

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 1538, New Britain, Connecticut 06050-1538

Parish office (90 Main Street): 860-225-7634

Email: parishoffice@stmarksnewbritain.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintmarksnb

Parish Web site with service information: <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saintmarksnb

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost (*Proper 27*)

November 8, 2020

Zoom coffee hour 9:30 am; Zoom service 10 am; Zoom coffee hour after the service.

Enter via the parish Web link at <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>.

There is also a telephone number you could call on your phone to join the Zoom service:

1-646-558-8656 (phone charges may apply for the telephone call if you don't not have unlimited calling).

Skype phone service continues at 10:50 am on Sundays. Fr. Shaw would call those who are interested.

**A YouTube playlist of St. Mark's Sunday services has been created, for your use at any time in the week,
via a link on the main parish Web page: <http://www.stmarksnewbritain.org>**

Hymn 436 "Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates" vss. 1-3, 5

Truro

(everyone muted except instrumentalist and cantor; everyone else sing where they are)

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Collect For Purity

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.**

The Gloria

Celebrant sets the pace.

People and Celebrant, *remembering to pause at the punctuation:*

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:**

**have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day - The Lord be with you.

R. And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray together, remembering to pause at the punctuation, to let the technology synchronize.
Celebrant sets the pace.

People and Celebrant, *remembering to pause at the punctuation:*

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from the book of Wisdom.

Wisdom is radiant and unfading,
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,
and is found by those who seek her.
She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.
One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,
for she will be found sitting at the gate.
To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,
because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,
and meets them in every thought.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Canticle: A Song of the Love of Wisdom

Lector: Volunteer

Leader: The beginning of wisdom *
People: **is the true desire to receive teaching,**
Leader: and a longing to be taught *
People: **comes from a love of her;**
Leader: the one who loves her *
People: **will keep her laws.**
Leader: Observing the laws of wisdom *
People: **assures immortality,**
Leader: and immortality brings one *
People: **nearer still to God;**
Leader: so the desire for wisdom *
People: **leads to the authority of one who rules.**

The Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Lector: Volunteer

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Thessalonians.

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 68 "Rejoice! Rejoice, believers"

Llangloffan

(everyone muted except instrumentalist and cantor; everyone else sing where they are)

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

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

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

[Jesus said,] “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Reverend Dr. Shaw Mudge

The Nicene Creed

**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 VI

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 Ian and Laura our Bishops; and for Shaw our Priest, and for all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader: For all those who have served their country in the Armed Forces and 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.

Leader: Let us pray together, the Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Celebrant sets the pace.

People and Celebrant, remembering to pause at the punctuation:

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: God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Offertory reminder: Please remember to support the work of Christ through St. Marks', either by mailing your financial contributions to the parish post office box or by sending a check via your bank's bill-paying Web page to the parish post office box (the address is listed towards the end of the bulletin). Thank you. People like yourself help make St. Mark's special.

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Ephesians 5:2

Celebrant sets the pace.

People and Celebrant, remembering to pause at the punctuation:

(Traditional)

(Contemporary)

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say

**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.**

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us to
pray:

**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.**

The Blessing

Priest: Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Dismissal Hymn 594 "God of grace and God of glory"

Cwm Rhondda

(everyone muted except instrumentalist and cantor; everyone else sing where they are)



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple pour thy power;
2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as - sail his ways!
3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to thy con - trol;
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils we de - plore;



crown thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; bring her bud to glo - rious flower.
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise:
shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in things and poor in soul.
let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our glo - ry ev - er - more.



Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -



hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
days, for the liv - ing of these days.
goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.



When a priest is present, the service ends with the dismissal:

Priest: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

When a priest is not present, the service ends with the Grace, led by a worship leader or deacon:

Worship Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore.

People: **Amen.**

Announcements, as had.

A helpful note: If you have caller I.D., please note that Fr. Shaw Mudge may be calling from 518-577-2578 (and you may use this 2578 number to reach Fr. Shaw, by leaving him either a text message or a phone message) or, he may be calling from 518-632-4058 (a Skype line that does not handle messages all that well).

