



St Mark's
Episcopal Church
NEW CANAAN, CONNECTICUT

Christmas Eve at St. Mark's

A Festival Celebration of the Holy Eucharist



December 24, 2024 • 10PM
Christmas Prelude • 9:30PM

Christmas Eve at St. Mark's

A Service of the Holy Nativity

December 24, 2024

10PM

A Blessed Christmas To You

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Mark's.

It is our hope and prayer that while you are here, you will be touched by the Spirit of the living Christ and fed by the grace of God.

We worship according to the rites of the Episcopal Church in the *Book of Common Prayer*. We experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, and we encourage all baptized persons who are seeking a deeper communion with our Lord and with one another to share in the mystical food of the Eucharistic feast. If you are not yet baptized or if for some other reason it is not appropriate for you to partake of Communion, please come forward for a blessing. You may signal your intention to the priest by crossing your arms.

The sacrament is distributed under the forms of both bread and wine. To receive the wine, you may drink from the common cup. We encourage baptized children to partake of Holy Communion because the sacrament is formative to all, regardless of one's ability to understand it.

We invite you to make St. Mark's your holy home, and hope you will join us as we seek a deeper life in Christ, a more holy communion with one another, and a greater love for the world. By the grace of God, we are engaged in a mutual ministry in which members give of their time, talent, and treasure for the love of Christ through our church.

Please help us to help you.

Speak with a member of our clergy: Father Peter, Reverend Elizabeth, or Father John. You may also visit our website at: www.stmarksnewcanaan.org, or call the Church Office during the week at 203.966.4515.

May God bless you.



The Reverend Peter F. Walsh
Rector

Cover Art: "Mary with child",
Detail of the ceiling mosaic of the imperial box
in Aachen Cathedral. (Aachen, Germany)

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

111 Oenoke Ridge

New Canaan, CT 06840

203.966.4515 • www.stmarksnewcanaan.org

9:30PM The Christmas Prelude

Organ

Pifa (Messiah)

G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

Choir

In the bleak midwinter

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

Soloists: Mary Petro Noonan, soprano; Ryland Angel, tenor

- 1) In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan. Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow; in the bleak midwinter long ago.
- 2) Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
- 3) Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay,
enough for him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel, which adore.
- 4) What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

[Words: Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894]

Solo

The Virgin's slumber song

Max Reger (1873-1916)

Mary Petro Noonan, soprano

Amid the roses Mary sits and rocks her Jesus child,
While amid the treetops sighs a breeze so warm and mild;
And soft and sweetly sings a bird upon a bough
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

Happy is thy laughter Holy is thy silent rest.
Lay thy head in slumber fondly on thy mother's breast
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

[Words: 'Mariä Wiegenlied,' Martin Boelitz 1874-1918; trans. Edward Frederick Lockton, 1876-1940]

Solo

I wonder as I wander

Southern Appalachian,
arr. Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Ryland Angel, tenor

I wonder as I wander out under the sky How Jesus the Savior had come for to die
For poor ornery people, like you and like I, I wonder as I wander out under the sky.
When Mary birthed Jesus, t'was in a cow's stall With wisemen and farmers and shepherds and all,
On high from God's heaven a stars' light did fall, And the promise of the ages, it then did recall.
If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, A star in the sky or a bird on the wing
Or all of God's angels in Heav'n for to sing, He surely could have it, for he was the King!

I wonder as I wander out under the sky How Jesus the Savior had come for to die
For poor ornery people, like you and like I, I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

[Words and melody, collected and arranged by John Jacob Niles in Western North Carolina, 1933]

Organ

O Jesulein süß

Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Choir

Quelle est cette odeur agréable

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Soloists: Lydia Cseh Dahling, mezzo-soprano; Kyle Gonyea, baritone

- 1) Quelle est cette odeur agréable, bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens ?
S'exhale-t-il rien de semblable au milieu des fleurs du printemps ?
Quelle est cette odeur agréable, bergers, qui ravit tous nos sens ?
*What is this lovely fragrance, O shepherds, that ravishes our senses?
Does anything like this rise from the flowers of the springtime?
What is this lovely fragrance, O shepherds, that ravishes our senses?*
- 2) What is this light so fair, so tender breaking upon our wond'ring eyes?
Never the Morning Star so radiant followed his course o'er eastern skies.
What is this light so fair, so tender breaking upon our wond'ring eyes?
- 3) Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps, seek the Savior born today.
Low at his feet we lay our treasure, heart's adoration, love for aye.
Shepherds, O haste with eager footsteps, seek the Savior born today.
[Words, 'Quelle est cette odeur agréable', 17th Century French traditional]

Organ

In dulci jubilo

Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Choir

Ave Maria, gratia plena

Beauvais MS, 12th century, arr. EJT

Sung in Latin

Ave, María, grátia pléna, Dóminus técum, Vírgo seréna; benedícta tu in muliériibus,
que peperísti pácem homínibus, et angélis glóriam.
et benedíctus frúctus véntris túis, qui coherédes ut éssemus súi, nos fécit per grátiam.

*Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, serene Virgin; blessed are you among women.
You who brought forth peace to mortals, and glory to the angels; and blessed is the fruit of your womb,
who made it possible for us to be his heirs, accomplished for us by his grace.*

Solo

Hodie Christus natus est

Plainsong, *Tonus primus*, Dorian mode

Ryland Angel, tenor; sung in Latin

Hodie Christus natus est, hodie Salvator apparuit: hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli:
hodie exsultant justi, dicentes: Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluja.

*Today is Christ born; today the Savior has appeared; today the Angels sing, the Archangels rejoice;
today the righteous rejoice, saying: Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!*

A Festival Celebration of the Holy Eucharist on the Eve of Christmas

Clergy

Organist and Choirmaster

Organist

The Reverend Peter F. Walsh, Rector & Preacher
The Reverend Elizabeth Garnsey, Celebrant
The Reverend John Kennedy, Assisting

Ned Tipton

Michael Burnette

The Word of God

The People stand, as they are able, and sing.

The Hymn in Procession

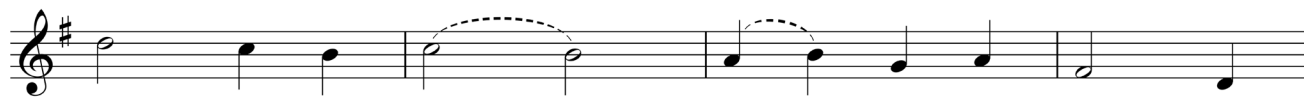
O come, all ye faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,
6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove;
leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;
Je - sus, to thee be glo - ry given;



come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
glo - ry to God, in the high - est;
we too will thi - ther bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880) and others
Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody att. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906
Acc. Craig Phillips (b. 1961) and David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The Christmas Acclamation

The People remain standing, as they are able.

Celebrant “Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

People **Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.**

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest;

People **And peace to his people on earth.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting.

People **Amen.**

The People remain standing, as they are able, and sing.

The Hymn of Praise

Angels we have heard on high



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;



and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright-ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.



Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!



Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o!

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt.
Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958)

The People are seated.

The Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined.
 You have multiplied the nation,
 you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as people exult when dividing plunder.
 For the yoke of their burden,
 and the bar across their shoulders,
 the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.
 For all the boots of the tramping warriors
 and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
 For a child has been born for us,
 a son given to us;
 authority rests upon his shoulders;
 and he is named
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
 His authority shall grow continually,
 and there shall be endless peace
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.
 He will establish and uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time onward and forevermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

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

The People stand, as they are able.

The Gradual Hymn

Hark! the herald angels sing

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing___ glo - ry to the new - born King!
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored;_ Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord.
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by,___ born that we no more may die,
 Peace on earth and mer - cy mild,___ God and sin - ners re - con - ciled!
 Late in time be - hold him come,___ off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth,___ born to give us se - cond birth.
 Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise,___ join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh, the God - head see;___ hail, th'in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings,___ light and life to all he brings,
 with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is___ born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus,___ our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the___ heav'n - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry___ to the new - born king!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: *Mendelssohn*, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847);
 adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915). St. 3 arr. David Willcocks

The People remain standing, as they are able.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a

Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The People are seated.

The Sermon

The Reverend Peter F. Walsh
22nd Rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church

The Nicene Creed

The People stand, as they are able. The Celebrant and People say together

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped
and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant Friends in Christ,
rejoicing in the love of God that has taken flesh among us in Christ Jesus,
let us confidently bring to the Lord the petitions of our hearts this Christmas Eve:

Leader For the Church throughout the world,
especially those in positions of leadership,
that they might always give glory to God and work to bring peace to our earth,
let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader For the Church gathered in this place and streaming from afar,
that we might always bear the good news of God's living presence in our world,
deepen our Christmas faith, and live that faith in love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader For those lost in the darkness of prejudice, hostility, and fear,
for those burdened by the yoke of injustice, terrorism, hunger, and war;
and for all our brothers and sisters in need, that the light and life that is the Lord
might touch their hearts this night.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader For the homeless, and for children born into poverty and pain,
that there would be room in the inn for all God's people.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader For the sick and the dying, especially those we remember in the quietness of our hearts, and for those who care for them, that the God whose love extends from the wood of the manger to the hard wood of the cross might bless them this night with the gift of peace.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Rejoicing in the company of Mary, mother of our Lord, and of all the witnesses of the incarnation, we commend these prayers and all our life to you, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

The People are seated.

