St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany The Holy Eucharist Rite Two Sunday, January 29, 2023



ENTRANCE HYMN We sing the praise of him who died (Breslau) (H 471)

The people standing, the Celebrant says

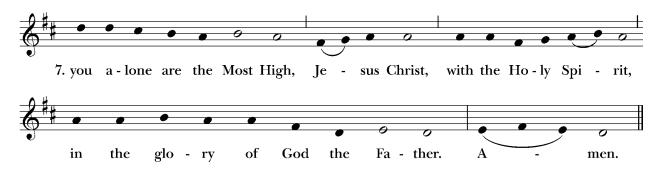
CelebrantBlessed be our God.PeopleFor ever and ever. Amen.

The Celebrant may say

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*.

S 277 Glory to God (Canticle 20) (Hurd) (BCP p. 356) The following is sung, all standing





THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant	The Lord be with you.
People	And also with you.
Celebrant	Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

¹Hear what the LORD says: "Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel." ³"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? *Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. *People* Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

Remain seated.

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
who may abide upon your holy hill?
²Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
who speaks the truth from his heart.
³There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend; *
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
⁴In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
but he honors those who fear the LORD.
⁵He has sworn to do no wrong *
and does not take back his word.
⁶He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
⁷Whoever does these things *
shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's First letter to the Church in Corinth.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing

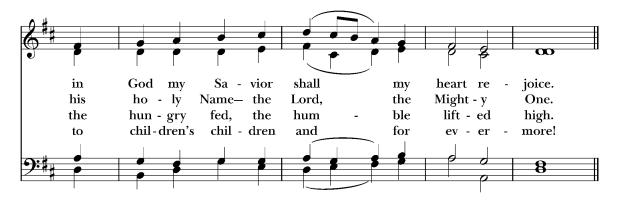
things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

People Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN *Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord (Birmingham)* (H 437) *All stand.*





GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

All stand.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

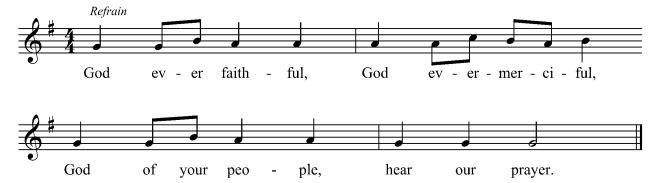
THE SERMON -- The Rev. Suzanne Wade

THE CREED (BCP p. 358) *All stand.*

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 God ever-faithful (Joncas) (BCP p. 359) All remain standing.



For those who lead and guide the Church of Christ; for loving care, we pray to you, O Lord: For faithful witness, fellowship in love; for living hope, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For those who guide the nations of the earth; that wisdom reign, we pray to you, O Lord: For those who seek and serve the common good; that justice reign, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain* For neighbors' needs, for shelter from the storm; for homes of peace, we pray to you, O Lord: For those in sorrow, anguish, and despair; that they find hope, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For those oppressed, for those who live in fear; that they be freed, we pray to you, O Lord: For all the sick, the dying, and the dead, be life and grace, we pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For the needs of this congregation, and for all on our prayer list, we pray to you, O Lord: We pray especially for those on St. Mark's prayer list, especially Ross, Kate, Bonnie, Lee, Pamela, Stan, Bob, Harry, Brian Smith, Dawn, Angela, Ovril, Bob Dwyer, Sherry Vincent, Margaret Bateman, David Fletcher, Karie Duran, Edna Carroll, Sarah Pinto, Richard and Lois Wade, Don Parsons, Leon Calitri. For those we name now. *The people may add their own petitions and thanksgivings*. We pray to you O Lord. *Refrain*.

That we might live in peace from day to day; that wars will cease, we pray to you, O Lord: That we may stay faithful, open to your Word; your Kingdom come! We pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

For all the dreams held deep within our hearts; for all our needs, we pray to you, O Lord: Entrusting all we are into your hands, we call your name, and pray to you, O Lord: *Refrain*

Words and Music: Michael Joncas (b. 1951) © GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)

The Deacon or Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

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 (BCP p. 360)

All stand.

