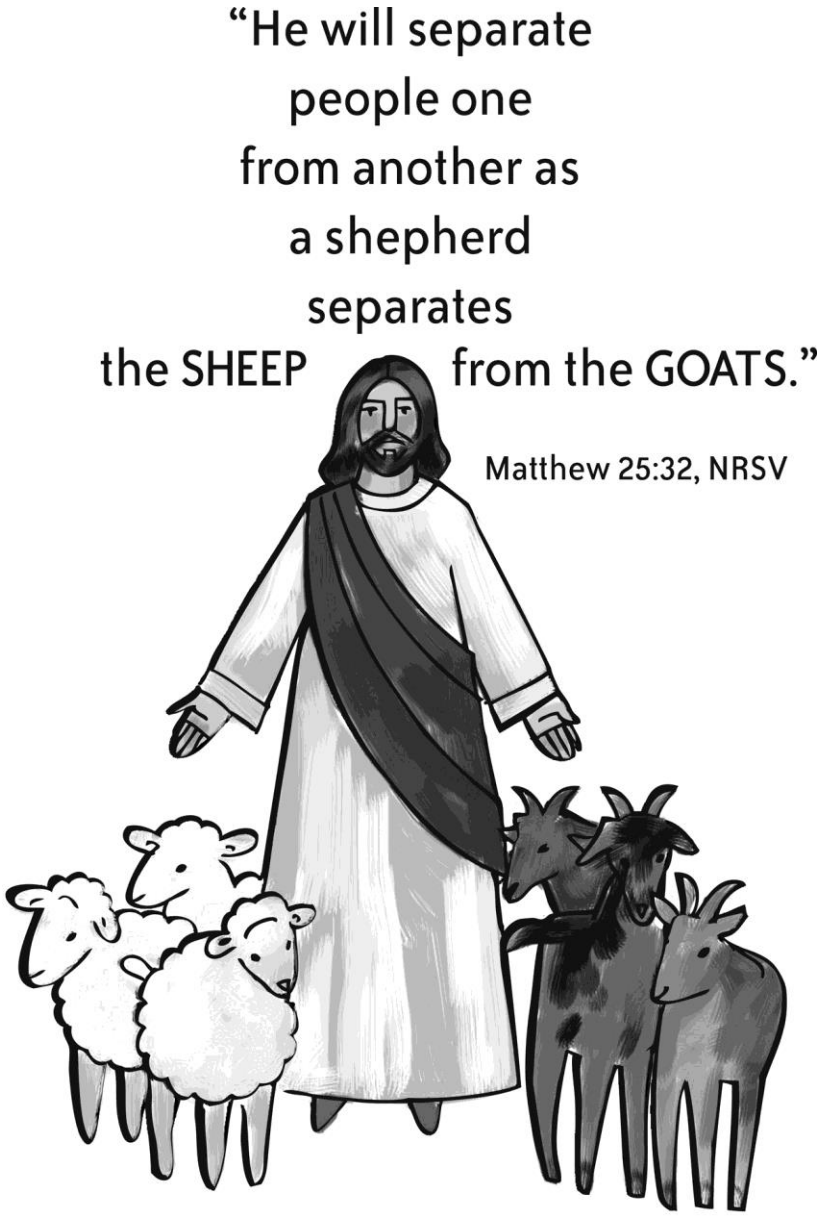
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
75 Cold Spring Road
Westford, Massachusetts, 01886



November 22, 2026
Rev. William Bergmann**,** *Officiant*
Minister of Music – *Lee Yezek*
Usher/Reader*: Brennan Burks*
Chalice: *Mary Pinto*

ENTRANCE HYMN: ***Before the Lord's eternal throne (Winchester New)*** **(H 391)**

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP 355)

GLORIA: ***S-277***

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 299)

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

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel.

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. 12 As
shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my
sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds
and thick darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries,
and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the
watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and
the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing
land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the
shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost,

and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

20Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, 22I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 95:1-7a

Remain seated.

1Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
  let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
2Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
  and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
3For the LORD is a great God, *
  and a great King above all gods.
4In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
  and the heights of the hills are his also.
5The sea is his, for he made it, *
  and his hands have molded the dry land.
6Come, let us bow down and bend the knee, *
  and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
7aFor he is our God, *
  and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

The people sit.

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

15I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 18so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from

the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21]far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22]And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23]which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN *All hail the power of Jesus' Name (Coronation)* (H 450)
All stand.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

All stand.

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

[Jesus said,] [31]"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. [32]All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, [33]and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. [34]Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; [35]for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36]I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37]Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? [38]And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? [39]And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' [40]And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.' [41]Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; [42]for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, [43]I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' [44]Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' [45]Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46]And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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.

***Celebrant**: Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." Trusting in God's abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation.*

***Leader**: Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, generosity, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission.*

***People**: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

***Leader:** God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds within this congregation, and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors*

near and far.

***People**: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

***Leader**: God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless this stewardship campaign, that our pledges of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you.*

***People**: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

***Leader**: God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy.*

***People**: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

***Leader**: God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need [especially N.]. Surround them with your healing and your peace.*

***People**: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

***Leader**: God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace [especially N.].*

***People**: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Celebrant**: Loving God, you call us into your abundant life and promise that there is plenty good room for all your children. Hear our prayers and accept the offerings of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.

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

Marnie Sheeran, Bob, Anna Oliverson, Susan and Kate, Jim Derik, Evie and family: Beth, Brendan and Corinne, Charlotte, Doug and the Pecora family, Karen, Kathy, Marcia, Sue Sweeney, Michael, Carol, Kate and family, Judy, Barbara, Karen, Marlene, Andrew Ward, John Gallacher, Lisa, Pamela, Elizabeth, Jane, Brooke, David Andrew, Marty Cassidy, Brian, Steve Winter, Chris Bowser, Jeff, Jean Duran.

