

# GOD'S INVITATION

2

*Walk with Jesus*



*On the traditional land of the Semiahmoo*

## the Parish of St. Mark

O C E A N  P A R K

*January 25, 2026*

*The Third Sunday after the Epiphany*



# Welcome!

*We are so glad you have come to St. Mark's today!*

*In this place we do two primary things: we give thanks to God and pray for the world. If there is something on your heart you need to share with God, this is the right place to share it.*

*You are God's Beloved Child, and you belong **here**.*



## This morning in worship...

Today, as part of our Year of Invitation, we continue a sermon series called **God's Invitation**. God has invited each and everyone of us to be part of the healing of this world. Today, we consider God's invitation to **Walk With Jesus**. God hasn't left us alone to figure everything out - he sent us Jesus, who walks with us and talks with us and tells us that we are not alone!

The altar flowers are given this week by **Ken Anderson** to the glory of God and In memory of my wife Rea and my Grandson Kenneth Anthony. To dedicate flowers, please sign up on the flower chart in the hall.

### Today's Scripture

*From Introductions to the Lessons by Bill Bennett.*

**Isaiah 9:1-4** In the 8<sup>th</sup> Century BC the land of the Hebrews was a divided kingdom comprising Israel and Judah. This passage holds on to the hope of a great future, centered on a Messianic hope.

**I Corinthians 1:10-18** Paul is aware of dissension between rival cliques in the Corinthian church. He appeals for unity.

**Matthew 4:12-23** Capernaum city becomes the early base for Jesus' ministry in Galilee.

### Junior Church

Children will gather after the opening songs for a commissioning and then return for communion. All of our staff and volunteers have had a criminal record check and have been approved for ministry with vulnerable people. **Teens** that are interested in volunteering as a helper or in any Sunday service ministry role all are welcome to reach out to Pastor Sarah.

### Coffee Hour

Please gather in the hall for coffee and refreshment following the service.

## Next Week: February 1

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**Wonder Sunday**

**God's Invitation: Open Your Heart**

Micah 6:6-8

The Reverend David Taylor facilitates.



# the Gathering of the Community

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Almighty God,  
**to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. 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.**

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

*Traditional*

**I have decided to follow Jesus;  
no turning back, no turning back.**

**Tho' none go with me, still I will follow;  
no turning back, no turning back.**

Jesus be the Centre

*Michael Frye*

**Jesus, be the centre.  
Be my Source, be my Light, Jesus.**

**Jesus be the centre.  
Be my hope, be my song. Jesus.**

***Be the fire in my heart,  
be the wind in these sails.  
Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.***

**Jesus be my vision.  
Be my path, be my guide.  
Jesus.**

Common Praise 620

**How sweet the name of Jesus sounds  
in a believer's ear!**

**It soothes our sorrows,  
heals our wounds,  
and drives away our fear.**

**It makes the wounded spirit whole,  
and calms the troubled breast;  
'tis manna to the hungry soul,  
and to the weary rest.**

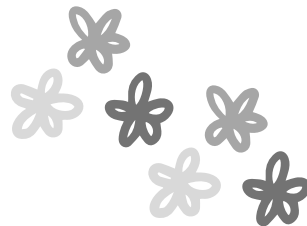
**Jesus, my shepherd, brother, friend,  
my prophet, priest and king,  
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,  
accept the praise I bring.**

God of blazing light,

**through the power of the cross you  
shattered our darkness and set us free  
to live as your children. Give us  
courage and conviction, so that we  
may joyfully turn and follow you, led by  
the light that shines through Jesus  
Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

## Commissioning of the Children

*We have a wonderful program for your child this morning. They will return for Communion.  
Please note that all our children's workers have had a criminal record check  
and are approved by the Diocese of New Westminster to work with vulnerable people.*



The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you!**

## the Proclamation of the Word

*We have large-print versions of the Scripture available for those who need one. Please ask a greeter for one.*

The Book of the Prophet Isaiah (9:1-4).

