

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
 NOVEMBER 29, 2020                      YEAR B

**Prelude "Savior of the nations, come!"**

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

**Lighting the Advent Candle**

Come, O Holy One, as the morning light after a wakeful night! Keep us mindful that at any moment you may ask of us an accounting of our lives; help us to love you and love one another in all we do, and so clothe us with your light that we may bring others to love you also; through Jesus our Savior. *Amen.*

**Opening Hymn 57 "Lo! he comes, with clouds descending"**

*Helmsley*



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

**Confession and Absolution**    *NZ Prayer Book adapted*

*Deacon*    Happy are those whose sins are forgiven,  
              whose wrongs are pardoned.  
              I will confess my sins to God,  
              I will not conceal my wrongdoings.

*Silence*

*People*    **God forgives and heals us.**  
***We need your healing, merciful God:***  
***give us true repentance.***  
***Some sins are plain to us;***  
***some escape us,***  
***some we cannot face.***

***Forgive us;***  
***set us free to hear your word to us;***  
***set us free to serve you.***

*Presider*    God forgives you.  
              Forgive others;  
              forgive yourself.

**Opening Acclamation**

*Presider*    Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

*People*    ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

**The Collect for Purity**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Kyrie**

Lord, have mercy.

***Christ, have mercy.***

Lord, have mercy.

**The Collect of the Day**

*Presider*    The Lord be with you.

*People*    ***And also with you.***

*Presider*    Let us pray.

God of hope, when Christ your Son appears may he not find us asleep or idle, but active in his service and ever ready; through the same Jesus Christ our Savior. ***Amen.***

**The Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned;

because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

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

### **Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18**

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
stir up your strength and come to help us.

3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

4 O Lord God of hosts, \*  
how long will you be angered  
despite the prayers of your people?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; \*  
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

### **The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you – so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

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

Sequence Hymn "Soon and Very Soon" from *Lift Every Voice and Sing*



1. Soon and ver - y soon \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King, \_\_\_\_\_
2. No more cry - in' there \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King, \_\_\_\_\_
3. No more dy - in' there \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King, \_\_\_\_\_
4. Soon and ver - y soon \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King; \_\_\_\_\_



1. Soon and ver - y soon \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King, \_\_\_\_\_
2. No more cry - in' there \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King, \_\_\_\_\_
3. No more dy - in' there \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King, \_\_\_\_\_
4. Soon and ver - y soon \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King; \_\_\_\_\_



1. Soon and ver - y soon \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King,
2. No more cry - in' there \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King,
3. No more dy - in' there \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King,
4. Soon and ver - y soon \_\_\_\_\_ we are goin' to see the King;



Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, \_\_\_\_\_ we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu -



jah, Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah.

Words: Andrae Crouch (b. 1942) Music: Andrae Crouch © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music/ASCAP

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

**The Gospel: Mark 13:24-37**

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each

with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

## **The Homily**

**The Rev. Mark Kozielec**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

Let us declare our faith in God.

*All: We believe in God the Creator,  
infinite in wisdom, mercy and love,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Son of man,  
the gift of God’s unfailing grace, the ground of our hope,  
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
the divine presence in our lives,  
who sustains and strengthens us, especially in our time of need.  
We believe in one God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit,  
and that our faith should manifest itself in the service of love  
as set forth in the example of our blessed Savior,  
that the realm of God may come upon the earth. Amen.*

### **Prayers of the People**

*Leader* As we keep awake for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us offer prayers to God who stirs up strength and comes to guide us, praying, ***“Come, O Lord, and save us.”***

For the church throughout the world, that we may be attentive to the nearness of the Lord’s presence;  
For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Mark our Rector, for Jerre our Deacon, and for all the People of God;  
In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of Christ Church Cathedral;  
In the Anglican Cycle, we pray for the Lusitanian Church;  
In our companion Diocese of Lui, we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan;  
In the local ecumenical cycle, we pray for our sisters and brothers at Gethsemane Church;  
We pray for our ministry outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing, its clients, staff, volunteers and supporters;  
We give thanks on her birthday with Maevelyn Savens. Let us pray,  
***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, that they may have the wisdom and courage to seek peace and justice, let us pray,  
***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For all peoples of every race, nation and disposition; may your love so embrace us all, that its power overcomes our conflicts, defenses, and fears; let us pray,  
***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For all who are ill with the COVID-19 virus, those in isolation away from their loved ones, those who have been harmed economically, and those who mourn the loss of loved ones. For the protection of our health care providers, first responders, school children, and all those who put their own health at risk to serve your people; let us pray,

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For the sick and the suffering, for the hungry, homeless, and the oppressed, and for refugees and those who live in fear of separation from their homes and families, let us pray,

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need.

We pray for those on our Parish Prayer list, and those whom we name, either silently or aloud [pause];

We pray for all who struggle with addiction, that God may strengthen them in their recovery;

We pray for those serving in the armed forces and all those who endeavor in public service; let us pray,

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For ourselves, our families, and companions, and all those we love; let us pray,

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

For the dying and the dead and those who grieve, let us pray,

***Come, O Lord, and save us.***

*The Presider offers this concluding collect*

Gracious God, you shape our dreams. As we put our trust in you may your hopes and desires be ours, and may we be your expectant people. ***Amen.***

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Presider and People*

***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.***

### **Prayer of Spiritual Communion**

*Presider* In unity with people around the world, let us pray.

