



THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

THE HOLY EUCHARIST
JANUARY 26, 2025 - 10:00 A.M.

Welcome! We're so glad to have you joining us for worship today.

saint mark's episcopal church, palo alto

Welcome to Saint Mark's

We are a community dedicated to deepening our relationship with God and embodying the Spirit of Christ through faithful expressions of love, service, compassion, and justice.

All are welcome to join in worship. During this time we ask everyone to be mindful of others' varying degrees of caution and safety needs. This service is livestreamed and recorded. Music permissions: OneLicense.net A-714107.

Newcomers and visitors are encouraged to fill in a Welcome Card or sign the visitor book, which will be on the welcome table. If there are things about our worship that are new to you or do not make sense, try to embrace the unfamiliarity. Consider that you are entering a conversation with God and the faithful which began centuries before we were here and will continue after we are gone. Just join in as you are, and bear with us as we are, and we will all be transformed as we go.

*Please see instructions for receiving Communion on p. 16. **All who seek to draw near to Christ are invited.***

Our chancel art in this season is Star of Bethlehem (Star of the Magi) from the Words for the Beginning series by Hannah Garrity.

The artist writes of this piece in her series: I began each painting with a circular energy. There is a central focus to each design. Each painting has an original quilt square pattern which repeats as the border. The center design is a different iteration of the same idea. For this design, the main motif is the star of Bethlehem. The Bible pages of Matthew 2 are torn apart and glued as a texture within the star points, representing our need to constantly break down fear in service to the God who calls us into a fearless life of love. The star pattern is overlaid in chalk and soft pastel, reiterating the power of God as our guide—who, in this text, is showing the way home by another road.

Many thanks to Terry Forrest for directing the choir and Margaret Kvamme for playing the organ at this service.

PRELUDE

Pastorale

Angela Kraft Cross (b. 1958)

Mighty Savior

David Hurd, arr. Edwin T. Childs (b. 1945)

THE WORD OF GOD *Please stand in body or spirit.*

OPENING HYMN 533 How wondrous and great thy works

LYONS

1 How won - drous and great thy works, God of praise!
2 To na - tions of earth thy light shall be shown;

How just, King of saints, and true are thy ways!
their wor - ship and vows shall come to thy throne:

O who shall not fear thee, and hon - or thy Name?
thy truth and thy judg - ments shall spread all a - broad,

Thou on - ly art ho - ly, thou on - ly su - preme.
till earth's ev - ery peo - ple con - fess thee their God.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.
And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

We begin with a call to worship or acclamation.

Everyone:

A - rise, shine, for your light has come, and the
glo - ry of the Lord has dawned up - on you.

For behold, darkness covers the land;
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, *
and his glory will appear upon you. *Refrain (above)*

Nations will stream to your light, *
and kings to the brightness of your dawning.
Your gates will always be open; *
by day or night they will never be shut. *Refrain (above)*

They will call you, The City of the Lord, *
the Zion of the Holy One of Israel. *Refrain (above)*

Violence will no more be heard in your land, *
ruin or destruction within your borders.
You will call your walls, Salvation, *
and all your portals, Praise.
The sun will no more be your light by day; *
by night you will not need the brightness of the moon.
The Lord will be your everlasting light, *
and your God will be your glory. *Refrain (above)*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior
Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his

In this time following the Epiphany, we sing the canticle (scriptural song) called the Third Song of Isaiah (60:1-3, 11a, 14c, 18-19).

The Collect of the Day thematically gathers our prayers and readings for the day.

salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

In this passage from **Nehemiah** [8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10], the author writes about the restoration of Jerusalem following the Babylonian exile.



Your law, O God, is perfect and re-/vives the / soul; *
 your testimony is sure and gives / wisdom / to the / innocent.

Your statutes are just and re-/joice the / heart; *
 your commandment is / clear . and gives / light to . the / eyes.

The fear of you is clean and en-/dures for / ever; *
 your judgments are true and / righteous / alto-/gether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than / much fine / gold, *
 sweeter far than honey, than / honey / in the / comb.

By them also is your / servant . en-/lightened, *
 and in / keeping them . there is / great re-/ward.

Who can tell how often / one of-/fends? *
 Cleanse me / from my / secret / faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
 let them not get do-/minion / over me; *
 then shall I be whole and sound,
 and / innocent . of a / great of-/fense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
 be ac-/ceptable . in your / sight, *
 O God, my / strength and / my re-/deemer.

We sing the psalm to Anglican chant. The / marks in the verses correspond to the bar lines in the music. Additionally, a period or hyphen is used to indicate a note change where needed. You are welcome to sing in unison or harmony.

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—

Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

In this passage from Paul's first epistle (letter) to the church in Corinth [12:12-31a], the author teaches about spiritual gifts and the body of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand in body or spirit.



1 When Christ's ap - pear - ing was made known, the east - ern sag - es sought his
2 So, by that blest E - pi - pha - ny all peop - les know they shall be



1 throne; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! By light their
2 free; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Dear friends, in



1 way to Light they trod, and by their gifts con - fessed their God.
2 glad - ness let us sing, our joy - ful prais - es ech - o - ing:

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

THE GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

This passage from the Gospel of Luke [4:14-21] powerfully describes Jesus call to ministry with the poor and oppressed.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON The Reverend Nancy Ross

A period of silent reflection follows.

