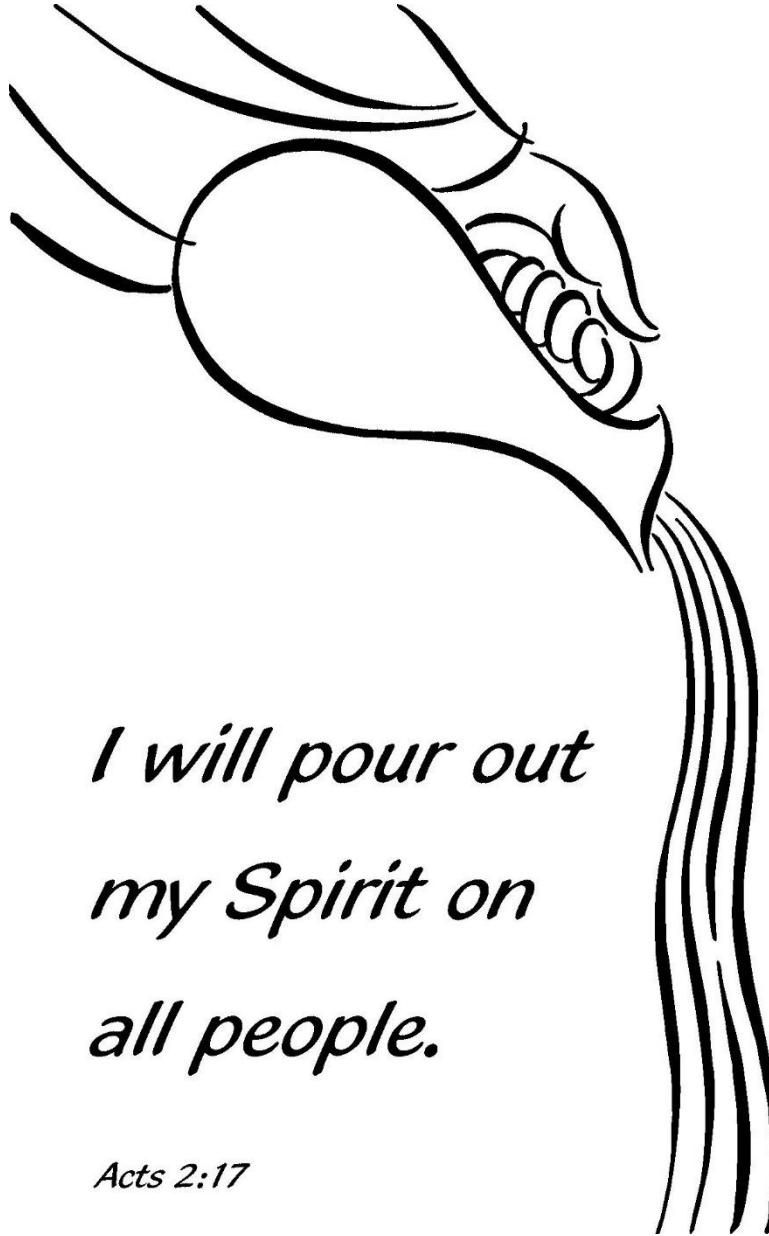


*St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
75 Cold Spring Road  
Westford, Massachusetts, 01886*



*I will pour out  
my Spirit on  
all people.*

*Acts 2:17*

**May 19, 2024**

**Pentecost**

Rev. Melissa Buono, *Officiant*

Lee Yezek, *Minister of Music*

Rob Strain – *Chalice*

Brenda Martin – *Usher and Reader*

**ENTRANCE HYMN *O Holy Spirit, by whose breath (Komm, Gott Schöpfer)* (H 501)**

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*People* **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**GLORIA S 277 *Glory to God (Hurd)* (BCP p. 356)**

**THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)**

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

**Almighty God, who on this day didst open the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of thy Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.***

**The Lessons**

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21**

*The people sit.*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.  
<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.  
<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.  
<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.  
<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

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

*Silence may follow.*

### **PSALM 104:25-35, 37**

*Remain seated.*

<sup>25</sup>O LORD, how manifold are your works! \*  
in wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
<sup>26</sup>Yonder is the great and wide sea  
with its living things too many to number, \*  
creatures both small and great.  
<sup>27</sup>There move the ships,  
and there is that Leviathan, \*  
which you have made for the sport of it.  
<sup>28</sup>All of them look to you \*  
to give them their food in due season.  
<sup>29</sup>You give it to them; they gather it; \*  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.  
<sup>30</sup>You hide your face, and they are terrified; \*  
you take away their breath,  
and they die and return to their dust.  
<sup>31</sup>You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; \*  
and so you renew the face of the earth.  
<sup>32</sup>May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; \*  
may the LORD rejoice in all his works.  
<sup>33</sup>He looks at the earth and it trembles; \*

he touches the mountains and they smoke.  
<sup>34</sup>I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; \*  
I will praise my God while I have my being.  
<sup>35</sup>May these words of mine please him; \*  
I will rejoice in the LORD.  
<sup>37</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul. \*  
Hallelujah!