Listen for God's Word.

**Our hearts are open.**

The Lord is My Light

*Lillian Bouknight*

**The Lord is my light and my salvation,  
the Lord is my light and my salvation,  
the Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?**

***Whom shall I fear,***

***whom shall I fear?***

***The Lord is the strength of my life;***

***whom shall I fear.***

**Wait on the Lord and be of good courage,  
he shall strengthen my heart.**

**In the time of trouble he shall hide me;  
whom shall I fear?**

Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (1:10-18).

Listen for God's Word.

**Our hearts are open.**

Alleluia

*Jerry Sinclair*

**Alleluia!**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

*Matthew 4:12-23*

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Sermon

# Sermon Notes



## The Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary; who suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; who descended to the dead; who, on the third day, rose again; who ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; who will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## The Prayers of the People

*While we have chiefly come to give thanks to God, our second purpose for gathering is to intercede for the world. We know that "the prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective" (James 5:16).*

## The Confession & Absolution

**Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

# the Celebration of the Eucharist

***Please be seated as we gather our offering to present to God. You can give using an envelope, by signing up to our Pre-Authorized Debit program, or by using the terminal in the foyer. Today we use a Eucharistic Prayer 2 in the Book of Alternative Services, page 196.***

Common Praise 532

**What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!**

**What a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials or temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Christ the Saviour is our refuge;  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do our friends despise, forsake us?  
Are we tempted to despair?  
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness,  
and we'll find new courage there.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The priest continues in prayer.*

Holy Holy Holy Lord

*Peter Scholtes*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of pow'r and might.  
Heaven and earth are filled  
with your glory.**

***Hosanna, hosanna, In the highest.***

**Blessed is the one who comes  
in God's holy name.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The priest continues in prayer.*

The Lord's Prayer

*the Right Reverend Gordon Light*

**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.**

We break this bread

to share in the body of Christ.

**We, being many, are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

The gifts of God for the Children of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All are invited to receive Communion.*

*If you would like to learn more about baptism, please connect with the minister.  
Prayer for healing is offered during communion on the right side of the sanctuary.*

My Jesus I Love Thee  
*William Ralph Featherstone*

**My Jesus, I love thee;  
I know thou art mine.  
For thee all the follies of sin I resign.  
My gracious Redeemer,  
my Saviour art thou:**

*If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.*

**I love thee, because thou  
hast first loved me,  
and purchased my pardon  
on Calvary's tree.**

**I love thee for wearing  
the thorns on thy brow.**

**I'll love thee in life,  
I will love thee in death,  
and praise thee as long as  
thou lendest me breath.  
And say when the death dew  
lies cold on my brow:**

**In mansions of glory and endless delight  
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright.  
I'll sing with the glittering  
crown on my brow:**

Common Praise 435

**Take my life, and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands, and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet, and let them be  
swift and purposeful for thee.**

**Take my lips, and let them be  
filled with messages from thee;  
take my intellect, and use  
every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will, and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love: my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.**

Common Praise 512

**I want Jesus to walk with me.  
I want Jesus to walk with me.  
All along my pilgrim journey,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**In my trials, Lord, walk with me.  
In my trials, Lord, walk with me.  
When my heart is almost breaking,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

**When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.  
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.  
When my head is bowed in sorrow,  
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.**

Announcements

Glory to God,  
**whose power, working in us, can do  
infinitely more than we can ask or  
imagine. Glory to God from generation to  
generation, in the Church and in Christ  
Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Common Praise 506

**Lord of all hopefulness,  
Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever childlike,  
no cares could destroy,  
be there at our waking  
and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts,  
Lord, at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness,  
Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled  
at the plane and the lathe,  
be there at our labours  
and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord,  
at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness,  
Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome,  
your arms to embrace,  
be there at our homing  
and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts,  
Lord, at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness,  
Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment,  
whose presence is balm,  
be there at our sleeping  
and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
at the end of the day.**

**Go in peace to live the gospel,  
extending God's invitation to all.  
Thanks be to God.**

*Lyrics are printed with permission through:  
CCLI 445657, OneLicense A-727134*



## Financial Support

We are grateful for your stewardship of this place through your tithes and offerings. They ensure that St. Mark – Ocean Park will be a centre and a light to the community for generations to come.

