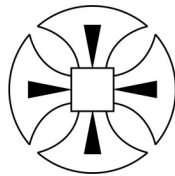


THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
THE HOLY EUCHARIST  
TOGETHER WITH  
A CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



CHRISTMAS EVE  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023  
5 P.M.

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
COLUMBUS, OHIO

*We gather quietly for a period of meditation and reflection.*

*Kindly silence all mobile devices and refrain from the use of flash photography throughout the service.*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## VOLUNTARY

Variations on *Sussex Carol*

Raymond H. Haan (b. 1958)

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN 83, STANZAS 1, 2, 3, AND 6 (*standing, sung by all*)

“O come, all ye faithful”

*Adeste fideles*

John Francis Wade (1711–1786)

att. John Francis Wade

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;

*Refrain*  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing;

*Refrain*

## OPENING ACCLAMATION (*standing*)

*Celebrant*

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

*People*

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY *(standing)*

*Celebrant* Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this night of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever.

*People* Amen.

*Please be seated and remain seated until the Lighting of the Christmas Candle.*

## NARRATIVE I: Christ's birth is foretold.

*Reader* Tonight's Christmas Pageant invites us to re-enter the wonderful events of the nativity of our Lord. As we draw near to Bethlehem, we remember the deepest hungers of an ancient Hebrew people as they look forward to the birth of a king who will save them.

For the Lord has spoken by the prophet, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel which means, *God with us*." (Matthew 1:22–23)

## HYMN 56, STANZA I *(sung by all)*

"O come, O come, Emmanuel"

Latin, 9th century

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

Plainsong, Mode 1 (15th century)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

## NARRATIVE II: The decree of Augustus.

*Reader* In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. And all went to be counted, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, the City of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. (Luke 2:1–5)

## HYMN 79, STANZA I *(sung by all)*

"O little town of Bethlehem"

Phillips Brooks (1835–1893)

*St. Louis*

Lewis H. Redner (1831–1908)

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

## NARRATIVE III: Mary and Joseph set out.

*Reader* As Mary and Joseph made their way to Bethlehem, they found the trip to be long and tiring. And when they arrived, they found that there was no place for them at the inn. (Luke 2:7)

**HYMN 112, STANZA I** (*sung by all*)

“In the bleak midwinter”

Christina Rossetti (1830–1894)

*Cranham*

Gustav Holst (1874–1934)

In the bleak midwinter,  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak midwinter,  
Long ago.

**NARRATIVE IV: Jesus is born.**

*Reader* As Mary and Joseph settled into their temporary lodgings, it felt good to get under shelter after the long journey. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger. (Luke 2:6–7)

**ANTHEM** (*Canterbury Choir*)

*Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

“Joseph dearest, Joseph mine,  
Help me cradle the child divine;  
God reward thee and all that’s thine  
In paradise,”  
So prays the mother Mary.

“Gladly, dear one, lady mine,  
Help I cradle this child of thine;  
God’s own light on us both shall shine  
In paradise,  
As prays the mother Mary.”

He came among us at Christmastide,  
At Christmastide in Bethlehem;  
Men shall bring him from far and wide  
Love’s diadem:  
Jesus, Jesus,  
Lo, he comes, and loves, and saves, and frees us!

He came among us at Christmastide,  
At Christmastide in Bethlehem;  
Men shall bring him from far and wide  
Love’s diadem:  
Jesus, Jesus,  
Lo, he comes, and loves, and saves, and frees us!

Text: Traditional German Carol (c.1500)

Madalyn Ralley and Alex Reed, *soloists*

**NARRATIVE V: The shepherds and the angels.**

*Reader* And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them:

*Angel* “Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you; you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”  
(Luke 2:8–12)

**HYMN 109, STANZA I** (*sung by all*)

“The first Nowell”

English carol, 18th century

*The First Nowell*

harm. John Stainer (1840–1901)

The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.  
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.

**NARRATIVE VI: Gloria in excelsis.**

*Reader* And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the Heavenly Host, praising God and saying:

*Angels* “Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”  
(Luke 2:13,14)

**HYMN 96, STANZA I** (*sung by all*)

“Angels we have heard on high”

French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813–1882)

*Gloria*  
arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887–1958)

**Angels we have heard on high,  
singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply  
echoing their brave delight.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**NARRATIVE VII: The Friendly Beasts.**

*Reader* As we celebrate the wonder of the first Christmas, let us listen to the Friendly Beasts recalling their own gifts on this very special night.

**ANTHEM** (*Canterbury Choir*)

*The Friendly Beasts*  
arr. Audrey Snyder (b. 1953)

Jesus, our brother, strong and good,  
Was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around him stood;  
Jesus, our brother, strong and good.

I, said the donkey, shaggy and brown,  
I carried His mother uphill and down,  
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town;  
I, said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

I, said the cow, all white and red,  
I gave Him my manger for His bed,  
I gave Him my hay to pillow His head,  
I, said the cow, all white and red.

I, said the sheep with curly horn,  
I gave Him my wool for His blanket warm,  
He wore my coat on Christmas morn;  
I, said the sheep with curly horn.