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO RECENTLY DIED:

Ralph Regner, Janet Andrews, Pamela Hilton, Robert Parsons, Carol Sullivan.

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

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 Celebrant says	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.***

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

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 St. Mark and all your

saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. ***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-154***

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.*

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

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 22nd to November 29th

Sunday, November 22nd
10 a.m.: Final Sunday after Pentecost, Rev. Will Bergmann
5 p.m.: Dinner Church

Thursday, November 26th
Thanksgiving Day: St. Mark's Office is **CLOSED**

Sunday, November 29th
10 a.m.: 1st Sunday of Advent and 5th Sunday of November, Rev. Will Bergmann **AT TRINITY CHAPEL**

Last Sunday after Pentecost: Chris the King!
This week, we find that the king of kings is revealed not on a throne of gold but as a shepherd who searches out the scattered, binds up the injured, strengthens the weak, and feeds his flock with justice, and that is the standard by which all nations will be judged. Ezekiel's reveals God's declaration, "I myself will search for my sheep," with a ferocity that overturns every human expectation of power, and Paul prays that the eyes of our hearts would be opened to see the immeasurable greatness of that power, the same power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him far above every rule and dominion. Jesus brings the whole liturgical year to its breathtaking conclusion: When the Son of Man comes in glory, the question put to every nation will not be about doctrine or ritual, but whether we fed the hungry, welcomed the stranger, and visited the prisoner — because whatever we did to the least of these, we did to him.

Dinner Church Sunday, November 22, 2026 | 5 PM | Williams Hall
Prayers for Thanksgiving.

Come Join us for Dinner Church at St. Mark's. Dinner Church is an intimate setting 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 draw inspiration from the beauty of God's creation. All are welcome! RSVP or send questions to Judie at familyministry@st-mark.org, or just come as you are.

Plenty Good Room: 2026 Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off
As of Sunday, November 15, we are at 71% of our goal! Thanks to everyone who has pledged. There's still time and "plenty good room" to join.
November has been designated as Stewardship month, a time for reflection on our blessings and how we might joyfully share what we have in support of St. Mark's. This year's theme, Plenty Good Room, invites us to recognize the abundance that God has entrusted to us. There is plenty good room in God's household for each of us, and good and plenty to share. Even in uncertain times we are called to trust that there is enough: enough for our families, enough for our church, enough for our neighbors.

Our financial goal for 2027 as targeted but the Vestry is $105,000. Your gift of financial support allows us to plan a budget to fund staff salaries, operate and maintain our church building, and support the many ministries in which we participate. Unfortunately, as we are all facing, costs for everything have gone up, and running our parish is no exception. If you have not pledged in the past, please consider doing so for 2027. If you have, please prayerfully consider expanding your gift if you can to help us meet these growing financial headwinds.

There are two ways in which you can submit your pledge:

1. Fill out the pledge form located at the back of the church or received by mail and place in the offering plate, or mail to St. Mark's at 75 Cold Spring Road Westford MA 01886 (attn: Stewardship)
2. Email our confidential email address at st.markspledges@gmail.com

Gifts may be submitted throughout the month of November. Thank you, and together let us rejoice that there is always plenty good room in God's house, and plenty good work for us to do.

Faithfully,
Ellen and Mark Tremblay
2027 Campaign Chairs

Vestry Position Open for 2027
At the annual meeting each year, several positions on the Vestry are renewed. This year, Michael O'Hare (Junior Warden), Ellen Tremblay (Clerk) and Jenny Meanwell (At-Large member) each have expiring terms, but have already agreed to be nominated for additional terms. Mahiro Jilensen is completing an At-Large (3-year term) position which will be open in 2027.

The Vestry is a strong, vibrant team of eleven individuals who meet monthly (via Google Meets) to discuss and provide leadership for the church's operations and ministry programs.

Please consider joining the Vestry yourself or recommend someone else for the open position! St. Mark's, as are many small churches, faces challenges ahead but is in a good financial position with strong leadership from Rev. Will and the Vestry. You would be joining a strong team that will guide St. Mark's in its mission and ministry. Please contact Jean Ellis

(seniorwarden@st-mark.org) by mid-December if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity! Thank you!

Holiday Wishlist for Clients of St. Paul's Soup Kitchen
St. Paul's Soup Kitchen is looking forward to giving gift bags to their clients again this holiday season as they do every Christmas Eve. The gift bags include essential personal care items and some treats for their clients. To view and purchase from the Holiday Gift List please scan the QR code with your phone or click the link in our digital weekly newsletter. **Purchases and donations need to be completed by December 7**. If you have questions please contact Paul Ackroyd, phackroyd@verizon.net, or Joan O'Hare johare7@comcast.com.

Outreach Opportunities

November and December Outreach Box: For the Love of Erika Toy Drive
For the month of November and December our Outreach Box donations will go to support Westford Preschool's ***For the Love of Erika*** toy drive. Your contributions will be used to purchase toys for children in local hospitals, shelters, and the Department of Children and Families. Let's make this holiday season brighter together!

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.

Community Partnership

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**.**

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 Tuesday, December 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. on Google Meet. Contact **Jean Ellis** at seniorwarden@st-mark.org if you would like to join.

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
The Rev. Dr. Will Bergmann, wcbrgm2n@gmail.com, 978-501-3393

SENIOR WARDEN
Jean Ellis, seniorwarden@st-mark.org, Cell #: 978-758-6299

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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