CelebrantThe peace of the Lord be always with you.PeopleAnd also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

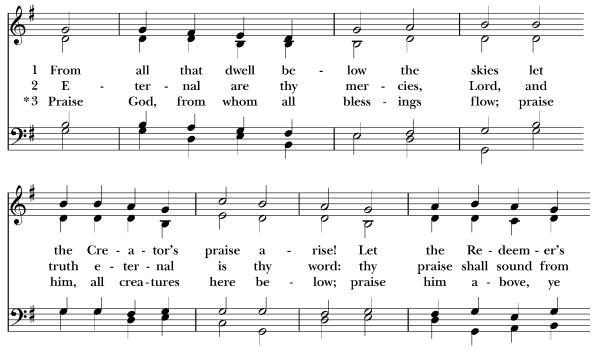
OFFERTORY SENTENCE (BCP p. 376)

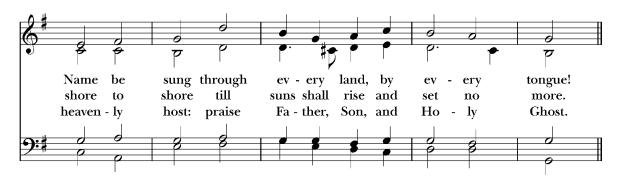
The Celebrant says

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

THE DOXOLOGY V. 3 From all that dwell below the skies (Old 100th) (H 380)





The People remain standing.

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.
Facing the Holy	Table, the Celebrant proceeds

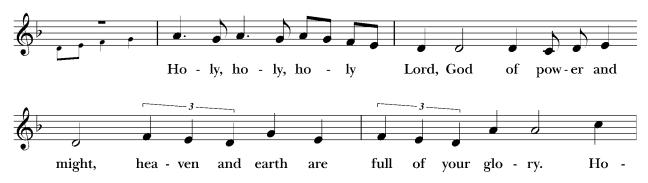
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

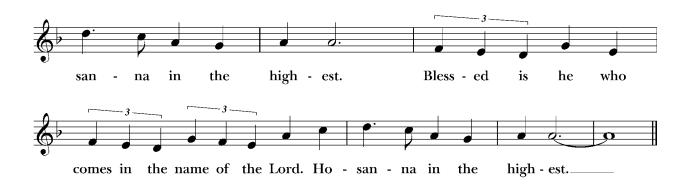
Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 129 Holy, holy, holy (Powell) (BCP p. 362)

Celebrant and People





The People stand or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father of all.

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

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

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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 him. 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 your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. *AMEN*.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

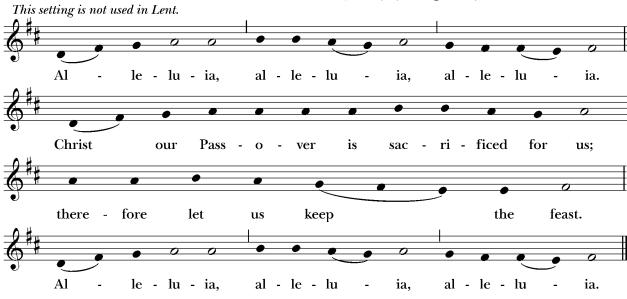
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM S 154 Christ our Passover (Hurd) (BCP p. 364)



INVITATION

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people. The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [Amen.]



COMMUNION HYMN O Food to pilgrims given (O Welt, ich muss dich lassen) (H 309)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

After Communion, the Celebrant says

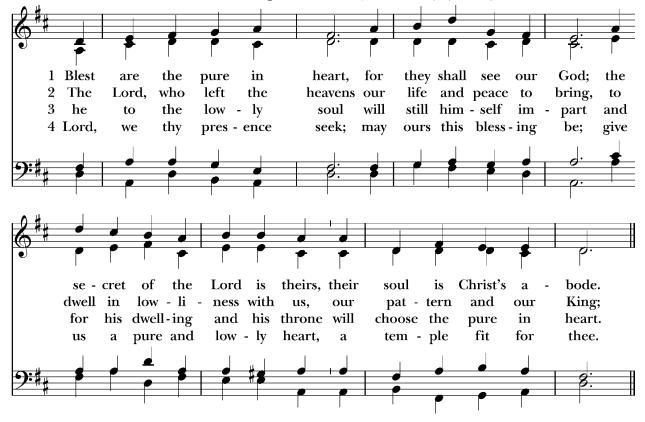
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of 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 Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*



