

The mission of the Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul is

to worship God,
to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ,
to serve the world for which Christ died,
to educate and nurture our community,
and welcome all.

The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, D. Min., Rector, rector@stmarkstpaul.org
The Ven. Elizabeth Carpenter, Deacon, deacon@stmarkstpaul.org
The Rev. Kelly Ramer Moody, Curate, curate@stmarkstpaul.com
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Vestry:

Robin Bates, <i>Senior Warden</i> (‘25)	Kathryn Bruce, <i>Evangelism/Communication</i> (‘27)
Jay Fisher, <i>Stewardship/Capital Campaign</i> (‘25)	Dorothy Gates, <i>Junior Warden</i> (‘25)
John Gatta, <i>Finance</i> (‘26)	Cheryl Lankhaar, <i>Parish Life</i> (‘25)
Rachel Lynch, <i>Univ. & Comm. Relations</i> (‘27)	Neil Patterson, <i>Christian Formation</i> (‘26)
Mary Priestley, <i>CAC</i> (‘26)	

Andrea Sanders, *Clerk*
Beth Wiley, *Treasurer*

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The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

Welcome to this morning's service of worship!

Restrooms are available in Claiborne Parish House,
the building directly behind the church.

Nursery care is available during both services (more information on Announcement insert).

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Prelude:

Hymn 76 (*blue book*): “On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry” *Winchester New*

Opening Acclamation and Collect for Purity Prayer Book (*red*) page 355

Trisagion: WLP 845 (*green book*)

Collect of the Day (*insert*)

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10 (*insert*)

Psalms 146:4-9 (*Spoken at 8:30; sung at 11:00.*)



4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their | help! *
whose hope is in the | Lord their | God;
5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all | that is | in them; *
who keeps his pro- | mise for | ever;
6 Who gives justice to those who | are o- | ppressed, *
and food to | those who | hunger.
7 The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes | of the | blind; *
the Lord lifts up those who | are bowed | down;
8 The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares | for the | stranger; *
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way | of the | wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for ever, * your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Halle- lujah!		
Second Reading: James 5:7-10 <i>(insert)</i>		
Sequence Hymn 59: “Hark a thrilling voice is sounding”	<i>Merton</i>	
Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11 <i>(insert)</i>		
Sermon	The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn	
Nicene Creed	page 328	
Prayers of the People, Form I	page 383	
Confession of Sin	page 360	
The Peace	page 360	
Announcements		
Offertory Hymn 444: <i>(8:30)</i> “Blessed be the God of Israel”	<i>Thornbury</i>	
Offertory Anthem: <i>(11am Children’s choir)</i> The Lord will come and not be slow <i>Text can be found on page 462 of the Hymnal</i>		
The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer B)	page 367	
Sanctus: S-130		
The Lord’s Prayer (Contemporary)		
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins	as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.	
At the Breaking of the Bread: Hymnal, S-164		
At Communion: <i>All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. Anyone may come forward to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms across your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available; simply ask the priest. For the sake of public health, please drink from the chalice or decline it by crossing your arms across your chest.</i>		
Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors <i>(when needed)</i> <i>(in unison)</i> In the name of this parish, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ’s body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.		

Postcommunion Prayer	page 366
Hymn 437: “Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord”	<i>Birmingham</i>
Advent Blessing	
Dismissal	
Postlude	
The arrangement at the altar today is given by Cheryl Lankhaar and Dr. Joe Wehrmeyer in honor of Cheryl Lankhaar's father, John Lankhaar whose birthday was Dec. 11 and in thanksgiving for his loving commitment to his family during his lifetime.	
Altar Guild — Beth Wiley, Andrea Sanders	
Bread Baker — Luwin Lewis	
Tellers — Susan Holmes, Diane Jones	
Flowers — Lina Welborn	
Coffee Hour — Cheryl Lankhaar & Joe Wehrmeyer	
8:30 service	11:00 service
Vestry — Dorothy Gates	John Gatta
Server — Will Mahler	Jamie Pappas
Chalice Bearer — Beth Amundson	Julia Bates
Readers — Joel Cunningham, Sue Moseley	Jennifer Michael, Matthew Mitchell
Intercessor — Alec Moseley	Diane Jones
Acolytes —	Theo Mitchell
Usher(s) -- Bruce Baird	Susan Holmes, Diane Jones
Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil	
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. David’s Church, Nashville	
Prayer Requests: Brady Hall, Emily Hauze, Kim Heitzenrater, Phebe Hethcock, Mike Jones, Mike Mattei, Julian Price, Leah Rhys, Isaiah Shelby, Evelyn Taylor, Freddy Tucker, those who are refugees or suffering the effects of war or violence.	
Birthdays: Bob Roberson, Benjamin Richaud, and Kathy Solomon.	

