

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

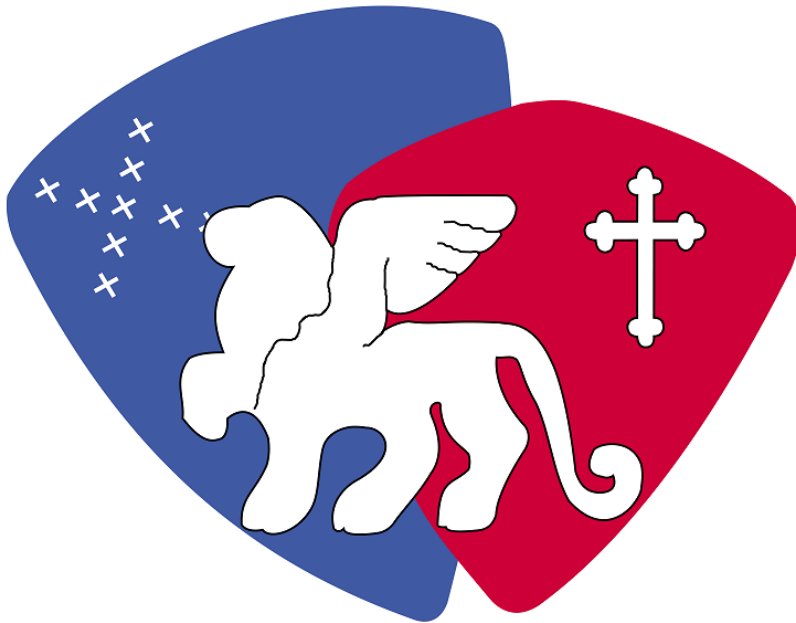
Our Vision:

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 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

August 9, 2026, 9:30 AM

Prelude	“Fugue in D Major”	J.S. Bach
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Processional Hymn “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Hymnal pg. 390

The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **BCP pg. 355**

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

The Collect for Purity

Gloria (S 280) **BCP pg. 356**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

The Old Testament **Genesis 37:1-4, 12-2** Barbara Hartsell

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm

Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b

Barbara Hartsell

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.
- 3 Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

4 Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

5 Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,

6 O offspring of Abraham his servant, *
O children of Jacob his chosen.

16 Then he called for a famine in the land *
and destroyed the supply of bread.

17 He sent a man before them, *
Joseph, who was sold as a slave.

18 They bruised his feet in fetters; *
his neck they put in an iron collar.

19 Until his prediction came to pass, *
the word of the LORD tested him.

20 The king sent and released him; *
the ruler of the peoples set him free.

21 He set him as a master over his household, *
as a ruler over all his possessions,

22 To instruct his princes according to his will*
and to teach his elders wisdom.

45 Hallelujah!

The New Testament

Romans 10:5-15

George Sowersby

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be

put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Sequence Hymn “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” Hymnal pg. 608

The Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

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

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

The Sermon The Rev. R. Allan McCaslin

The Nicene Creed BCP pg. 358

Leader: Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: We commend to *your* mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

People: *Hear our prayer.*

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for La Capilla de Santa Maria in Hendersonville, St. Mary of the Hills in Blowing Rock, and St. Mary's in Asheville.

We pray for those who travel this week.

We give thanks for those celebrating birthdays this week, and for those celebrating their wedding anniversaries.

We give thanks for all the ministries and activities of this parish, and pray that God will continue to bless all who partake of, or serve in them.

(The priest offers a concluding Collect)

People: *Amen.*

The Confession of Sin and 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

Offertory

"Aria"

Johann Kuhnau

The Presentation Hymn:

"The Doxology"
(vs. 3)

Hymnal pg. 380

Liturgy of the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP pg. 361

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:

“Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness”

Hymnal pg. 339

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”

Hymnal pg. 341

“Bread of the World in Mercy Broken”

Hymnal pg. 301

Post Communion Prayer

BCP pg. 365

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

Hymnal pg. 398

Dismissal

Postlude

“Trumpet Voluntary”

John Stanley

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

Announcements

Clothing Closet Needs

Our Clothing Closet has a few ongoing needs. 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 Small	Men's Medium	Men's Large	Men's XL (1X)	Men's Sneakers
Drawstring Shorts Hoodies Sweatpants T-shirts*	Drawstring Shorts T-shirts*	Sweatpants T-shirts*	Hoodies T-shirts*	All sizes
Women's Small	Women's Medium			
Pants/shorts T-shirts*	Pants/shorts T-shirts*			

**any color except white, please.*

Diocesan Bishop Search Survey Now Available

The diocesan Bishop Search Committee has prepared an online survey soliciting parishioner input on what you perceive is needed in our next bishop, provide feedback on diocesan programs and focus, and share our desires for The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Western North Carolina. This is an excellent opportunity to let your voice be heard and taken into consideration. The window for submitting your completed survey is August 2nd through August 30th.

