St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Our Vision:

To grow in Christ through worship and service

Our Mission:

Called to be Christ Centered

Touching Lives + Transforming Hearts + Teaching God's Word

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The Feast of Christ the King

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

November 22, 2026, 10:30 AM

Welcome Home to Saint Mark's!

It is our privilege to worship with you this morning! Please know that all baptized Christians regardless of Church denomination, and all who seek a deeper knowledge and love of God in Christ are most welcome to receive the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist. Gluten-free wafers are available for those with allergies. Children are also welcome and encouraged to participate in all services at St. Mark's.

If this is your first time at St. Mark's, please complete a *Visitor Card* and let us know about your visit, especially if you have a specific need or prayer request. Visitor Cards are found in the pew racks. If you would like additional information about our many ministries and activities, speak to one of our Ushers or Greeters, or stop by the Parish Hall during the fellowship hour that follows each service. We would be honored to speak with you in person.

If you would like to make a financial offering or contribution you can do so by scanning this QR Code or via our website at www.stmarksgastonia.org

Again, Welcome Home to St. Mark's!
May God's peace and love enfold you.

Note: It is the custom in The Episcopal Church to prepare for worship by gathering in reverent silence and prayer, and during the worship service, stand for praise, sit for instruction, and, as you are able, kneel for prayer. Please respect the devotional needs of others by turning off cellular telephones and electronic devices, and by speaking with hushed voices.

All scripture passages are taken from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible,* © 1989, Division of Christian Education in the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Prelude: **Fanfare on "Austrian Hymn"** **Gordon Young**

Processional Hymn **"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"** **Hymnal #450**

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation: **BCP pg. 355**

Priest: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity:

The Gloria: ***#S-278***

The Collect of the Day:

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: ***And also with you.***

Priest: 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.

People: ***Amen.***

(All are seated for the Lessons from scripture . All children present are encouraged to depart for their Children's Chapel program.)

The Lessons

The First Lesson: **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. 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. 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. 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. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. 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.
Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And 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.***

(Time for silent reflection follows the reading.)

The Response: Psalm 100

1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

4 For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

(Time for silent reflection follows the reading.)

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I 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, so 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, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God 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, 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. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

(Time for silent reflection follows.)

The Sequence Hymn: **"Jesus shall Reign"** **Hymnal # 544**

The Holy Gospel: **Matthew 25:31-46**

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

Jesus said, "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. 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, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 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; 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, 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.' 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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 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.' 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; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 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.' 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?' 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.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

The Sermon: The Rev. R. Allan McCaslin

A time for silent reflection follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed: **BCP pg. 358**

The Prayers of the People **Form II** **BCP pg. 385**

(During the silence, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.)

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, I ask your prayers for the Church of England. In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, I ask your prayers for Christ Church, Sparta, Church of the Savior, Newland, the Chapel of Christ the King, at Craggy Correctional Center, Asheville, and all other prison ministries.

Silence

I ask your prayers for those who serve as our greeters,and for all the ministries and activities of this parish.
Pray for God's continued blessing on all who partake of, or serve in them.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

The Priest offers a concluding Collect.

The Confession of Sin: **BCP pg. 360**

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All kneel as they are able.

The Absolution: **BCP pg. 360**

The Peace:

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Please greet one another in the Name of the Lord.

The Announcements:

The Birthday Prayer: **BCP pg. 830**

The Anniversary Prayer: **BCP pg. 431**

The Offertory Anthem "Come, thou Fount of Every Blessing" Paul Manz

The Presentation Hymn: "The Doxology" Hymn # 380

(Vs. 3 *only*)

The Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer D **BCP pg. 372**

The Sursum Corda



The Proper Preface: **BCP pg. 373**

The Sanctus: **Hymnal # S-129**

(All kneel as they are able)

The Prayer of Consecration:

The Lord's Prayer: **BCP pg. 364**

The Breaking of the Bread: ***(The Fraction)***

The Fraction Anthem: **Hymnal # S-152**

The Ministration of the Communion:

Communion Hymns:

"This is the Hour of Banquet and of Song" **Hymnal #316**

"My God Thy Table Now is Spread" **Hymnal #321**

"Wherefore, O Father, We Thy Humble Servants" **Hymnal #338**

Post Communion Prayer: **BCP pg. 365**

The Blessing:

May God our Creator, who has given to his Son the name above every name, strengthen you to proclaim in your words and deeds that Jesus Christ is Lord;

And the blessing of God Almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People: **Amen.**

Concluding Hymn: **"Crown Hum with Many Crowns"** **Hymnal # 449**

The Dismissal:

Let us bless the Lord! Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude: **"In Thee is Gladness"** **Michael Burkhardt**

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

Announcements

Adult Christian Education (A.C.E.)

Join Fr. Allan in the Balthis Room at 9:15 am for a study on today's Gospel reading.

We Could Use More Blankets

As the weather gets colder, we have more demand for blankets. We can use blankets of all sizes, but what are needed most are fleece, or faux fleece, throw blankets; usually about 50x60 in size. They usually come packaged in a roll, and their price ranges from $5 to $12 a piece. Thank you!

Healing Service Ministry

Our **Healing Service Ministry** continues **Thursday mornings** from **11:00 am - 12 Noon** in the sanctuary. This ministry is led by laypersons from the parish. For additional information, please contact Eileen Klimkowski.