The Offertory Anthem

O little town of Bethlehem Music: Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)
organ score arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Soloists, Trevor Scott and Ryland Angel, tenors

Recit., tenor Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign to you; ye shall find the Babe, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger.

Verse, tenor O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Verse, tenor How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his calling; but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him., still the dear Christ enters in.

Choir O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast our our sing, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmauel.

[Words: Luke 2: 11-12, and Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893]

The Great Thanksgiving

The People stand, as they are able.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

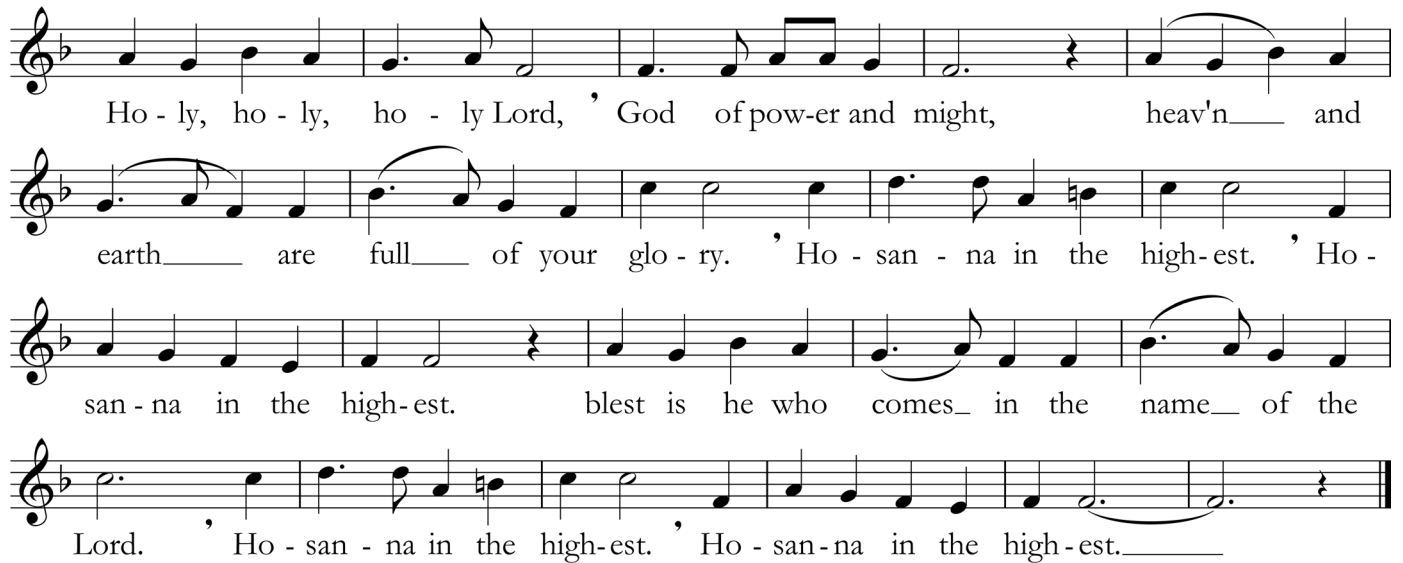
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, ' God of pow-er and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. ' Ho - san - na in the high-est. ' Ho - san - na in the high-est. blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. ' Ho - san - na in the high-est. ' Ho - san - na in the high-est.

Music: from *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

The People stand or kneel, as they are able.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory.**

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Mark and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



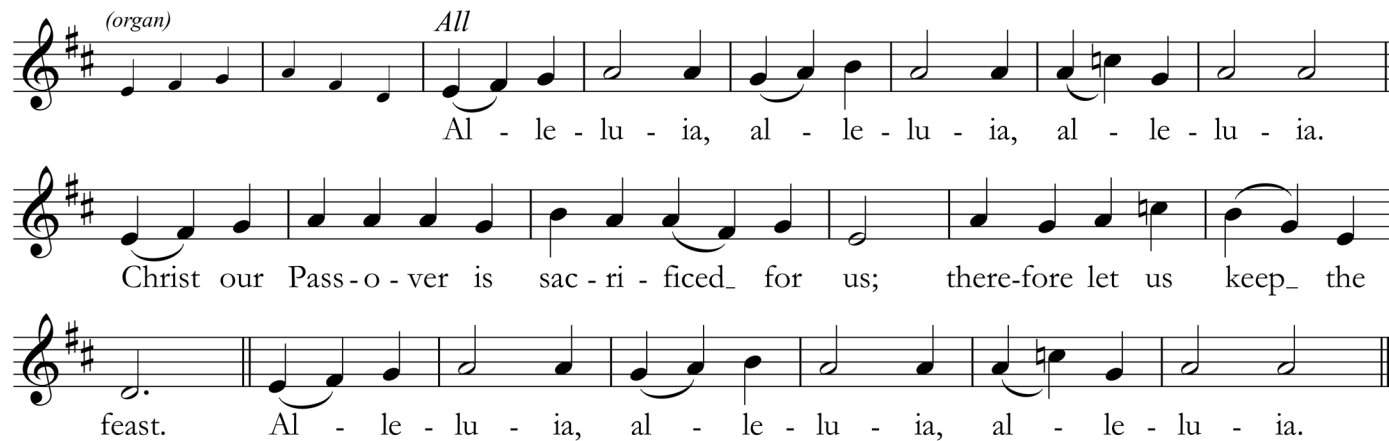
Setting, McNeil Robinson II (1943-2015)

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

Celebrant 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.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread as all sing.



