

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

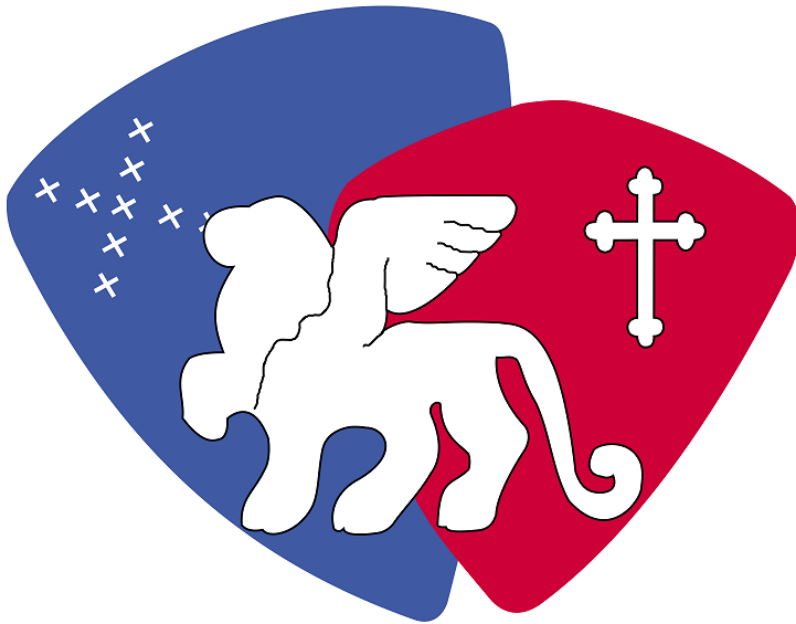
Our Vision:

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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www.stmarksgastonia.org

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.

The Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Sunday, October 25, 2026 – 10:30 AM
The Word of God

Prelude:

The Processional Hymn: “Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise” Hymnal pg. 423

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.*

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and 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 Old Testament: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to

this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses.

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

- 1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.
- 3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
- 4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
- 14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
- 15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
- 16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.

17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

The New Testament:

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn: “Take My Life and Let it Be”

Hymnal pg. 707

The Holy Gospel:

Matthew 22: 34-46

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

‘The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet”’?

If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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 I

BCP pg. 383

Leader: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying
"Lord, have mercy."

Leader: For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For Sarah, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean, our Presiding Bishop: for all bishops, and for all the clergy and people, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For the Anglican Church of the Province of Central Africa, and for St. Francis, Rutherfordton, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For our clergy and all the ministries of this parish, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For those who travel on land, on water, or in the air, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

People: *Lord, have mercy.*

Leader: In the communion of Saint Mark, and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God.

People: *To thee, O Lord our God.*

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:

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

(Please greet each other in the name of Christ)

Announcements with:

Birthday Prayer:

BCP pg. 830

Anniversary Prayer:

BCP pg. 431

Minute for Mission: Stewardship Presentation

Offertory

The Presentation Hymn:

“The Doxology” (vs. 3)

Hymnal pg. 380

Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP pg. 367

Sanctus:

Hymnal S 129

The Lord's Prayer:

BCP pg. 364

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Fraction Anthem:

Hymnal S 154

The Ministration of the Communion:

*Join Steve Thomas in the chapel during communion or after services
on Sunday for intercessory prayer.*

Communion Hymns:

“My God, Thy Table Now is Spread”

Hymnal pg. 321

“Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord”

Hymnal pg. 328

“O God Unseen, Yet Ever Near”

Hymnal pg. 332

Post Communion Prayer:

BCP pg. 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn:

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Hymnal pg. 450

Dismissal

Postlude

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
in appreciation of the Stewardship committee
(Father Allan, Bev, Joe, Dionne, Kenna, Leslie & Valeta) by Judy Jackson-Malina*

Announcements

Stewardship Campaign

Our 2027 Stewardship Campaign is underway! Please watch your mailbox for your stewardship packet. Some letters may arrive separately. If you do not receive yours, please contact the church office. Completed pledge cards will be dedicated next Sunday, Nov 1st.

St. Mark's Nursery

St. Mark's Nursery is open on Sunday mornings for children under 5 years of age. Volunteers are always welcome to help out. Contact Debbie Brake for more information.

Children's Sunday School Program

Open to all children 5 years of age and older. Classes are held on the 2nd floor and gather around 9:15 am. At the conclusion of the class, children are encouraged to join their family and friends and attend the 10:30 am worship service. See Steve Thomas for information.

Children's Chapel Program

Following the opening hymn, salutation, Gloria, and Collect of the Day, all children are encouraged to participate in our Children's Chapel program. Just follow the children's cross and journey upstairs for their own unique worship service. The children will return to the Sanctuary during the Peace and are welcome to participate in Holy Communion.

Adult Christian Education (A.C.E.)

Join Fr. Allan in the Balthis Room at 9:15 am for "Part 1" of his 3 Part series, "The Drama of Christian Worship". This series explores the depths of how The Episcopal Church proclaims "The Greatest Story Ever Told" throughout every worship service gathering.

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.

The 26 Miracles of Jesus

Thursdays, 12 noon – 1 pm

Learn about the healing power of Jesus as we explore His miracles and learn how to pray for anyone, anywhere, in the name of Jesus. This DVD teaching series, hosted by Eileen Klimkowski, is led by two retired Episcopal priests.

Caring Cupboard Needs

We have a few emergency needs for our Caring Cupboard ministry: Canned beans (no green beans please), boxes or cups of Mac and Cheese, Cheese/peanut butter crackers, and Beanie Weenies. Thank you!

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.*

SCHEDULE FOR LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS – NOVEMBER 2026

	November 1 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost	November 8 24 th Sunday after Pentecost	November 15 25 th Sunday after Pentecost	November 22 26 th Sunday after Pentecost	November 29 1 st 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	Parti 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 Almerantz: 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.....	<i>Interim Priest</i>
The Ven. Brenda M. Gilbert	<i>Archdeacon, Dio. of Western NC</i>
The Rev. Deacon Cathy Wesson	<i>Deacon</i>
Ms. Dionne Browning	<i>Business Administrator</i>
Ms. Debbie Brake	<i>Nursery</i>
Ms. Beverly Bieker.....	<i>Office Assistant</i>
Mr. Kris Kiser	<i>Church Sexton</i>

CURRENT VESTRY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

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