Caring Cupboard Immediate Needs

We have a few emergency needs for our Caring Cupboard. Thank you!

- Canned beans (no green beans please),
- boxes or cups of Mac and Cheese,
- cheese/peanut butter crackers,
- Beanie Weenies.

Clothing Closet Needs

- Our Clothing Closet needs continue. If you're out shopping and can add an item or two to your cart, it makes a real difference to those we serve at our doors during the week.

Men's Medium	Men's Large	Men's XL (1X)	Men's XXL (2X)	Men's Sneakers
-Sweatpants -LS & SS T-shirts* -Hoodies	-Sweatpants -LS & SS T-shirts* -Hoodies	-Sweatpants -LS & SS T-shirts* -Hoodies	-LS & SS T-shirts* -Hoodies	All sizes

- ** We ask that they not be white, as our guests tell us that colored shirts are much more practical and comfortable for them.*

ATTENTION! WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE

Effective Sunday, Nov. 29 (The First Sunday of Advent), the ***Weekly Announcements*** will be offered ***before the Opening Hymn*** i.e., at the start of services, and will continue to be offered before the opening hymn thereafter. Moving the announcements here will provide a more seamless flow to our worship services. Note: The Birthday and Anniversary Prayers will continue to be presented before the Offertory.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2026

The First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:00 am	Fellowship time – Parish Hall
9:15 am	Advent Wreath Making in the Parish Hall
10:30 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
12:00 pm	Fellowship time – Parish Hall

SCHEDULE FOR LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS – NOVEMBER 2026

	November 1 23rd Sunday after Pentecost	November 8 24th Sunday after Pentecost	November 15 25th Sunday after Pentecost	November 22 26th Sunday after Pentecost	November 29 1st Sunday of Advent
Lay Reader 8:00 AM	Pat Townsend	Linda Galda	George Sowersby	Judy Jackson-Malina	Judith Maloney
Lay Reader 10:30 AM	OT: Barbara Hartsell Ps: Barbara Hartsell NT: Heather Griffin Prayers: Heather Griffin	OT: Donna Dillon Ps: Donna Dillon NT: Dale Ward Prayers: Dale Ward	OT: Heanzlene DeCastro Ps: Heanzlene DeCastro NT: Omar DeCastro Prayers: Omar DeCastro	OT: Joe Bieker Ps: Joe Bieker NT: Elizabeth Whitford Prayers: Elizabeth Whitford	OT: Mary Grace Shockley Ps: Mary Grace Shockley NT: Dale Ward Prayers: Dale Ward
Ushers	Walter Hobbs Bob Ridgeway	Steve Campbell Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters HyCe Bull	Walter Hobbs Chappell Harris	Bob Ridgeway George Sowersby
Greeters	Fe McLaughlin Tim McLaughlin	Patti Tamberella Mike Tamberella	Bev Bieker Jessie Paradice	Bev Bieker Danelle Blackwell	Anna Carsner Richard Carsner
Acolytes	C: Kenya Pond G: Kenslie DeCastro T: Tucker Doyne T: Alex Griffin	C: Jessie Paradice G: Jake Barker T: Nora Johnson T: Millie Lampke	C: Tucker Doyne G: Kenslie DeCastro T: Emma Kate Griffin T: Kenya Pond	C: Ella Carsner G: Ethan Jones T: Jack Carsner T: Jack Barker	C: TBD G: TBD T: TBD T: TBD
Nursery	Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake	
Preacher	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin
Flowers	Marilyn Almcrantz: Celebrating Marquee's Birthday Judy Jackson-Malina: In celebration of St. Marks clergy and parishioners	Sarah Reidy-Jones: In celebration of Ethan Jones' baptism and in memory of Barbara Reidy on her heavenly birthday today	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship
Altar Guild	Richard Martinez Pat Spetzialetti	Mary Fitzgerald Gloria Bull	Bev Bieker	TBD	TBD
Coffee Hour	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship
Vestry Lock-Up	Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters	Marilyn Walters

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. R. Allan McCaslin……*Interim Priest*
The Ven. Brenda M. Gilbert……*Archdeacon, Dio. of Western NC*
The Rev. Deacon Cathy Wesson……*Deacon*
Ms. Dionne Browning ……*Business Administrator*
Ms. Sarah Lynch ……*Organist & Choir Director*
Ms. Debbie Brake ……*Nursery*
Ms. Beverly Bieker…… ……*Office Assistant*
Mr. Kris Kiser……*Church Sexton*

CURRENT VESTRY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Mr. Eric Lampke, '27……*Senior Warden, Bldgs-Grounds*
Mrs. Judy Jackson-Malina, '26 ……*Junior Warden, Outreach*
Mrs. Fe McLaughlin, 26 ……*Parish Life, Newcomers*
Ms. Marilyn Walters, '26 ……*In-reach*
Mr. George Sowersby, '27……*Buildings and Grounds*
Mrs. Pat Townsend, 27 ……*In-reach*
Ms. Elizabeth Whitford, '28……*New Member*
Mr. Chappell Harris, '28 ……*New Member*
Ms. Dionne R. Browning……*Vestry Clerk*
Mr. Steve Campbell ……*Treasurer*
Mrs. Kenna Watts……*Assistant Treasurer*