

On-line access: www.stpaulct.org

Click on Worship and then click on Facebook Live link (You do NOT need a Facebook account to use join this service.)

This is the same access information we had for our visits.

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