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27**

*The people sit.*

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

<sup>22</sup>We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; <sup>23</sup>and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

*Reader*           The Word of the Lord.

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

*Silence may follow.*

## **SEQUENCE HYMN *Spirit of mercy, truth, and love (Cornish) (H 229)***

*All stand.*

## **GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

*All stand.*

*Celebrant*           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

[Jesus said to his disciples,] <sup>26</sup>“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. <sup>27</sup>You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

<sup>16:4b</sup>“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. <sup>5</sup>But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup>And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the

ruler of this world has been condemned.

<sup>12</sup>“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. <sup>13</sup>When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. <sup>14</sup>He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. <sup>15</sup>All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

*Celebrant*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*                Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## THE SERMON – REV. MELISSA BUONO

### 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 (BCP p. 359)**

*All remain standing.*

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

***That we all may be one.***

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Give to the departed eternal rest;

***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

*The People may add their own petitions.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**PRAYERS FOR THOSE ON THE ST. MARK'S PRAYER LIST**

*Let us pray for our own needs and others.*

Jennifer Hurley, Anna Oliverson, Kate, Fran Fletcher, Elizabeth, Kathryn Read, Evie and her family Beth, Brendan, and Corinne, Andrew Ward, Marcia & Ralph Regner, Jane, Lisa, Ben, Ross, Bonnie, Pamela, Bob, Brian Smith, Angela, Lorenz, Ovril, Margaret Bateman, James Martin, Ann, Cathy, Pam Hilton, Frank Hilton, Sherrie Carroll, Judy, Janet Farmer, Betty & Tom MacNamara, Brooke, Gertrude Meaden, Sandra, Charlotte, David Andrew, Sue Sweeney, Olivia, Sue, Doug Read, Daniel Corcoran.

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE RECENTLY DIED**

Christopher Hemingway, Bernatte Snowdon, Stan Vlasak, Marlene Marchilena

**WE GIVE THANKS FOR THOSE WHO WE HAVE BEEN PRAYING FOR WHO  
HAVE HEALED OR GREATLY IMPROVED**

Don Parsons, Gill Dube

**PRAYER FOR THE PARISH** *(said by all)*

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this Parish family.

Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent.

Grant us all things necessary for our common life and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE PRAYER OF TRANSITION**

*Read Responsively*

Assist us, Lord, in living hopefully into the future. \*

**In the face of change, help us to set unnecessary fears aside and to recognize our potential for creative response.**

Help us to develop a reasonable optimism when confronted by “the new” and to guard against our own defensiveness. \*

**Be with us as we remember to celebrate former times, and keep us from unreasonable yearning for them, which takes us from the work you have set before us in our time.**

All this we ask in the name of your Child, our Savior, Jesus Christ. \* **Amen**

**CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)**

*The Celebrant says.*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*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.*

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

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

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **The Holy Communion**

#### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*The Celebrant says*

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High.

*Psalm 50:14*

#### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

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

#### **The Great Thanksgiving**

*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, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of



the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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-128**

*Celebrant and People*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

*The People stand or kneel.*

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory.**

*The Celebrant continues*

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 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 forever. *AMEN.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

*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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**FRACTION ANTHEM: ALLELUIA S - 155**

**INVITATION**

*The Celebrant says*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*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 *Holy Spirit, ever living (Abbot's Leigh)* (H 511)**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)**

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,**

**you have graciously accepted us as living members  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and you have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve you  
with gladness and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**BLESSING (BCP p. 366)**

*The Priest blesses the people, saying*

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

**POST-COMMUNION HYMN *Come down; O Love divine (Down Ampney)* (H 516)**

**DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)**

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.

*People*           **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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**Announcements**

**May 19th to May 26th**

*Sunday, May 19th*

10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Pentecost Sunday - Rev. Melissa Buono

5 p.m. – Dinner Church

*Thursday, May 23rd*

10 a.m. – 5 p.m., St. Mark's office open

7:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

*Friday, May 24th*

9 a.m. – Friday Bible Study, Johnson's Restaurant

*Sunday, May 26th*

10 a.m. – Holy Eucharist - Rev. William Bergmann

**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, May 19th, at 5 p.m.** Contact **Judie Hilton** if you plan to attend at [jakhilton@gmail.com](mailto:jakhilton@gmail.com).

