

*St. Mark's Episcopal Church
75 Cold Spring Road
Westford, Massachusetts, 01886*



June 7, 2026

Rev. Melissa Buono, *Officiant*
Lee Yezek, *Minister of Music*
Usher: Paul Ackroyd
Reader: Melissa Dewing
Chalice: Herb

ENTRANCE HYMN: *God himself is with us (Tysk) (H 475)*

OPENING ACCLAMATION (BCP p. 355)

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant p.355

People

COLLECT FOR PURITY (BCP 355)

GLORIA: S-277

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (BCP p. 299)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15--6:6

The people sit.

A Reading from the book of the prophet Hosea.

[Thus says the LORD:] ¹⁵“I will return again to my place
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.
In their distress they will beg my favor:

^{6:1}“Come, let us return to the LORD;
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.

²After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

³Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD;
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;

he will come to us like the showers,
like the spring rains that water the earth.’

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets,
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.
⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

PSALM: Psalm 50:7-15

Remain seated.

⁷Hear, O my people, and I will speak:
“O Israel, I will bear witness against you; *
for I am God, your God.
⁸I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; *
your offerings are always before me.
⁹I will take no bull-calf from your stalls, *
nor he-goats out of your pens;
¹⁰For all the beasts of the forest are mine, *
the herds in their thousands upon the hills.
¹¹I know every bird in the sky, *
and the creatures of the fields are in my sight.
¹²If I were hungry, I would not tell you, *
for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.
¹³Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, *
or drink the blood of goats?
¹⁴Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and make good your vows to the Most High.
¹⁵Call upon me in the day of trouble; *
I will deliver you, and you shall honor me.”

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

The people sit.

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

SEQUENCE HYMN *He sat to watch o'er customs paid (Breslau) (H 281)*

All stand.

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

All stand.

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

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

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does

your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”¹² But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick.¹³ Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

¹⁸ While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.”¹⁹ And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples.²⁰ Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak,²¹ for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.”²² Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well.²³ When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,²⁴ he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him.²⁵ But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.²⁶ And the report of this spread throughout that district.

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

THE SERMON

THE CREED (BCP p. 358)

All stand.

**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 (BCP p. 359)

All remain standing.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and
humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, Bishop Julia Whitworth, Rev. Will Bergmann, Rev.
Melissa Buono, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations
of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or
trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE ON THE ST. MARK'S PRAYER LIST:

Anna Oliverson, Susan and Kate, Jim, Derek, Evie and family Beth, Brendan and Corine, Elizabeth, Jane, Charlotte and Bob, Doug and the Pecora family, Karen, Kathy, Janet Andrews, Marni Sheehan, Marcia and Ralph, Marion Perault, Sue Sweeney, Bob and Marlene, Michael, Carol, Butch and Bev Olson, Kate and family, Judy, Barbara, Karen, Marlene, Andrew Ward, John Gallacher, Lisa, Pamela, Elizabeth, Jane & Brooke, David Andrew and Marty Cassidy.

We pray for those who have recently died

**Fran Fletcher, who was buried yesterday,
Jeanetta McColl and Sherrie Carroll**

CONFESSION OF SIN (BCP p. 359)

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor

.

Silence may be kept.

Minister and People

**Most merciful 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 neighbors 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 Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE (BCP p. 360)

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The Celebrant says

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High.
Psalm 50:14

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (BCP p. 361)

THE DOXOLOGY V. 3 *From all that dwell below the skies (Old 100th) (H 380)*

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant says 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.***

SANCTUS: S-129 Holy, Holy, Holy

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel

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." Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

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 [_____ 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. *AMEN.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (BCP p. 363)

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

**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 Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM: *Alleluia S-155*

INVITATION (BCP p. 364)

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

DISTRIBUTION (BCP p. 365)

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

COMMUNION HYMN: *Come, thou fount of every blessing* (H 686)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (BCP p. 365)

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

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.**

BLESSING (BCP p. 366)

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN: *O for a thousand tongues to sing (Azmon) (H 493)*

DISMISSAL (BCP p. 366)

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People *Thanks to be God.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 6th to June 14th

Saturday, June 6th

11 a.m.: Memorial service and internment of Fran Fletcher, a beloved parishioner and Altar Guild leader.

Sunday, June 7th

10 a.m.: 2nd Sunday after Pentecost, Rev. Melissa Buono

5 p.m.: Dinner Church at St. Mark's

Tuesday, June 9th

7 p.m.: Monthly Vestry meeting. Contact Jean Ellis to join.

Wednesday, June 10th

7 p.m.: Final session of our book study of *How We Learn to Be Brave*. Contact Merideth @ trinitychapelshirley@gmail.com for Zoom link.