To receive the survey, you ***must subscribe online to*** the Diocesan Weekly E-News, "Along the Way." Please use the QR Code or following link to sign up:

<https://www.diocesewnc.org/newsletter>



Vestry Opportunities

With our Rector Search Committee fully formed, commissioned, and beginning their discernment process, we are also eager to identify members of our parish community who would be willing to serve on Vestry, beginning with a mid-term seat this year. As we continue through this season of transition, strong and engaged leadership matters more than ever. If you feel called to serve, or know someone who might be, please reach out to any member of the Vestry.

Are You Receiving St. Mark's E-blast Notifications?

If you are not receiving the St. Mark's E-blast notifications, please reach out to the office, because we want everyone to be included in our communications.

Stewardship Summer Reminder

As many of us are in and out during the summer, our giving tends to slow down. Remembering St. Mark's in your summer stewardship helps us maintain the week-to-week activities that keep our church going, and the work that support our parish and community. We're grateful for your faithfulness in every season.

Mid-Year Giving Status

In light of the mid-year update shared earlier this week via the e-blast, if you'd like to check your 2026 giving status, please reach out to the office. Dionne will be glad to provide that information.

Healing Service Ministry

A reminder that 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** **Aug 6th – Oct 29th, 2026 at St. Mark's**

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.

SCHEDULE FOR LAY LEADERSHIP POSITIONS – AUGUST 2026

	August 2 8 th Sunday after Pentecost	August 9 9 th Sunday after Pentecost	August 16 10 th Sunday after Pentecost	August 23 11 th Sunday after Pentecost	August 30 12 th Sunday after Pentecost
Lay Reader 9:30 AM	OT: Linda Galda Ps: Linda Galda NT: Donna Dillon Prayers: Ed Galda	OT: Barbara Hartsell Ps: Barbara Hartsell NT: George Sowersby Prayers: George Sowersby	OT: Rachel Varriale Ps: Rachel Varriale NT: Richard Martinez Prayers: Nancy Byers	OT: Fran Henderson Ps: Fran Henderson NT: Yolanda Laine Prayers: Pete Laine	OT: John Watts Ps: John Watts NT: Judith Maloney Prayers: Shay Matthews
Ushers	Chappell Harris Marilyn Walters	Jessie Paradice Nancy Byers	Hyce Bull George Sowersby	Bob Ridgeway Chappell Harris	Blaine Rudisill Cookie Rudisill
Greeters	John Fitzgerald Mary Fitzgerald	Anna Carsner Richard Carsner	Patti Tamberella Mike Tamberella	Fe McLaughlin Tim McLaughlin	Danelle Blackwell Susan Sowersby
Acolytes	C: Jake Barner G: Natalie Johnson	C: Alex Griffin G: Emma Kate Griffin	C: Tucker Doyne G:	C: G: Ethan Jones	C: Mason McCarey G: Nora Johnson
Nursery		Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake	Debbie Brake
Preacher	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin	Fr. McCaslin
Flowers	Bev Ipock	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship	Available for Sponsorship	Ann Ward
Altar Guild	Richard Martinez Pat Spetzialetti	Bev Bieker	Gloria Bull Mary Stamey	Yolanda Laine Pat Townsend	Mary Fitzgerald Penny Barker
Coffee Hour	Fe & Tim McLaughlin	Fe & Tim McLaughlin	TBD	TBD	TBD
Vestry Lock-Up	George Sowersby	George Sowersby	George Sowersby	George Sowersby	George Sowersby

To Our Guests

Welcome Home to St. Mark's!

If you are traveling or visiting family and friends from out of town, we wish you a safe and peaceful journey. If you are seeking a church home and looking for a new or deeper relationship with God in Christ, we hope that you will take some time and just be among us. We want to learn who you are, worship with you, and share in your spiritual journey.

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. Suzanne Whatley, '25.....	<i>Parish Life</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. Dionne R. Browning.....	<i>Vestry Clerk</i>
Mr. Steve Campbell.....	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mrs. Kenna Watts.....	<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>