RECESSIONAL HYMN Blest are the pure in heart (Franconia) (H 656)

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

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Announcements

This Week's Schedule Jan. 29

Sunday

10 a.m. St. Mark's Holy Eucharist
11 a.m. Trinity Chapel Holy Eucharist
Noon St. Mark's Annual Meeting *Tuesday*10-5 St. Mark's Office Open
4 p.m. Worship at Bridges by Epoch *Wednesday*10 a.m. Trinity Chapel Pastoral Care Team Meeting
Noon Book Discussion & Lunch -- Falling Upward at Trinity Chapel

1 p.m. Drop off deadline for salad donations at Trinity

4 p.m. St. Paul's Soup Kitchen Meal

4:30 p.m. Trinity Chapel Choir Rehearsal

Pastoral Visits. Want to receive communion? Need prayers for healing? Just want to talk to the priest? Rev. Suzanne is available for pastoral visits via telephone, Zoom, and in-person (with COVID precautions). You can contact her about a visit via email at revsuzannewade@gmail.com, phone/text at 508-472-9656

Collaborative Worship Planning for Lent

Join Rev. Suzanne to reflect on how we want to journey through Lent this year in worship, study, and prayer on **Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.** This is a **joint meeting** for anyone from St. Mark's and Trinity Chapel who is interested in sharing their ideas and past practices. E-mail Rev. Suzanne at <u>revsuzannewade@gmail.com</u> for the Zoom link.

Trinity Chapel (All are welcome to participate)

Annual Meeting, Sunday, Feb. 5, after worship Trinity Vestry Meeting Monday, Feb. 20, via Zoom Rectory Walk Through: Feb. 12, after worship

Trinity Chapel Prayer for Discernment: Dear God, You have called us to do the work to assess our mission now and going forward. Grant us wisdom to gather the true vision of what we want - for our church and for the strength and talents that we envision for our priest. Give us compassion to clearly hear the words of our friends. Let us be kind to one another and speak with respect. May you grant us wisdom that we may ask the right questions. When we are uncertain, give us the freedom of your spirit that we may see the path you wish for us. Hold us in your loving hands as we navigate a new and exciting endeavor. Grant this we pray, through Jesus Christ \sim **Amen**.

Community Forum: Meet our New State Senator. Due to redistricting, Shirley has a new state senator! Join us on **Wednesday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m.** to meet Sen. John Cronin. Sen. Cronin also represents Westford! There will also be a meeting to plan additional forums for spring on Sunday, Feb. 19, after worship.

Theology at the Tavern: Join us for an informal conversation about God, church, and whatever else you want to know! The next gathering is **TBA**, at 6:15 p.m.. at the Bull Run Restaurant in Shirley. You are welcome to join us for dinner, or just bring your questions and join us for a drink or snack.

Trinity Book Club. Our next book is *Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Second Half of Life* by Richard Rohr. We will gather to discuss the second half of the book on **Wednesday**, **Feb. 1**, **at Noon (lunch provided)**.

Lura White School Snacks Collection: Trinity Chapel is once again collecting nutritious snacks for students at the Lura White School in Shirley for in-school and take-home weekend brown brags. Donations granola bars, cheese crackers, 100 % juice boxes, boxes of raisins, snack packs of 100% fruit and similar nutritious snacks (not nuts or peanut butter, please!) can be left in the basket at the entranceway at Trinity.

St. Paul's Soup Kitchen Salad: Trinity parishioners supply the ingredients for salad when our collaboration partners at St. Mark's serve the meal at St. Paul's Soup Kitchen in Lowell. The next meal is **Wednesday, Feb. 1.** If you would like to be added to the online sign up, please email Rev. Suzanne at <u>revsuzannewade@gmail.com</u>.

Loaves & Fishes Soup Collection: Trinity continues to collect donations of hearty soups for the Loaves & Fishes food pantry. Collection basket can be found in the foyer.

Trinity Pastoral Care Team Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 1, 10 a.m. in-person in Shepherd Hall with an available Zoom link. Join us as we share updates about members of Trinity Chapel in need of pastoral support and care this month.

St. Mark's (All are welcome to participate)

Annual Meeting Sunday, Jan. 29, Noon (Worship at 10 a.m.) Next Vestry Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2022, 7 p.m. via Zoom.