I, said the dove from the rafters high,  
I cooed Him to sleep that He should not cry,  
We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I;  
I, said the dove from the rafters high.

Thus, ev’ry beast by some good spell,  
In the stable dark was glad to tell,  
Of the gift he gave Immanuel,  
The gift he gave Immanuel.

Text: Robert Davis (1881–1950)

Gabe Ralley and Veronica Warren, *donkey*  
Daniel Park and Gwendolyn Warren, *cow*  
Betty Grace Barker and David Park, *sheep*  
Elisa Bester, *dove*

**NARRATIVE VIII: The gifts of the magi.**

*Reader* Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold, wise sages from the East came to Jerusalem saying:

*Three Kings* “Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him.”

*Reader* They offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:1,2,11b)

## HYMN 128

“We three kings of Orient are”  
John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820–1891)

*Three Kings of Orient*  
John Henry Hopkins, Jr.

*Stanza 1: sung by all*  
*Stanzas 2, 3, and 4: sung by soloists*  
*Stanza 5: sung by all*  
*Choir & Congregation join in the **Refrain** for each verse.*

*Stanza 1*      **We three kings of Orient are,  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain,  
moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.**

*Stanza 3*      Frankincense to offer have I:  
(*soloist*)      incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising,  
gladly raising,  
worship him, God Most High.  
**Refrain**

*Refrain*      **O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading,  
Still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

*Stanza 4*      Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
(*soloist*)      breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing,  
bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.  
**Refrain**

*Stanza 2*      Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain,  
(*soloist*)      gold I bring to crown him again,  
King for ever,  
ceasing never  
over us all to reign.  
**Refrain**

*Stanza 5*      **Glorious now behold him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
heaven sings alleluia:  
alleluia the earth replies.**  
**Refrain**

Charlotte Davis, Maria Bester, and Michael Bester, *soloists*

## NARRATIVE IX: Behold the holy family.

*Reader*      Before we leave the Manger, as we prepare to gather as the Family of God for the Holy Eucharist, let us pause in peace, and sing to the little Lord Jesus.

## HYMN 101, STANZA I (*sung by all*)

“Away in a manger”  
Traditional carol

*Cradle Song*  
melody William James Kirkpatrick (1838–1921)

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE (*standing*)

*Celebrant*      The word was made flesh and dwelt among us:  
*People*      **And we beheld his glory.**

*The Christmas candle is now lit.*

*Celebrant*      Let us pray.  
Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*People*      **Amen.**

**THE PEACE** (*standing*)

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*We greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**WELCOME**

## The Holy Eucharist

**THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** (*Canterbury Choir*)

*Good Christians All, Rejoice*  
German melody (14th century)  
arr. Marie Pooler (1928–2013)

Good Christians all, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and sheep before him bow,  
And he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

Good Christians all, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath ope'd the heav'nly door,  
And we are blessed evermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christians all, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
To gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; translated by John M. Neale (1818–1866), alt.

*During the preparation of the altar, the Nativity scene is completed as the baby Jesus is placed in the crèche.*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING—PRAYER B** (*standing*)

*BCP, p. 367*

*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 God 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.



*Celebrant*

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

**SANCTUS (HYMNAL S-129)** (*standing, sung by all*)

Robert Powell (b. 1932)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and

might, hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.\_\_\_\_\_

*The People stand or kneel.*

*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,

*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 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.

*People*

**AMEN.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP, p. 364

*Celebrant*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD *(standing or kneeling)*

BCP, p. 364

*Celebrant*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People*

**Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

## AGNUS DEI (HYMNAL S-163) *(standing or kneeling, sung by all)*

Robert Powell

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

*Celebrant*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*The ushers will direct you to the communion rail. You may stand or kneel at the rail. If you need communion brought to your pew, please let an usher know.*

*You may receive the bread only or receive the bread and the chalice.*

*If you are receiving the bread only, please cross your arms over your chest as the chalice comes by.*

*If you are receiving the chalice, please guide the base of the chalice as you take a sip.*

*If you are uncomfortable receiving communion, if you come to the rail and cross your arms over your chest, you will receive a blessing.*

*Please let the priest know if you need a gluten-free wafer.*

## COMMUNION ANTHEM *(Canterbury Choir)*

*Ave Maria*

Simon Lindley (b. 1948)

Ave Maria, gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum,  
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.  
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,  
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,  
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Text: Offertory on the Fourth Sunday of Advent

**COMMUNION HYMN 115** *(seated, sung by all)*

“What child is this, who, laid to rest”

William Chatterton Dix (1837–1898)

*Greensleeves*harm. *Christmas Carols New and Old* (1871)

*Unison or harmony*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with  
ox and ass are feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for  
peas - ant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal -

an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

*Refrain*

This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds  
guard and an - gels sing; haste, haste to  
bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

*During the oblations the ushers will come forward to light a candle from the Christmas candle, and then move down the aisles carrying the Christmas light out into the congregation. Please be careful with your candles as hot wax may burn children's fingers.*

**POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER** *(standing)*

BCP, p. 365

*Celebrant*

Let us Pray,

*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.**

**HYMN III** *(standing or kneeling, sung by all)*

“Silent night, holy night”

