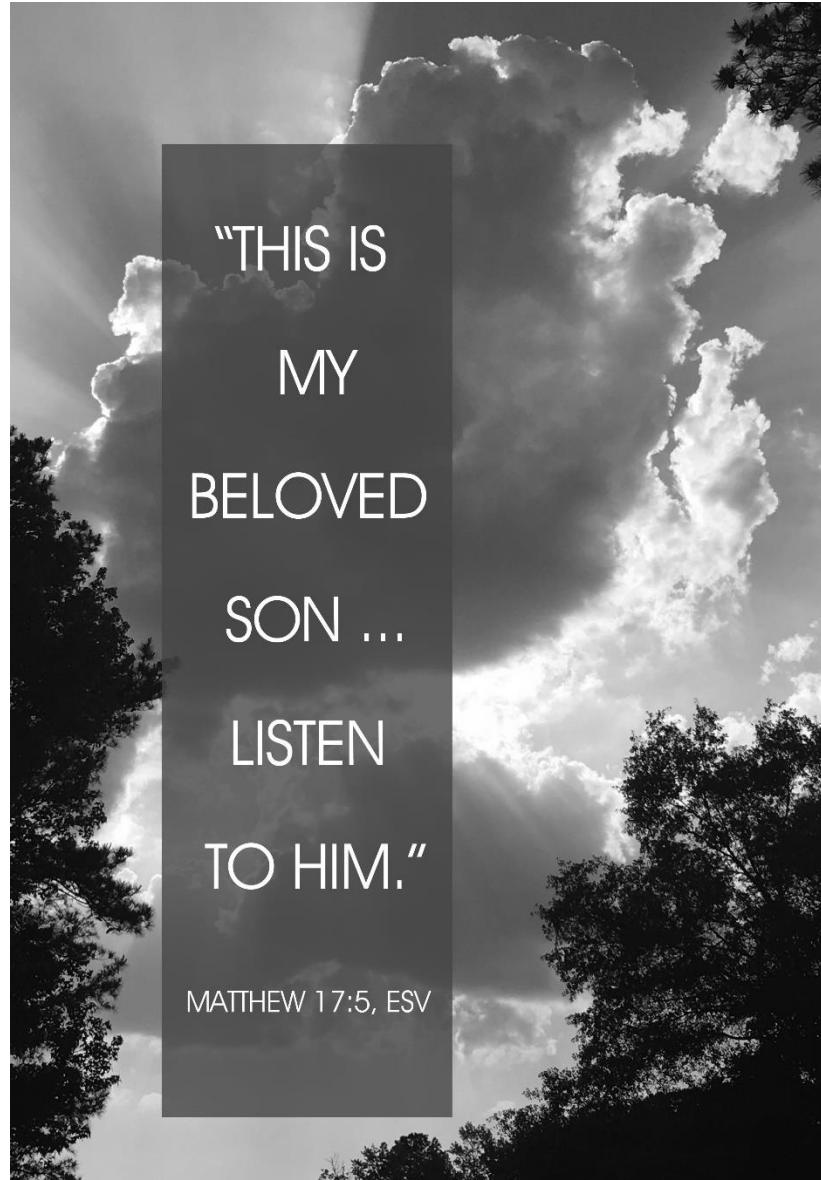


*St. Mark's Episcopal Church
75 Cold Spring Road
Westford, Massachusetts, 01886*



February 15, 2026
Last Sunday after the Epiphany
Rev. Melissa Buono, *Officiant*
Lee Yezek, *Minister of Music*
Usher: Brenda Martin
Reader: Jenny Meanwell
Chalice: Elaina Carroll

ENTRANCE HYMN: *Christ, whose glory fills the skies (Ratisbon)* (H 7)

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP 355)

GLORIA: S-277

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 357)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed his glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of his countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

The Lessons

FIRST READING: : Exodus 24:12-18

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Exodus.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 2

Remain seated.

¹Why are the nations in an uproar? *
 Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
 and the princes plot together, *
 against the LORD and against his Anointed?
³“Let us break their yoke,” they say; *
 “let us cast off their bonds from us.”
⁴He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
 the LORD has them in derision.
⁵Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
 and his rage fills them with terror.
⁶“I myself have set my king *
 upon my holy hill of Zion.”
⁷Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *
 he said to me, “You are my son;
 this day have I begotten you.
⁸Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
 and the ends of the earth for your possession.
⁹You shall crush them with an iron rod *
 and shatter them like a piece of pottery.”
¹⁰And now, you kings, be wise; *
 be warned, you rulers of the earth.
¹¹Submit to the LORD with fear, *
 and with trembling bow before him;
¹²lest he be angry, and you perish; *
 for his wrath is quickly kindled.
¹³Happy are they all *
 who take refuge in him!

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 1:16-21

The people sit.

A Reading from the Second letter of Peter.

¹⁶We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN *Christ upon the mountain peak (Mowsley)* (H 129)

All stand.

GOSPEL: Matthew 17:1-9

All stand.

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

¹Six days [after Peter had acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God], Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” ⁵While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” ⁸And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

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

THE SERMON

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 Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, Bishop Julia Whitworth, Rev. Will Bergmann, Rev. Melissa Buono, and 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.