Setting, Gerald Near (b. 1942)

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The Ministration of the Sacrament

The People are seated as the congregation receives communion.

Following the direction of the ushers, please make your way to one of the two standing stations at the main altar.

The sacrament is distributed under the forms of both bread and wine.

To receive the wine, you may sip from the common cup. We are not practicing intinction at this time.

Anthem during the Communion *Of the Father's love begotten* Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

- 1) Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!
- 2) O that birth for ever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race; and the Babe, the world's Redeem-er, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore!
- 3) Sing, sing his praises; angels and archangels sing! Where so e'er ye be, ye faithful, let your joyous anthems ring, ev'ry tongue his name confessing, countless voices answering, evermore and evermore!

[Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-410; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866, and Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, alt.

Music: Divinum mysterium, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. Piae Cantiones, 1582. Arr. David Willcocks, 1919-2015]

Hymns during the Communion

Carols sung by all (*seated*), found in the blue *Hymnal* 1982:

79 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

115 *What Child Is This?*

89 *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

The Post-Communion Prayer

The People kneel, as they are able.

Celebrant and People

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Congregational Carol

All may remain kneeling, as they are able. The ushers will proceed down the aisles to light the congregation's candles. Please share the flame with your neighbor as we sing.



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,
all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child,
at the sight, glo - ries stream__ from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - dian't beams__ from thy ho - ly face,
Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heav'n - ly hosts__ sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy
peace.____ Sleep__ in hea - ven - ly peace.
born!____ Christ,__ the Sa - vior, is born!
birth.____ Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

The Christmas Blessing

The People remain kneeling, as they are able.

Celebrant May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor.

People **Amen.**

Celebrant And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

The People stand, as they are able, and sing.

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns, let us our tongues em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions
King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
ply, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and
heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
as the curse is found, far as the curse is
won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt. Music: *Antioch*, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759);
adapt. and arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872). Setting by Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

The Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

After the dismissal

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Arr. E. J. Tipton

Worship Leaders

5PM Christmas Eve

Ushers

Lynn Donahue, Zackary Crawford,
Jack Donahue, Alex Duffee,
Jill Ernst, Paton Larkin,
Ellen McMahon, Kevin McMahon,
Bill Post, Paul Reiss, Eric Thunem,
Ned Thunem, Pete Thunem

Acolytes

Michael Cantu Wilson Rothschild,
Teddy Volanakis

10PM Christmas Eve

Lectors

Julie Brand
John Harrison

Ushers

Lynn Donahue, John Harrison
Suzanne Harrison, Paul Reiss

Acolytes

Heidi Neubohn,
Charlie Daniels

10AM Christmas Day

Lector

Erik Luchs

Ushers

Tom Pettibone, Paul Reiss

The Adorning of the Church

St. Mark's Altar Guild

The Greening of the Church

St. Mark's Flower Guild

Organist

Michael Burnette

The St. Mark's Choir & Soloists

The St. Mark's Fanfare Ensemble

Dylan Schwab and Alex Rensink (*trumpets*), Frank Drugge (*French horn*),
Jason Miller and Matthew Wozniak (*trombones*), Peter Hohmeister (*percussion*)

St. Mark's Clergy and Staff

The Reverend Peter F. Walsh, Rector

The Reverend Elizabeth Garnsey, Senior Associate Rector

The Reverend John Kennedy, Associate Rector

Jill Sautkulis, Director of Operations

Beth Ralston, Director of Special Projects

Nancy Walton, Director of Stewardship and Development

Ed Hill, Sexton

Edgar Gonzalez, Property Manager

Ned Tipton, Director of Music Ministry

Rob Schwartz, Digital Missioner

Jan Maynes, Director of Children's Ministry

Prisca Spitz, Preschool Director

Worship & Prayer

Sunday

8AM Indoor Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9AM Outdoor Holy Eucharist, Rite II

10AM Indoor Holy Eucharist, Rite II and Live Stream

Monday—Friday

Morning Prayer, Rite II

8:30AM via Zoom

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

111 Oenoke Ridge • New Canaan, CT • 06840

Office 203.966.4515 • Fax 203.966.0439 • Preschool 203.972.7888

www.stmarksnewcanaan.org