Thursday, June 11th

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Church Office Open

7:30 p.m.: Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, June 7th

10 a.m.: 3rd Sunday after Pentecost, Rev. William Bergmann

2nd Sunday of Pentecost - Leap of Faith

Abram simply got up and went, leaving everything familiar behind on the strength of God's promise alone. That leap of faith echoes through Paul's letter as the very model of how grace works: not through law, but through trust in a God who gives life to the dead and calls into existence things that do not exist. Jesus embodies that same life-giving grace as he calls a despised tax collector, dines with sinners, heals a woman deemed untouchable, and raises a little girl from death; he came not for the righteous but for those who know their need of a physician. All good proceeds from this God who inspires, guides, and makes good on every promise.

Walkway Replacement Project: June 15-21

Thanks to your generous giving we're able to replace the concrete walkway from Williams Hall to the Admin wing entrance the week of June 15th.

Important Details:

- Front entrance restricted Monday, June 15 - Sunday, June 21 (weather permitting)
- Area will be roped off until concrete dries
- Access during construction: Use the back door of the Admin wing (go around the right side of the building near handicapped parking)
- A lock box with the same combination as Williams Hall will be at the back door

Questions or need the lock box combination? Contact Michael O'Hare at oharemichael@yahoo.com or 617-233-3469.

Dinner Church - Prayers for Summer Sunday, June 7 | 5 PM | Williams Hall

Join us for Dinner Church—a time to share prayers, conversation, and a meal around the table. Inspired by the early church, Dinner Church is a lay-led service that blends familiar prayers with new reflections and community connection. This month, we'll draw inspiration from the Wonder of God in our lives.

All are welcome! RSVP or send questions to Judie at or just come as you are. Remember, Dinner Church will take a break during July and August but return in September.

Spring Book Study - *How we learn to be brave*

Every week till June 3rd, we will be discussing the NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER, *How We Learn to Be Brave* by Bishop Mariann Budde. The book is an inspirational guide to the key junctures in life that, if navigated with faith and discernment, pave the way for us to become our most courageous selves. The book costs \$13 on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com).

The discussion will be Wednesdays through June 10th, at 7:00 pm, Meredith will lead a discussion of the book on ZOOM, reading one chapter every week. Contact Meredith to get the ZOOM link at trinitychapelshirley@gmail.com.

Outreach Box: Supporting our Local Food Banks

With changes to Federal support programs, inflation, and tariffs, the access to food has become a daily struggle for families across the area. For the next few months we will be collecting money for the Westford Food Pantry and Loaves and Fishes.

Make your voice heard. Weekly ICE Protests on Wednesdays

The grassroots organization Bearing Witness @ ICE (multiple links on Google) is continuing protests in front of the ICE detention center in Burlington (immediately behind the Mall) every Wednesday, 11 AM-1 PM. Attendance is now typically 500 and growing. Several St. Mark's parishioners attend every week. If you're interested in carpooling, please contact **Eric Kintner**. Another worthwhile resource for resisting ICE in many different ways is LUCE:

<https://www.lucemass.org>

Help Support Our Neighbors Facing Food Insecurity

Many in our community are struggling with food insecurity due to the high cost of groceries and recent reductions in SNAP (food assistance) benefits. St. Mark's Church invites parishioners to help support our local food pantries during this challenging time.

Please consider bringing non-perishable food items—such as canned goods, pasta, rice, or peanut butter—and placing them in the collection basket located in the narthex.

Your generosity helps ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. Thank you for your continued compassion and support.

Ongoing News

Office Hours - Irina and/or Rev. Bergmann will be in the office on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule an office appointment, please email secretary@st-mark.org or **Rev. Bergmann** at wcbrgm2n@gmail.com or call (978) 692-7849 and leave a voice message. Thank you.

St. Mark's Bible Study meets every other week on Thursdays at a local restaurant to discuss the lectionary readings for the week. New members are welcome! If you'd like to join, e-mail Herb Elliott at herb.elliott@cheza.com, and he will add you to the email distribution and send you the readings.

The next Vestry Meeting is on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. on Google Meet. Contact **Jean Ellis** at seniorwarden@st-mark.org if you would like to join.

Pastoral Care: Would you like to receive communion? Need prayers for healing? Need support or assistance? Would you like to speak with a priest? Please email **Rev. Will Bergmann** at wcbrgm2n@gmail.com and Herb Elliott, our Pastoral Care team leader at herb.elliott@cheza.com. Alternatively, you can call 978-501-8479. You can also use the "Request Pastoral Visit" button on St. Mark's website.



St Mark's Episcopal Church
@stmark75



PRIEST - IN – CHARGE

The Rev. Dr. Will Bergmann, wcbrgm2n@gmail.com, 978-501-3393

SENIOR WARDEN

Jean Ellis, seniorwarden@st-mark.org, Cell #: 978-758-6299

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Lee Yezek: lyezek@gmail.com

VESTRY MEMBERS

Michael O'Hare (Jr. Warden), Scott Hilton (Treasurer), Ellen Tremblay (Clerk), Paul Ackroyd (At-Large), Jenny Meanwell, Chrissy Hemingway (Rental program), Melissa Dewing, Brennan Burks, Brenda Martin (Pre - School Representative), Mahiro Jilesen.

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