

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

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

Allison Penick is our e-verger this week.



Entrance Hymn 66 "Come, thou long-expected Jesus"

Stuttgart



Lighting of Advent Candles and Collect

Third Candle - The Candle of Joy - Mary the Mother of Jesus

Leader: Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Last Sunday we lit the Candle of Love. We light it and the Candles of Hope and Peace again as we remember that Jesus, born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill all of God's promises and bring us everlasting peace and joy.

(A person lights the Candles of Hope, Peace, and Love)

Today we light the Fourth Candle of Advent, the Candle of Joy. When the angel Gabriel told Mary that a special child would be born to her she was filled with joy. She sang a song that began with the words: "My soul magnifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour." Just as the birth of Jesus gave great joy to his mother, so his presence in the world gave joy to those who had none before. He healed them and gave them hope and peace when they believed in him. From hope, peace, and love grow joy.

We light the Candle of Joy to remind us that when Jesus is born in us we have joy and that through him there will be everlasting joy on earth.

(A person lights the Fourth Candle the Candle of Joy)

Joy is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.

Responsive Litany - He Will Be Called Mighty God

People: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

Leader: We look to the One in whom we find redemption.

People: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

Leader: We look to the One who forgives our sins.

People: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

Leader: We look to the One who overcomes the darkness.

People: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

Leader: We look to the One who had come to set us free.

People: You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

Leader: Let us Pray:

All: Thank you God for the joy you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come

true, and for the Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will be sharing your joy with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.



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

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from the Second book of Samuel.

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The Word of the Lord.
(*silence*)

R. Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Canticle 3: The Song of Mary

Leader: My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
People: **and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.**
Leader: For he hath regarded *
People: **the lowliness of his handmaiden.**
Leader: For behold from henceforth *
People: **all generations shall call me blessed.**
Leader: For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
People: **and holy is his Name.**
Leader: And his mercy is on them that fear him *
People: **throughout all generations.**
Leader: He hath showed strength with his arm; *
People: **he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**
Leader: He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
People: **and hath exalted the humble and meek.**
Leader: He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
People: **and the rich he hath sent empty away.**
Leader: He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
People: **as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.**

The Second Lesson

Romans 16:25-27

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans.

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith - to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

(silence)

Sequence Hymn 60 *"Creator of the stars of night"*

Conditor alme siderum

The Holy Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

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

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

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. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with 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.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

(silence)

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 I

Leader: Volunteer

Leader: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples,
let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For our Bishop, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For this city of New Britain, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray
to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to

the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: In the communion of St. Mark and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People: To thee, O Lord our God.

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.

All baptized Christians are invited to Communion. Receiving the bread alone is sufficient for full participation. Those who wish to receive from the chalice by intinction are asked to approach the chalice first. Only after those who wish to receive in this way have intincted, should those who wish to drink from the chalice approach to receive.

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.**

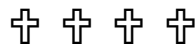
Dismissal Hymn 438 *“Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord”*

Woodlands

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.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, December 24 4 Advent 10:00 a.m. Service in the Erwin Chapel,
Rev. Joe Pace Celebrant
Sunday, December 24 *8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service - Erwin Chapel,
Rev. Joe Pace Celebrant
Monday, December 25 Christmas Day Parish Office Closed
Tuesday, December 26 Parish Office Closed
Sunday, December 31 10:00 a.m. Service in the Erwin Chapel,
Rev. Joe Pace Celebrant
Monday, January 1, 2024 New Year's Day Parish Office Closed

Worship Schedule for St. Mark's

Below is a listing of our Sunday worship schedule for January 2024.
Please note that this list may be subject to change at any time.
Any changes will be noted in our weekly bulletin.

Date	Time	Place	Celebrant
January 7, 2024	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel	Rev. Joan Phelps Celebrant
January 14	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel	Rev. Joseph Pace Celebrant
January 21	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel	Rev. Joan Phelps Celebrant
January 28	10:00 a.m.	Erwin Chapel	Rev. Joseph Pace Celebrant

Please watch the bulletin and our website for any changes: www.stmarksnewbritain.org

The Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 24, 2023

Longterm prayers are asked for: Stacey Albert, Irene Alibrio, Patricia Anderson, Aaron, Georgie Bethel, Bill Briggs, Barbara Canzonetti, Elora Cass, Jose Chavez, Bea Chevalier, Cletus Cone, Patricia Cone, Ben Gryk, Cheryl Hanson, Norm Holland, Gary Hudkins, Margaret Hughes, Mike Krumrine, Florence Kravka, Claire Lucid, Ann Maltais, Manny Monteiro, Kelly Nauss, Rae Robinson, Francis and Joann Rusczyk, Brody Searle, Harry Thompson, and Frank Williams.

Healing: Anna Levesque, Barbara Campbell, Norm Holland, Janet Marshall, Betty Ann Hadder, and Manny Monteiro.

ECCT Cycle of Prayer: St. Luke/St. Paul, Bridgeport; St. John's, Bridgeport; St. Mark's, Bridgeport; for the children of the world, the Bishops' Fund for Children, and all ECCT ministries for children at risk and The Episcopal Church in the Philippines.

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

Parish families: Oscar and Gertrude Yagoobian, Beth Yannello, Luke Zielinski, Edmund Zup and Ronald and Lisa Zup.

Those who have died, and those who are remembered today: Gladys Cox.

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).



THE VESTRY AND
STAFF (CHERYL) WISH
EVERYONE A BLESSED
CHRISTMAS AND A
JOYOUS NEW YEAR!



2023 CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE MEMORIAL LIST

Deceased members of
the Agostinucci family
Deceased members of the Altar Guild
Benjamin J. Benjamin
Daniel J. Benjamin
Jacob and Kandap Benjamin
Joseph J. Benjamin, Sr.
Anne Bertini
John and Ruby Bertini
Mr. and Mrs. O.F. Bertini
Bruce Buckman
Gary W. Buckman
Joan Buckman
William M. Buckman
Deceased members of
the Clifford family
Fordyce and Rosalie Coe
David Corson
Jean Corson
Phillip Creel
Deceased members of
The Daughters of the King
Alexandra "Sandy" Dempsey
Paul L. Dempsey
Helen and Edgar Farnlof
Karen Farnlof
Frances E. Farrell
Bernice Fazzina
Eleanor M. Forster
Arthur N. Fowler
Arthur S. Fowler
Sara Fowler
Ann R. Fowler
Robert French
Deceased members of
the Giuliatti family
Mabel Gordon
Deceased members of
the Hard family
Glenna and Kent Hartling
Deceased members of
the Harvey Family

Eveleen and George W. Holland, Jr.
Alex Horachko
Anthony and Katherine
Horachko
Curtis and DeGi Jennings
Edward and Jean King
Dorothy Kroncke
Eliza and John Kroncke
James P. and Olga Kroncke
Helen McDowell
Malcolm McDowell, Sr.
Rev. Malcolm McDowell, Jr.
Harriett Birdsey Mitchell
Howard Gwynne Mitchell
Anna Molschan
Nicholas Molschan
George and Myrtle Norton
Mark Norton
William and Esther Robinson, Sr.
William H. Robinson, Jr.
Mary Robinson
Nancy Ross
Deceased members of
St. Elizabeth's Guild
Harry and Lillie Scheuy
William and Cora Scheuy
Ruth Smigala
Edward Smigala
Veronica Taylor
Deceased member of
the Tompkins Family
Jennifer Wallberg



Our service will 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.

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