*Stille Nacht*

Joseph Mohr (1792–1848)

melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863)

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,  
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake  
 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.  
 at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,  
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly  
 heaven - ly hosts— sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is  
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
 born! the Sa - vior, is born!  
 birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

**THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING** *(standing or kneeling)**Celebrant*

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

*Celebrant*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

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

*The congregation is invited to extinguish their candles as the Choir will remain in the chancel for the singing of the hymn.*

**POSTCOMMUNION HYMN 87** (*standing, sung by all*)

“Hark! the herald angels sing”

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

*Mendelssohn*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!  
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty.  
Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an-gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Refrain*  
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

**THE DISMISSAL**

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain in your pews until the choir and clergy reach the back of the church.*

*The clergy, wardens, vestry and staff of Saint Mark's wish you and yours a blessed and holy  
Christmastide.*

CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY AT SAINT MARK'S

THIS EVENING AT SAINT MARK'S

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

SOLEMN HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

11 P.M.

PRECEDED BY CAROLS FOR CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

10:30 P.M.

MUSIC BY SAINT MARK'S CHOIR

CHRISTMAS DAY AT SAINT MARK'S

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

10:30 A.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

A SERVICE OF LIGHT IN THE TAIZÉ TRADITION FOR THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

5 P.M.

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# ORDER OF PROCESSION

## **VERGER**

Bill Silliman

## **CHALICE BEARER**

Bonnie Thomson

## **CRUCIFER**

Alexander S.

## **THE CANTERBURY CHOIR**

### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Matthew Bester

### **CELEBRANT**

The Rev. Vicki Zust

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### **ORGANIST**

Michael Schreffler

### **USHERS**

Bill Moll

Roman Skoracki

Gloria Wylie

### **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ORGANIZERS**

Irina Reed

Laura Skoracki

Betsy Gillespie

Joanne Drew

### Canterbury Choir Members (\* Denotes Head Chorister)

Betty Grace B.

Elisa B.

Maria B.

Michael B.

Jillian B.

Madelyn B.

Charlotte D.\*

Daniel P.

David P.

Gabe R.

Madalyn R.

Alex R.\*

Gwendolyn W.

Veronica W.

*Thank you to all the children and families who made this year's Christmas Pageant extra special.*

*We would especially like to thank our Children's Formation Leaders and Pageant Orchestrators:  
Joanne Drew, Betsy Gillespie, Irina Reed, Laura Skoracki, and Pastor Vicki.*

*And our 2023 Christmas Pageant Volunteers:*

*Elizabeth Anstaett*

*Ellen Berndt*

*Cheryl Boop*

*Julia Johnson Davis*

*Jim Keyes*

*Roman Skoracki*

*Sara Warren*

# SAINT MARK'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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## Staff:

The Rev. Vicki Zust, *Rector*  
Dr. Matthew Bester, *Director of Music*  
Michael Schreffler, *Organist*  
Gary L. Garber, *Organist-Choirmaster Emeritus*  
Dr. Michael Murray, *Organist Emeritus*  
Bill Silliman, *Head Verger*  
Melanie Jacobs, *Office Manager*

## Ministers:

The Entire Saint Mark's Family

## Vestry Members:

Cheryl Boop, *Senior Warden*  
Kevin Fix, *Junior Warden*  
Anna M., *Youth Warden*  
Martha Belury  
Steve Brindza  
Michael Bowman  
Betsy Gillespie  
Brenda Hammersley  
Jodi Hess  
Bruce Johnson  
Julia Johnson-Davis  
Barb Keyes  
Ted Meyers  
Roman Skoracki  
Andi Waller



Phil Glandon, *Treasurer*

## Mission Statement:

*As a Christ-centered community, the people of Saint Mark's seek a world in which all people share the joy of loving God and each other by...*

- Celebrating worship together with inspiring words, music and traditions
- Serving all of our neighbors
- Engaging in fellowship and hospitality
- Encouraging people in their lifelong spiritual formation
- Being a beacon of Christ's presence in the world

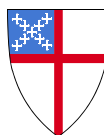
## Who We Are:



Part of the Diocese of Southern Ohio, Saint Mark's held its first worship service in 1951 in a converted Methodist church in Grandview. Ground was broken in 1953 for the Parish Hall (now the Education Building) where services were held until the current Nave and Sanctuary was completed in 1958. Office space in an adjacent building was purchased in 1989. Major renovations of the entire facility occurred in 2004 and 2008 creating a campus today that empowers Christ's ministry within and beyond our parish.



Saint Mark's is a member of the Episcopal Church in the United States – a community of 2.4 million members in 114 dioceses in the Americas and abroad. *Episcopal* means a church with bishops. Bishops are the leaders of the church and spiritual descendants of the apostles of Jesus Christ. We are also part of the worldwide Anglican Communion consisting of 82 million members in more than 160 countries. *Anglican* are those churches who trace their history to the Church of England.



Whoever you are, and wherever you may be on the journey of the Spirit,  
**The Episcopal Church welcomes you.**