Announcements

This Sunday the Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 8:30 and 11am. The 11am service will be livestreamed on our Facebook page and remains available there.

Nursery Services: Infants and toddlers through three years old are invited to gather downstairs in Claiborne Hall.

Christmas Memorials: It is that time of year when the Altar Guild offers church members an opportunity to contribute to the beauty of our church during this blessed holiday season. Please consider honoring your family and friends with a 2025 donation towards poinsettias and Christmas decorations. The Flower Fund donation is \$50.00, which may include up to 6 dedications per family in one donation.

Please specify whether the gift is a thanksgiving dedication for living family and friends or a memorial gift for the dearly departed, including the names of those dedicated.

Please email, **Cheryl Lankhaar** at cheryllankhaar@gmail.com, no later than **Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 11 AM, including the exact wording of your dedication.**

Sunday Forum: Steve Blount will talk about, "Criminal Justice: A Shift from Punitive to Compassion" Steve will give us his perspective on the "state" of our criminal justice system, where it is failing and how it needs to change.

Blount is a 1981 graduate of Sewanee and graduated from Florida State University's College of Law in 1983. He spent the first seven years of his legal career in private practice before becoming an Assistant District Attorney General for the 12th Judicial District of the State of Tennessee, where he served for 32 years.

Upcoming Events

Christmas Pageant: The annual parish Christmas Pageant will be held at 4:30pm at McCrory Hall (St. Andrews-Sewanee) on Sunday, Dec 14th.

Advent Study: Rev. Tom Gildemeister will conclude our study on Frederick Buechner: Writing for the Kingdom. This will take place in Brooks Hall, 5:30-6:30pm on Tuesday December 16. Please bring a snack or drink to share.

Season of Angels Tree: The Christmas season is approaching, and CAC will once again host its *Season of Angels Tree* to help provide clothing and gifts for children in our CAC families. Please keep an eye out in the coming days for gift tags on the tree in Kennerly Hall. All gifts are due by Tuesday, December 16th.

Christmas Eve Services

4:30pm All Saints Chapel

9:30pm St. Mark & St. Paul

Christmas Day Service

10am St. Mark & St. Paul

Join a Winter Foyer Group!

What: A small group of parishioners meeting together for fellowship, guided scripture reflection, and prayer (scripture, discussion questions, and prayers provided by the church).

Where: Groups are encouraged to meet in a host home. You will have the opportunity to indicate whether you are willing to host when signing up.

When: Every week for three weeks, January 25 - Feb 13 (depending on the day of the week your group meets) for 1.5 hours each.

Why: To deepen our relationships with God and one another, and connect with new people.

How: Sign up to be included in a group by completing the form at this link: <https://acesse.one/PJd4L>. You'll rank your preferences for meeting day and time. We hope to have enough participants to offer groups at the following times:

Saturdays, January 25, February 1 and February 8 at 5 pm

Sundays, January 26, February 2 & February 9 at 2 pm or 4:30 pm

Tuesday mornings, January 28, February 4, & February 11 at 10 am

Thursday evenings, January 30, February 6, and February 13 at 6:30 pm

We will be in touch in mid-January with the details of your group meeting. In the meantime, if you have any questions, you may reach out to Kelly at curate@stmarkstpaul.org or call Dan in the office.

Centering Prayer Group: Mondays at 7pm and Tuesdays at 2:30pm, both in the sanctuary.

Lectionary Bible Study at Saint Mark and Saint Paul's meets every Tuesday at 2:30 PM in Brooks Hall. The class begins with a brief prayer and a reading of the Gospel lesson appointed for the coming Sunday. The group is convened and the conversation moderated by the Rev. Scott Lee.

Adult Choir: Adult choir practice is Sundays 12:30-1:30pm.

Children's choir rehearses on Wednesday after school. To enroll your child contact Wyatt Poe at: music@stmarkstpaul.org

Godly Play continues this Sunday at 9:45 am for children (3 years old through 5th grade).

- Godly Play 1 & 2 Combined: *Advent III*,
- 4th/5th: (Meets in 1st floor Brooks Hall)
- Youth Sunday School: (Meets upstairs in Brooks Hall).

Rite-13 and J2A: Young people in grades 6-10 are invited to participate in Rite 13 and Journey to Adulthood (J2A) on Sunday afternoons. Please contact Hilary Bogert Winkler (hbwchurch@gmail.com) for details.

Christian Formation Classes will not meet December 21 and 28