St. Paul's Soup Kitchen Volunteer Opportunities

The next soup kitchen is on **Wednesday, Feb. 1.** We will be serving our popular meal of meatloaf, mashed potatoes, salad, dessert, bread, and milk. If you would like to be added to the sign up for donations, e-mail Paul Ackroyd at <u>phackroyd@verizon.net</u>. Drop-off is at St. Mark's (outside the admin wing - right hand side of the building). Items can be dropped off anytime Tuesday evening, Jan. 31, or up until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 1.

Chocolate Festival TO GO! Returns on Saturday, Feb. 11. St. Mark's will again sell delicious boxes of homemade chocolate desserts to raise money for local food pantries. Starting at the beginning of January, boxes can be purchased online (www.st-mark.org/chocolate) and then

picked up at the church on Saturday, Feb. 11, from 1 to 4 p.m. A subcommittee of parishioners will be reaching out to local businesses to solicit prizes for the raffle – last year we had more than 50! Contact Herb Elliot (herb.elliott@cheza.com) if you would like to help with this endeavor, or if you know of any local business that might be contacted. Everyone is welcome to participate!

Let Us Send Some Love and Prayers. Do you or someone you know need some love and prayers from the St. Mark's community? The newly rejuvenated Pastoral Care team is here to help. Led by Herb Elliott and Rev. Suzanne, the team is a group of loving lay leaders who want to strengthen the St. Mark's community by offering support in your time of need. This could be as simple as sending a get well card and adding you or your loved one to the prayer list, or as complicated as organizing meal deliveries. You can also request a Pastoral Care visit or call from Rev. Suzanne.

Use this convenient form to request any level of care: https://airtable.com/shruEfDMqcCwuUulT If you provide an email and/or phone number, a team member will reach out to check in.

Annual Meeting - On Sunday, January 29th we will be holding the St. Marks Annual Meeting at 12:00 in Williams Hall and on Zoom. It is important for everyone to show up if possible so that we can meet our Quorum requirements. As a special occasion, we will be having worship service an hour later at 10:00 am followed by a family-style lunch in Williams Hall. At this year's annual meeting we will celebrate this last year, review our finances, vote on changes to the Church Constitution to align with the Diocese standard, and elect new Vestry members. See you on Sunday, Jan. 29 at 12:00 in Williams Hall or on Zoom. For Zoom, registration

required: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqdeuhqjksG93m2jevpxB-kb4CCNBNue6r</u>

Dinner Church is an alternative worship experience based on the traditions of the early church. Participants gather for a meal that also incorporates times of prayer and discussion. The experience is family friendly, inviting multiple generations to reflect and pray together while enjoying the community built around a dinner table. All are welcome, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey. St Mark's next dinner church will be held on **Sunday, Feb. 5 at 5 p.m.**

Bridges Worship Ministry. The next service will be **Tuesday, Jan. 31 at 3:45 p.m.** Our monthly service at Bridges includes prayers, singing some old favorite hymns, and distribution of communion. We welcome St. Mark's members to join us in the ministry by worshiping alongside the residents and assisting as singers, musicians, lay eucharistic visitors, and readers. All ages are welcome; community service hours are offered for young people who need them. **You must be fully vaccinated to participate in this ministry.** Facemasks are required at all times. If you would like to join us, please let Rev. Suzanne know.

Friday Bible Study. St. Mark's Friday Bible study meets every other week at a local restaurant to discuss the lectionary readings for the week. New members are welcome! Next meeting Feb. 10. If you'd like to join, e-mail Herb Elliott at herb.elliott@cheza.com to request the the readings for the week.

St. Mark's pastoral care team meeting Join us as we share updates about members of St.Mark's in need of pastoral support and care this month.: the next meeting is Monday, Feb. 27, at7 PM via Zoom. Please email Rev. Suzanne or Herb Elliott for the zoom link.

Monthly Communications Meeting. Join us on Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Team leaders and anyone interested in supporting St. Mark's communications to the wider community are invited to join Rev. Suzanne and our Digital Communications Specialist, Kyla Clark, to discuss the communications plan for the month, including activities and themes we want to highlight. E-mail Rev. Suzanne for the Zoom link.