If you would like to become a regular steward of the ministry of this place, please fill out a welcome card and give it to the greeter, or the priest.

Donations can be made  
by **cash** or **cheque**

(made out to the Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park),

by **Pre-Authorized Debit** (PAD),  
at the **Electronic Donation Station** (EDS) in  
the foyer (please ask the usher for assistance),  
by **e-Transfer** at

stmark.op.treasurer@gmail.com, or  
through **CanadaHelps** on our website.

If you would like donation **envelopes**, please  
connect with the office.

All donations will receive a tax-receipt in  
February of the following year.



# The Pulse

## Children Youth & Family Ministry

### Did You Know?

There are volunteer opportunities to participate in, on Wonder Sundays for grades 4-7.

The roles vary (speaking and non speaking) and all children, will be paired with a mentor.

If you are interested in your child participating in our Wonder Sunday service, please reach out to Pastor Sarah.

### Sunday Junior Church Program Come and explore the Gospel with us!

Group 1: Grades K to 7

Group 2: Grades 8-12

***A sensory space is available for all those who would like to use it.***

### Youth Group Fridays

Grades 8 - 12, 7 - 9 pm

### All are welcome!

email [yministryrsvp@gmail.com](mailto:yministryrsvp@gmail.com) with any inquiries.



The Lunch Basket is given this week by **Maha Sarraf and Kingsley Griffin** with thanks to God for His great glory, and in gratitude for his love and many blessings.



## Prayer Chain & Sunday Intercessions

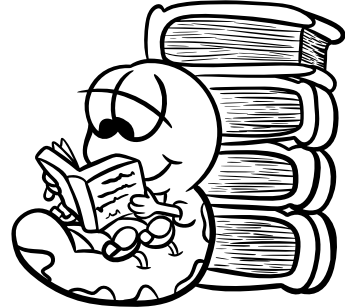
If you, or someone you know is in need of prayer, please connect with **Lynne** at [lynnehl@telus.net](mailto:lynnehl@telus.net). She will share your request with a community of faithful intercessors!

To have a name mentioned in the Sunday Intercessions, please write their name on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary, connect with **Michael** at [michael@klaverrealtor.ca](mailto:michael@klaverrealtor.ca), or contact the office.

## Library News

### Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer

Renowned Franciscan **Richard Rohr** challenges people to move beyond the comfort of a settled life toward an understanding of themselves that is rooted in their connection to God. Contemplation has its place at the heart of Christianity, a place that allows people to experience how "everything belongs."



# News & Events

## This week at the Parish

Tuesday	Parish Council Meeting 7pm
Wednesday	Holy Communion, 10 am
Thursday	Contemplative Prayer 7 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm
Friday	Monica Heath Memorial 2pm Sr. Youth Group 7:00 pm

## Today is Souper Sunday!!!

Pick up your fresh homemade soup after church today. BUTTERNUT SQUASH is the soup of the month!

\$10.00 per Litre and \$5.00 1/2 Litre.

All the funds raised will go to the Community Outreach Ministry.



## Spiritual Practice Workshops

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month at 7pm

\$20 registration fee

Upcoming Workshops:

**February 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Spiritual Practice of Self Examination with Pastor Sarah.

## Eucharistic Visitor Meeting

**Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>**

**After the Sunday Service**

For those who would like to be part of the eucharistic visitor ministry, or those curious about what this entails. If you can't make it and want to be involved, please email father dara at [fatherdarajoy@gmail.com](mailto:fatherdarajoy@gmail.com)

## "Caregivers" Group

**Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**

**After the Sunday Service**

There will be a meeting for anyone who identifies as a "caregiver" (someone who supports an ill relative or a dependent family member) in the Family Room after Church after the 10am service on February 15th.

