

St. Mark's



Episcopal Church



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that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

The Word of the Lord.
(*silence*)

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 121
Volunteer

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
People: from where is my help to come?
Leader: My help comes from the LORD, *
People: the maker of heaven and earth.
Leader: He will not let your foot be moved *
People: and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
Leader: Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
People: shall neither slumber nor sleep;
Leader: The LORD himself watches over you; *
People: the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
Leader: So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
People: nor the moon by night.
Leader: The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
People: it is he who shall keep you safe.
Leader: The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
People: from this time forth forevermore.

The Second Lesson
Lector: Volunteer

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) - in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord.
(*silence*)

R. Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 147 “Now let us all with one accord”

Bourbon

The Holy Gospel

John 3:1-17

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.
(silence)

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Stephen Hard, M. Div.
Senior Warden

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

Leader: Volunteer

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.

The Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Celebrant and People:

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.

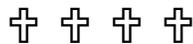
Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Celebrant and People: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Worship Leader or
Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Dismissal Hymn LEVAS 121 "Baptized in Water" Hancock



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

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 5 - 10:00 a.m. - 2 Lent -Service in the Erwin Chapel

Tuesday, March 7 - 5:45 p.m. - Executive Committee Zoom meeting

Wednesday, March 8 - 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Zoom meeting

**Sunday, March 12 - Daylight Savings Time begins -
Remember to turn your clocks 1 hour AHEAD**

Sunday, March 12 - 10:00 a.m. - 3 Lent - Service in the Erwin Chapel

Tuesday, March 14 - 6:45 p.m. Vestry Meeting

Thursday, March 17 - Happy St. Patrick's Day

**Sunday, March 18 - 10:00 a.m. - 4 Lent - Service in the Erwin Chapel
with the Rev. Joseph Pace**

**Sunday, March 26 - 10:00 a.m. - 5 lent - Service in the Erwin Chapel
with the Rev. Joseph Pace**



Dear Friends,

You have been so loving as you reached out to me while I am recovering from Rotator Cuff surgery. Your cards, your many and ongoing prayers, the beautiful prayer shawl and so much more, have deeply touched me. When discouraged and doubtful, I know you are sending so many great vibes, of course to the Source of all healing, as well as to me. it is fantastic knowing I am held in prayer along with so many who are in much greater need than me.

THANK YOU! God bless you all. My prayers are with you on your collective journey to next steps.

Peace,
Joan Phelps

The Second Sunday in Lent - March 5, 2023

Longterm prayers are asked for: Irene Alibrio, Patricia Anderson, Gail Bates, Bill Briggs, Barbara Canzonetti, Cletus Cone, Patricia Cone, Danny, Edward Dubois, Gary Hudkins, Margaret Hughes, Mike Krumrine, Florence Kruvka, Claire Lucid, Ann Maltais, Kelly Nauss, Rae Robinson, Francis and Joann Rusczyk and Harry Thompson.

Healing: Barbara Campbell, Patricia Anderson, Brody Searle, Elora Cass, Missy Sawyer, Georgie Bethel, Stacey Albert, Manny Monteiro, and Cheryl Hanson.

ECCT Cycle of Prayer: St. Monica's, Hartford; Trinity, Hartford; St. Peter's, Hebron; St. James', Higganum; all ministries to, with, and for women and the Girl's Friendly Society.

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

Parish families: Corbin Hilton, Chuck and Sharon Downie, Paul Eshoo, Paul and Yvonne Gerardi and Mark Giulietti and Stephen Hard.

Those who have died, and those who are remembered today: Myrtle and George Norton and Mark Norton.

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.

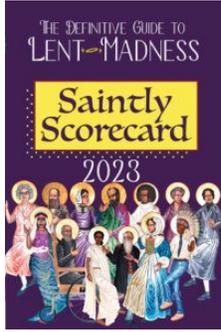
St. Marks keeps going in God's way, God's time, and to God's glory.

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).



Sunday, March 12th
Remember to turn your clocks
ahead 1 hour!



Want a different Lenten discipline?

Try Lent Madness.

How to play?

Go to Lentmadness 2023. <http://www.lentmadness.org/>

Subscribe to the blog. Click on Bracket 2023 to get the names of saints pitted against each

other. Everyday there will be a new matchup.

Read the bios on the saints and vote for your favorite.

See the grid posted on the bulletin board outside the parish office.

Lent Madness begins on February 23rd.

**Lenten Discipline - Helping Capital Community College
Christ Church Cathedral is inviting you to join in a
Lenten Discipline of loving and caring for our neighbors.**

Let us support our college students. Recent statistics are concerning. 40% of college students suffer from food insecurity. Many of the students are beneficiaries of SNAP Vouchers (formerly called Food Stamps), which do not allow for the purchase of personal hygiene products.

Therefore, we invite your faith community and it's members to **collect one personal care hygiene product for each week of Lent to benefit Capital Community College (CCC) Food Pantry.**

The items in the greatest need at Capital Community Food Pantry are:

**Soap – Shampoo – Deodorant – Conditioner - Feminine hygiene products
Items can be dropped off in box in the church office. Thank you!**

We will deliver these items to our Cathedral from Wednesday, April 12th to Friday, April 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm or Sunday April 16th from 12:pm to 1:00pm. Imagine what we as the North Central Region of ECCT can collectively accomplish for the students.

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