*People* ***Lord of the Feast, we thank you for gathering us as your people. We call to remembrance the many times we have been fed at your table and we lament our distance now. Be present Lord Jesus as you were present with your disciples, be known to us in the breaking of the bread, and may your Holy Spirit sustain us and all your Church until we can gather together again. We ask this for the sake of your love. Amen.***

### **The Peace**

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* ***And also with you.***

*We greet each other in the name of the risen Christ.*

### **The General Thanksgiving**

*Presider* Let us offer our thanks and praise to Almighty God. Let us pray.

*Silence is kept for a time.*

*Presider* Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

*People* ***We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.***

*Presider* We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

*People* ***We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.***

*Presider* Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

*People* **Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.**

### The Blessing

*Presider* May the God of peace make you perfect and holy, and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ; and the blessing God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

*People* **Amen.**

### Closing Hymn 68 "Rejoice! rejoice believers"

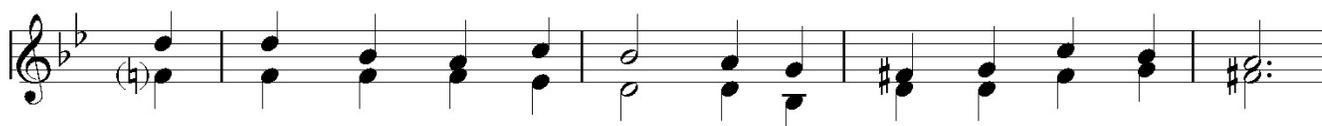
*Llangloffan*



1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!  
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;  
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;  
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.  
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

### The Dismissal

*Deacon* As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

### ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP

*Lectors:* Susan Goen, Ed Rich

*Responses:* Vicki Stegmann

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank You** to all who have completed and sent in a pledge card. If you did not receive one in the mail or have misplaced it, please call or email the office and we can send one out to you, or you can send an email with the details. Any questions contact the rector.

**Episcopal City Mission** - Please see this week's *Markings* for the "Holiday Giving for Youth in Detention" flyer. We will not be collecting items here at St. Mark's, but please feel free to send a check directly to them. St. Mark's will be making a donation from Outreach Also, there will not be a gift wrapping party this year - save the wrap and tape for next year!

**Parish Administrator Search Reopened** - With the unexpected resignation of our recently hired Parish Administrator we have reopened our search to fill this job. Yes, Carol did retire, but **thankfully** has agreed to work limited hours on a contract basis while we go through the process. See the *Markings* for info.

**In the Markings this week:** This week there are new photos and other information. Don't forget to open and see in more detail what is happening here at St. Mark's including the following:

- Margaret Hvatum's Chocolate Fundraiser
- Prayers for the Lighting of Advent Candles
- An Advent Message from our Bishop
- Advent Calendar from the Episcopal Church
- "Why I am Grateful for St. Mark's" by Lou Swallow
- Diocesan Convention Roll Call Video
- Video of the Bishop's Visit/Confirmation
- Episcopal Church Women (ECW) - "Voices of the Nativity". A service led by The Rev. Rebecca Ragland, St. Paul's on Zoom Dec. 9th at 5:30 pm.
- Thanksgiving Food Ministries - Opportunities for giving with Feed My People and Isaiah 58 Ministries

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**We pray for** Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Deon our Bishop, for Mark our Rector, for Jerre our Deacon, and for all the holy People of God;

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for Christ Church Cathedral;

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the Lusitanian Church;

**In our companion Diocese of Lui**, we pray for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan;

**In our local Ecumenical cycle of Prayer**, we pray for our sisters and brothers at Gethsemane Lutheran Church;

**We pray for** our ministry outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing, its clients, staff, volunteers and supporters.

**We pray for those who are ill**, in trouble or distress of any kind, especially Vickie B., Lynn Kiamie Bianchini, Margaret Birdsong, Marianne and Steve Chamberlin, Nicole Fiehler, Randy and Janet Gerhls, Bill Henkel and family, Ellen, Doug and Sam Jeffery, Kathy & Gary Kraleman, Jenny Mullikin, Neicee Nelson, Gary & Kathy Makely, Robin Mendica, Nina Olmsted, Cynthia and her mother Helen Pierson, Nancy Raedeke, Susan Raedeke, Gene Rich, Linda Ritterskamp, Pam Sellers, David Shelton, Henry Shelton, Brad Shelton, Mitch Shelton and family, Mary Frances Stegmann, Ann Vannier, Lindsay Watts, Margie Weaver, Marilyn and David Wiethop, Cheryl Wyatt, Robbie, Nicole, Dean and family, Keith and Marsha, Judy, Yaz, Hector, Leticia, Hector Jr, Tanis, Justine, Terry, Jessica, Pat, Kim, Conner, Dorothy, Judie, Aidan, Penny, Sheeran, Linnea and her family, Carmen, Leslie, Mark, Logan, Ethan, Kathleen, Elizabeth, Eric, and Lauren.

**We pray for those** who have died, especially Judy Henkel.

**We pray for** those serving in the armed forces, especially Brett Murray, Jon Foy, Alec Garbs, Robert McCarthy, Brandon George, Jon Moore, Paul Malabar, Chris Weinrich, and Matthew.

**We give thanks** on her birthday with Maevelyn Savens.

## SAINT MARK'S CHURCH

*An Episcopal Church Where Each Person is Valued*

4714 Clifton Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63109

314/832-3588

[mark@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:mark@saintmarks-stl.org)

[www.saintmarks-stl.org](http://www.saintmarks-stl.org)

[parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org)

The Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson Bishop of MO

The Rev. Mark Kozielc Rector

The Rev. Jerre Birdsong Deacon

Barbara Raedeke Organist and Choir Director

Celeste Kocot Youth Christian Formation