If you can't make it and want to be involved, please email father dara at [fatherdarajoy@gmail.com](mailto:fatherdarajoy@gmail.com)

## Serving God at St. Mark's

This year do you want to express your spiritual gifts of service, speaking, singing, administrating, or helping in any other way? Consider some of these opportunities at the Parish!



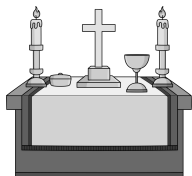
### The Choir

practices every Thursday evening and supports the congregation in music. **Talk to Kerry or one of the members** to learn how to join!



### Coffee Hour

ensures our community is well fed and juiced! **Talk to one of the coffee servers to learn how you can help!**



### Altar Guild

makes this holy place beautiful and ready for God's children to receive bread and wine. **Ask David how to join!**

### Flower Ministry

The Flower Ministry is looking for additional volunteers to help deliver flowers from the altar after the 10am Sunday service to members of our parish. This is a wonderful way to share care and connection within our church community. If you are interested or would like more information, please let us know. **Reply to [lindaodee@hotmail.com](mailto:lindaodee@hotmail.com).**



### Greeters

are teams of people who offer the first welcome to folk on a Sunday morning. If you want your smile to be the first thing people see when they arrive, **David will connect you to the leaders!**



### Readers

proclaim the great writings of Holy Scripture so that our hearts are filled with the knowledge of God's Love. **David can help you connect to the leader if you want to join this team!**

**inspire**  
CHRISTIAN  
FORMATION  
Every Friday

This week: **The 5 Foundational Stories  
Part 4: God Comes to Heal Us, Part 2**

*God will never abandon us to the virus of sin, but is always moving toward us to free us from it. We especially know this in Jesus Christ, the great healer.*

**Go to [STMARKBC.ORG](http://STMARKBC.ORG) and click on the Weekly Video & Guide Button for this week's video.**



## Developing a Spirituality of Invitation

### How to Invite Someone to Walk with Jesus

Did you know that in Jesus Christ we have a Friend (Lord) and Helper (Saviour) who walks with us and guides us along the path of life? Jesus is the wonderful Counsellor who shares wisdom when we are facing tough decisions. Jesus is the almighty God who stands up for us against the powers that seek to destroy us (fear, hate, etc.). Jesus points us to the everlasting Father who can mend broken hearts. Jesus is the Prince of Peace who stills our heart in the midst of life's storms. And your family, friends, neighbours and coworkers need him! **Here's how you can invite someone to Walk with Jesus:**

1

### Listen & Pray

Too often we try to "make" people Christians and fail to hear what their heart longs for. Take some time to really listen to people's feelings, experiences, concerns. After listening, let them know you are praying to God for them.

2

### Share Your Heart

Walking with Jesus is less about *what* you believe, and more about *why* you believe. **Why do you Walk with Jesus?** Has he answered your prayers? Has he healed you? Has he been there for you in a difficult time? These are your holy stories. And they give people hope when you share them.

Say, "I hear you are worried about some things in your life. I get that. I get worried too. That's why I am glad I walk with Jesus. Whenever I am worried, I pray to Jesus and ask for his presence. He reminds me that I am not alone, and that he sees me and will give me peace in my heart. **Why don't you come to church with me sometime so you can find ways to help you with your worry?**"

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### Daily Bible Readings

Monday Acts 9:1-22  
Tuesday John 5:1-18

Wednesday John 5:19-29  
Thursday John 5:30-47

Friday John 6:1-15  
Saturday John 6:16-27



## the Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park

## STMARKBC.ORG

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### Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 9am to 2pm

12953 20th Avenue, Surrey B.C. V4A 1Z1

604.535.8841 office@stmarkbc.org

the Reverend David Taylor: dmatthew.taylor@gmail.com

Father Dara Crandall: fatherdarajoy@gmail.com