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost – November 8, 2020

Longterm prayers are asked for: Irene Alibrio, Sophia Anderson, Russell Atkinson, Bill Briggs, Patricia Cone, Cletus Cone, Henry Coutere, Dave, Debbie, Ron DeRobertis, Elaine, Nancy Fields, Thomas Hard, Gary Hudkins, Margaret Hughes, Rachael Johnston, Katherine, Florence Kruvka, Pauline Liese, Lindsay, Louise, Carolyn Mansolf, Christopher McLaughlin, Fran Montoya, Gabriella Nauss, Lori Nauss, Nancy Nowlak, Joseph O'Tulak, Olivia Pike, Benjamin Pisseri, P.J., Jack Polinco, Francis and Joann Rusczyk, Debbie Spak, Frank Williams, Zachary.

Prayers are offered for:

Healing: Gail Koerner, John Pilla, Robert Haydasz, Patricia Anderson, Kelly Nauss, Bill Briggs, Claire Lucid, Laura Rocco, Danny, Irene Alibrio, Sue Savage, Ann Maltais, Rae Robinson, Edward Dubois, Barbara Campbell, Gail Bates, Mary Gould, Linda, Gary, and Ron Napper.

ECCT Cycle of Prayer: Christ and Holy Trinity, Westport; Trinity, Wethersfield; St. Paul's, Willimantic; St. Matthew's, Wilton; all deacons and the Deacons' Council, and the Province 1 School for Deacons.

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

Parish families: Ian and Sylvia Lucas, Jerry and Deborah Lynch, John Mackey, Ann Maltais and John Marshall.

Those who have died, and those who are remembered today: Ann Orvis Lucas.

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.

People can gather and talk at Coffee Hour before the service or after the service.

Please remember to turn your phone volume down slightly on the Skype call.

Please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office if you have any questions.

Planned Meetings and ministries for November:

November 10th 6:45 p.m. – Vestry Zoom Meeting

The Food Pantry ministry continues on Mondays (9 to 2) and Thursdays (9 to 12).

Dear friends,

Governor Lamont is planning to implement anti-coronavirus strategy Phase 2.1, to be implemented at 12 a.m., this coming Friday, November 6.

If you are unfamiliar with the intention, please review the YouTube video. He seems to be saying that Massachusetts will be doing something similar on the same day.

For Connecticut religious gatherings, as we move into the holiday season and people are heading more indoors (see especially 8:45 into the video, as well as elsewhere in the video):

*50% capacity, 100 people maximum.

*Virtual services encouraged (considered by Governor Lamont as by far the safest way to meet, especially for elder parishioners)

In general:

* Phase 2.1 is slightly ahead of Phase 2, yet not Phase 3.

* Mask wearing, washing hands, safe distancing.

* Governor Lamont's briefing mentioned last week that the virus is now more prevalent among people who are 5 to 10 years younger than the main older group last Spring, so the "stay safe, stay home focus" is now on people age 60+ (over age 60), down from the age 65+ in the Spring, and is probably related to that finding (see about 10:18 into the video, and following).

The bishops may have more on this tomorrow.

God bless you, peace, and take care,

Fr. Shaw

St. Mark's online, Skype, and YouTube services continue.

STEWARDSHIP

Your **PLEDGE CARD**

wants to go to church

needs to go **to church**

belongs in church

Is happiest **with other PLEDGE CARDS**

In church!

HYMNALS FOR HOME USE



If you would like a hymnal to use at home during Zoom services, please contact Cheryl in the Parish Office (860-225-7634 or parishoffice@stmarksnewbritain.org)

Hymnals will be available for “No Contact” pick up.

To pick up, please come to the lower parking lot door and ring the door bell. Cheryl will bring the hymnal the doorway and will place it on the step for you to take. We are sorry, but they cannot be mailed.



Interfaith Thanksgiving Zoom Service

Sunday, November 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

To join the Zoom Meeting go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88962036520?pwd=d1hsUVdjWFBMYzViT2pTWmRFMDdEQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 6203 6520

Passcode: 787695

St. Mark's: "Open to God's Love - Serving Our Neighbor"