We pray in a special way for those on the St. Mark's Prayer List, namely:
Anna Oliverson, Susan and Kate, Kate and family, Ben, Orvil, JimDerek, Evie and family Beth, Brendan and Corine, and Kate, Elizabeth, Jane, Lisa, Pamela, Brooke, David Andrew, Charlotte and Bob, Ross, Lindy, Ted and Kathy, Doug and the Pecora family, Andrew Ward, John Gallacher, Janet Andrews, Marmi Sheehan, Marcia and Ralph, Shelly Wadsworth, Cathy C, Marion Perault, Sue Sweeney, Ben Meaden, Albert Caproni and his family, Sherrie Carroll, Bob Berg, Judy and Marlene, Jody, Sue and Bob, Anika and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts....(pause)

We pray for those who have died, especially:

Sandra Jewett-Ensor, Cora Rose, Fran Fletcher.

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 together the Prayer of the Parish:

Almighty & Everliving 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.

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

Silence

CONFSSION 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 (BCP p. 361)

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

The Great Thanksgiving

The People remain standing.

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	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.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

SANCTUS: S-129 Holy, Holy, Holy

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 [_____ 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. ***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: S – 154 *Alleluia*

INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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, 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: *Alleluia! sing to Jesus (Hyfrydol)* (H 460)

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Announcements

February 15th to February 22nd

Sunday, February 15th

10 a.m.: Last Sunday after Epiphany, Holy Eucharist, Rev. Melissa Buono
5 p.m.: Dinner Church in William's Hall

Wednesday, February 18th

7 p.m.: Ash Wednesday Service.

Thursday, February 19th

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Church Office open
7:30 p.m.: Choir practice

Sunday, February 22nd

10 a.m.: Lent I, Holy Eucharist, Rev. William Bergmann

Final Sunday after Epiphany - Give us Strength to bear the cross

On this final Sunday after the Epiphany, we remember the God who revealed the glory of his only begotten Son on the holy mountain. We pray that, beholding by faith the light of Christ's countenance, we may be strengthened to bear our cross and be transformed into his likeness, from glory to glory. As the disciples glimpsed the radiance of Jesus and heard the Father's voice, we too listen to him, trusting that he will guide and sustain us on the way.

Gather, Pray, and Share a Meal Together at Dinner Church

Sunday, February 15| 5 PM | Williams Hall

Join us for **Dinner Church** - a time to share prayers, conversation, and a meal around the table. Inspired by the early church, Dinner Church is a lay-led service that blends familiar prayers with new reflections and community connection. This month, we'll celebrate and pray **In uncertain times, Prayers for the Helpers** while sharing a meal together.

All are welcome! **RSVP or send questions to Judie at familyministry@st-mark.org** — or just come as you are.

Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday

We will enter the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday service on February 18 at 7 p.m.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a forty-day season of penitence and preparation for the celebration of Christ's passion and resurrection. Its name comes from the ancient custom of placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of the faithful, often in the shape of a cross, as a sign of repentance and a reminder of human mortality—"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you

shall return.” The ashes, typically made from the burned palms of the previous year’s Palm Sunday, symbolize both sorrow for sin and the hope of renewal in God’s mercy.

Outreach Box: Heating support for those in need this winter

The Sunday School has asked that we support a program that gives heating assistance to those in need. The Outreach committee will donate collected funds for the **Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund**. This organization works with several local communities and utilities to help cover heating expenses for those who need help.

Make your voice heard. Weekly ICE Protests on Wednesdays

The grassroots organization Bearing Witness @ ICE (multiple links on Google) is continuing protests in front of the ICE detention center in Burlington (immediately behind the Mall) every Wednesday, 11 AM-1 PM. Attendance is now typically 500 and growing. Several St. Mark’s parishioners attend every week. If you’re interested in carpooling, please contact **Eric Kintner**. Another worthwhile resource for resisting ICE in many different ways is LUCE: <https://www.lucemass.org>

Help Support Our Neighbors Facing Food Insecurity

Many in our community are struggling with food insecurity due to the high cost of groceries and recent reductions in SNAP (food assistance) benefits. St. Mark’s Church invites parishioners to help support our local food pantries during this challenging time.

Please consider bringing non-perishable food items—such as canned goods, pasta, rice, or peanut butter—and placing them in the collection basket located in the narthex.

Your generosity helps ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. Thank you for your continued compassion and support.

Ongoing News

Office Hours - Irina and/or Rev. Bergmann will be in the office on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule an office appointment, please email secretary@st-mark.org or **Rev. Bergmann** at wcbrgm2n@gmail.com or call (978) 692-7849 and leave a voice message. Thank you.

The next Vestry Meeting is on Monday, February 10, 2026, at 7 p.m. on Zoom. Contact **Jean Ellis** at seniorwarden@st-mark.org if you would like to join.

St. Mark’s Bible Study meets every other week on Thursdays 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, and he will add you to the email distribution and send you the readings.

Pastoral Care: Would you like to receive communion? Need prayers for healing? Need support or assistance? Would you like to speak with a priest? Please email **Rev. Will Bergmann** at wcbrgm2n@gmail.com and Herb Elliott, our Pastoral Care team leader at herb.elliott@cheza.com. Alternatively, you can call 978-501-8479. You can also use the "Request Pastoral Visit" button on St. Mark's website.



PRIEST - IN - CHARGE

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MINISTER OF MUSIC

Lee Yezek: lyezek@gmail.com

VESTRY MEMBERS

Michael O'Hare (Jr. Warden), Scott Hilton (Treasurer), Ellen Tremblay (Clerk), Paul Ackroyd (At-Large), Jenny Meanwell, Chrissy Hemingway (Rental program), Melissa Dewing, Brennan Burks, Brenda Martin (Pre- School Representative), Mahiro Jilesen.

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