### **Pentecost Sunday - May 19th. Join us to celebrate the Holy Spirit's Arrival**

Pentecost Sunday is a major feast of the Church's year and comes fifty days after the resurrection and marks the end of the Easter season. It celebrates the beginning of the Church and the commissioning of new members into ministry. We remember how God's Holy Spirit came down to the disciples after Jesus' ascension, propelling them to begin the work of making disciples of all nations.

According to Acts 2, a powerful wind and tongues of fire were poured out on people from all over the world who came to Jerusalem to celebrate a Jewish feast. At the first Pentecost over 3,000 people were baptized, creating the first church.

Pentecost Sunday holds deep meaning for believers worldwide and serves as a reminder of the Holy Spirit's enduring power and God's ongoing work within the Christian community. Red is the primary color of Pentecost, symbolizing joy and the fire of the Holy Spirit that inspires all of us.

### **Faraja School in Tanzania**

During April and May, the funds collected in the Outreach box in the sanctuary will support the Africa-based Faraja Primary School and Foundation, which the Ellis family visited in February. More information about the Faraja School can be found at Faraja Primary School for Children with Physical Disabilities ([farajaschool.org](http://farajaschool.org)). Please contact Jean at [jean.m.ellis@comcast.net](mailto:jean.m.ellis@comcast.net) if you have any questions.

### **Steps to Home Walk**

Each year, a St. Mark's team walks in the Steps to Home Walk on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 10 a.m.

This fun 5K walk through downtown Lowell is hosted by the Lowell Transitional Living Center and will kick off from 225 Middlesex St. Show your support by joining the team and/or sponsoring our walkers. The funds raised will be used for shelter, food, housing, and healthcare. To sign up, visit the website, click register or donate, select "join a team," and then select "St. Mark's Episcopal Church." Money collected in the Outreach box at the altar each Sunday in June, July, and August will also go toward the walk. Questions? Email Joan O'Hare, Co-Chair, Outreach Committee. Thank you, Joan and Chrissy.

<https://smoc.org/service/lowell-transitional-living-center/>

<https://www.facebook.com/LowellShelter/>

### **St. Mark's News**

**Rector and St. Mark's Office Hours** - Typically, the office is open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. In addition, Rev. Bergmann is in the office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. To schedule an office appointment, please email [secretary@st-mark.org](mailto:secretary@st-mark.org) or call (978) 692-7849 and leave a voice message. Thank you.

The next Vestry Meeting will be **Monday, June 10th**, at 7 p.m on Zoom. Contact Scott Hilton for a link if you would like to join.

### **Prayer List Updating**

To add a person to any part of the prayer list or to remove someone, please contact Herb Elliott at [herb.elliott@cheza.com](mailto:herb.elliott@cheza.com).

### **Ongoing Ministries**

**Food Collection** - a reminder that we collect food in the wicker basket in the Narthex all year long. The need is constant, so if you have non-perishables and personal care items, please feel free to put them in the basket.

**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! If you'd like to join, e-mail Herb Elliott at [herb.elliott@cheza.com](mailto:herb.elliott@cheza.com), and he will add you to the email distribution and send you the readings.

**Pastoral Care:** Want to receive communion? Need prayers for healing? Just want to talk to a priest? Please email or call Herb Elliott at [herb.elliott@cheza.com](mailto:herb.elliott@cheza.com) or call 978-501-8479. Herb heads up our Pastoral Care team and can have you added to the prayer list, arrange for a Pastoral Care team member to give you a call, send a card, or organize other support. Herb also has contact information for local clergy who have offered to respond to Pastoral Care needs. You can also use the "Request Pastoral Visit" button on St. Mark's website.



St Mark's Episcopal Church  
@stmark75



**SENIOR WARDEN**

Scott Hilton, [wscotthilton@gmail.com](mailto:wscotthilton@gmail.com), Cell #: (978) 302-1088

**MINISTER OF MUSIC**

Lee Yezek: [lyezek@gmail.com](mailto:lyezek@gmail.com)

**VESTRY MEMBERS**

Tom Ellis, Jr. Warden; Joan O'Hare, Treasurer; Herb Elliott, Clerk; Paul Ackroyd, At-Large;  
Chrissy Hemingway, Pre-School Representative; Melissa Dewing, Dorothy Gaumer, Kris  
O'Reilly, Ellen Tremblay, At-Large.

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