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand in body or spirit.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

The sermon helps us to reflect on the Scriptures we have heard and to connect them to the Good News present in our lives now.

The Nicene Creed comes to us from the Councils of Nicea (325) and Constantinople (381, where they edited it). It is, therefore, an ancient statement of faith that we hold in common with many Christian denominations. As a statement of belief, that is, of communal trust (not an intellectual assertion of how these things could be), we recite it collectively as a prayer, ending with “Amen.”

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,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who 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

With the Spirit shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church,
the world, and all of creation.

As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all
who serve the church. As we grieve the sins of colonialism,
we remember especially The Episcopal/Anglican Province of
Alexandria and the dioceses of Liverpool (England), Liwolo and
Lomega (South Sudan), Llandaff (Wales), Lodwar (Kenya), and
Lokoja (Nigeria). Inspire all Christian communities in their faith.
God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work,
we lift our voices to you. Guide us to care for the land of the
Ohlone, Muwekma, and Ramaytush tribes on which we worship.
God of grace,
hear our prayer.

The Anglican communion consists of 41 autonomous provinces each with its own bishop and governing structure. These provinces may take the form of national churches (such as in Canada, Uganda, or Japan) or a collection of nations (such as the West Indies, Central Africa, or Southeast Asia).

As Jesus proclaimed life and freedom in his community, energize communities and nations to eliminate poverty, engage in prison ministry and transformative justice, and envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As your word and presence revive the soul, be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need, especially: Anna; Will; Lydia; Danielle; Roma; Malin; Kathy; Richard; Walter; Yo; Joanna; Milo; the Flather family; all on our Prayer List; and those we name now... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As we are made one body in baptism, strengthen all who serve. Renew and inspire all who use their gifts in this congregation, community, and the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

As our faith is strengthened by saints who have gone before us, we pray that you would receive all those whom we love, but see no longer, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, especially The Reverend Michael Hiller, Kailey Flather, Mary Wagner, and those we name now ... God of grace,
hear our prayer.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**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 our Savior 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.**

In addition to those named aloud in the service, we continue to hold in prayer: Meredith; Lee, Pam, Terry, and the Heller Family; Matthew John and Richard; Carrie; Kevin; Vassar; Chung-Ling; Jackie Ray; Emily; Bill; Justin; Mary; Jerry; Ed and Alicia; Ruth; Ed; David; Anna.

We confess the ways in which we have fallen short of God's love, after which a priest pronounces absolution, God's forgiveness, over the people.

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 S 127

Calvin Hampton (1938-1984)

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 Sanctus, "Holy," is the song of the angels (Isaiah 6 and Rev. 4). It has been an acclamation of the congregation since around the 4th century.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker and of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a complete sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 Jesus 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Great Amen is the people's consent to and affirmation of the Eucharistic prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant

As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and People

Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
 For-give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.
 Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.
 For the king-dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,
 now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Gospels of both Matthew and Luke record Jesus teaching this, commonly called the "Our Father" or the "Lord's prayer," to his disciples when they asked to learn how to pray.

AGNUS DEI S 374

Calvin Hampton

The Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.



Sua bassa ———— 3
 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.

Setting: Calvin Hampton (1938–1984).
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COMMUNION HYMN 513 Like the murmur of the dove's song BRIDEGROOM



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the



chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the
 branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -
 cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and



wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger
 sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
 wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -



might: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 sign: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.
 pare: come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit, come.

All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at this, Christ's table, to receive the bread and the wine, if desired. Gluten-free wafers are available.

In addition to the consecrated bread, wine (or grape juice in the glass chalice) is available to those who wish to receive it.

Please drink directly from the cup, guiding it to your mouth, and do not intinct (dip) the bread.

Healing prayer is available in St. Nicholas chapel— all are welcome.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Please stand in body or spirit.

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.**

**And now, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A blessing recognizes
and asks for God's
presence with us.

CLOSING HYMN 616 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Please stand in body or spirit.

1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,
4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;
5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth;
4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;
5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:

1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;
5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
 3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
 4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
 5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The dismissal sends us out to do our work in the broader world.

POSTLUDE Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

servicing at this service

ALTAR GUILD: Shin-Mee Chang

FLOWER GUILD: Cindy Price

BREAD BAKERS: Suzanne Bell, Marina Martin, Susan Pines, Anne Vosti

GREETERS: Jonake Bose, Marina Martin

TECH ASSISTANT: Justin Jacob

LECTORS: Jonake Bose, Terry Forrest

CHALICE BEARER: Marina Martin, Mego Tracy

AGAPE HOSTS: Kalea Chen and Alice Sing

COUNTERS: Peter Kidder, Trudi Reinhardt

*Liturgy is the work of the people. Please prayerfully discern how you might serve, and speak with
The Reverend Nancy Ross <nancy@saint-marks.com> about which ministry would be a good fit for your gifts.*

saint mark's episcopal church

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INTERIM RECTOR: The Rev. Nick Roosevelt

ASSOCIATE RECTOR: The Rev. Nancy Ross

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Matthew Burt

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTER: Lily Dodge

ASSISTING CLERGY: The Rev. Prof. Rebecca Lyman, The Rev. Liz Milner

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Wenjing Li

SEXTON: Olegário Neves

TECHNICAL PRODUCER: Jonathan Guillen

WARDENS: Romain Kang, Brie Linkenhoker, and Jonathan Luk

TREASURER: Susan Pines

