

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 2nd, 2021

8:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

COVID GUIDELINES

By attending this service, you agree to the following:

I understand to the best of my knowledge, I/we have not experienced any of the following COVID-19 symptoms in the past 14 days: fever, cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, sore throat. If I/we have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to the service or should I/we test positive to a COVID-19 screening or exhibit the symptoms described above, I agree I will contact a member of church staff immediately.

Please maintain social distance (6 ft. between members of different households) and wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth during the service and while on campus.

GATHERING

Opening Acclamations

Celebrant. Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant. The Lord be with you.

People **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The First Lesson

Acts 8:26-40

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Psalm 22: 24-30

- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the Lord; *
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

The Epistle

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. *Beloved*, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Gospel

John 15:1-8

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Zac Koons

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Nicene Creed (*leader and people*)

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.

Prayers of the People

BCP 328

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And with thy spirit.

EATING TOGETHER

The Great Thanksgiving *(Please stand)*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

***People* And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

***People* We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People* It is meet and right so to do.**

...we laud and magnify thy glorious Name, evermore praising thee, and saying,

At the Sanctus, the People say

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.**

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

... By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee,
O Father Almighty, world without end. ***Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Breaking of the Bread *(silence is kept)*

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***People* Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Distribution of Communion

The Celebrant will bring communion to each household. If you wish to receive, when the priest approaches you they will drop the host in your outstretched hands. If you do not wish to receive, please cross your arms over your chest and the priest will pray a blessing for you. Please wait for the celebrant to move to the next household before removing your mask to reverently consume the host. Following, restore your mask, covering your mouth and nose.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

BEING SENT

Announcements

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Priest Alleluia, Alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The plants on the altar are given in loving memory of our baby sister, Francie Van Aken Stoutamire, on her birthday, by her sisters, Clotilde V. Prior and Carol V. Oppel.

Sunday Schedule of services: RSVP here: stmarksaustin.org/rsvp

- **8:30am** - Rite I, Indoors and live-streamed to Facebook
- **9:30am** - Rite II, Parking Lot Eucharist, full liturgy with singing
- **10:30am** - Family Picnic Eucharist, Front Lawn

Coffee/Taco Hour & Sunday School Schedule

- **10:30am** - Coffee & Tacos: on the patio (between Day School buildings)
- **10:45am** - Sunday School, In-person: *The Resurrection Appearances*
- **11:30am** - Coffee & Tacos (Playground)

Women of St. Mark's Zoom meetup, Thursday, May 6th at 6pm. For more information and the zoom link, please contact Lisa Bortner: lisafromlsu@gmail.com.

Graduation Sunday, May 23rd during the 9:30am service. **Attention graduates:** please send the following information to the church office (office@stmarksaustin.org): your name, school graduating from (can be high school, college, or higher degree), next steps (i.e. college plans - include name of school, and intended focus of study), or it may be employment, etc.

Information is needed by May 17th.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Trinity Center** needs 2-3 people each weekday morning to help sort mail and help neighbors get clothing and food. Donations of seasonally appropriate men's clothing are also needed. If you are interested please complete this form: <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?AP=368683286> or contact Mary-Alis Kelly at mand94@gmail.com.
- **Welcome Table** needs help with both in-person and remote tasks. To help pack and/or deliver food and diapers there's some information <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-PujU4wjnn4P95K7-Kx0iNpEJ7uuSy57U4G4F8LL66i93zA/viewform>. If you would like to help run their call center, sign up here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfx9iNfdO_zsTTcDwoK9lxETTO-VdX9W3sgx-jOioHSEORlg/viewform. For more information, contact Nancy Kibler at nancyskibler@gmail.com.
- **Covid-19 Vaccine Clinic, Saturday, May 8!** Our partner African American Youth Harvest Foundation is hosting a vaccine clinic and needs helpers to check people in. Flexible schedules on Saturday, May 8 starting at 8 AM. RSVP to Clarence Bonnen at cbonnen@gmail.com.

Tuesday Noon Bible Study: the link is posted on our website. All are welcome!

Morning Prayer meets 8:30 a.m. M-F. Check our home page for the link.

Parish Intercession List

You are invited to use this Intercession List to pray for those listed below.

For healthcare workers and teachers: Heather, Michael B., Christine, Eric, Joan, Beth, Mac, Jodi, Courtney, Russ, Nicole, Jewellyn, Jana Kay, Steven, Pam, Marcille, Jesse, Laurie, Charles, Cilla, Jonea, Jennifer R., Jennifer S., Samuel, Mary, Jordan, Jeffrey, Kim, Michael T., Amber, Aaron, Sarah, Laurie, Jennifer, Chez, James., Cindy.

For those celebrating birthdays: Herschel Carrico, Scott Forrest, Deborah Riverstar, John Minne, Kathy Genet, Jana Kay Green, Lisa Leach, Nassos Papalexandrou, Andrew Wood.

For those celebrating anniversaries: Kathy & David Genet, Mayra & Matthew Linderman, Robin Bridgewater & Lee Wagner, Ann & Roger Seyler.

For those who have died: Craig Bouma & Loudi Ramadan, Andrea Michael's son and his partner; Leona Featherstone, grandmother of Amber Featherstone-Uwague.

For those whom the Daughters of the King pray.



stmarksaustin.org

St. Mark's Staff

The Rev. Zac Koons.....Rector
The Rev. Mary KeenanCurate
The Rev. Dr. Nathan JenningsTheologian in Residence
Casey Busman.....Director of Christian Formation
Mark Reed.Organist/Director of Music & Bookkeeper
Joanne FooteParish Administrator
Barbara WhiteSeminarian
Brandon Haynes.....Seminarian
Karon Hammond.....Head of St. Mark's Day School
Irma GloverSexton