

# The Fifth Sunday of Easter

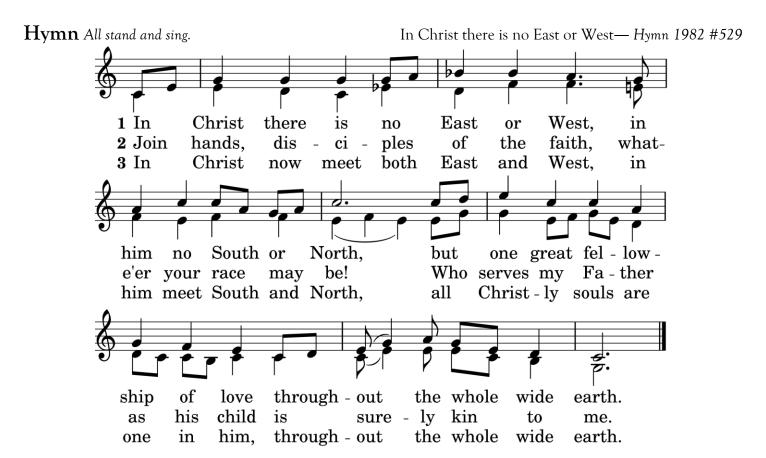
April 28, 2024 at 9:00AM St. Mark's Episcopal Church Foxborough, MA Welcome! Please join us and participate in our gathering of Song, Prayer, and Word, regardless of where you may be in your journey of faith. We believe that God invites all of us – regardless of age, ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, immigration status, gender identity or sexual orientation – to share in worship and fellowship and become The People of God.

Single gender restrooms are located downstairs.

An ADA all genders bathroom with a changing table is available off of the common room across the lobby.

## Prelude

## Word of God



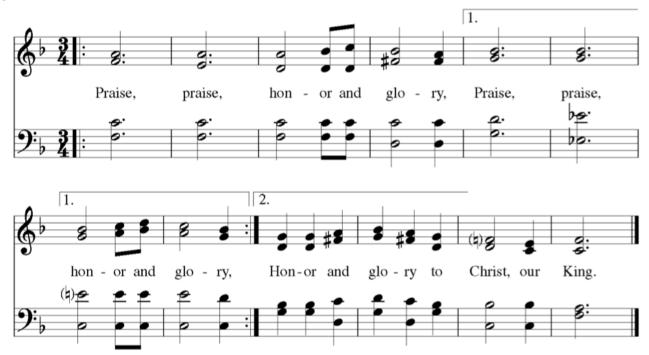
Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt.

Music: McKee, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

## **Opening Acclamation**

Presider Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!



## Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

All 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 Lessons and Gospel

First Reading The congregation may be seated for the readings.

Acts 8:26-40

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

All

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:24-30

Reader

The psalm appointed for today is a portion of Psalm 22. Psalter for the Christian People Please join me in reading it responsively by whole verse.

- 24 My praise is of God in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the LORD.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall give praise: "May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to God, and all the families of the nations shall bow before the Lord.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD who rules over the nations.
- 28 To the Lord alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before the LORD.
- 29 My soul shall live for God; my descendants shall serve the LORD; 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 God has done.

Second Reading 1 John: 7-21

Reader A reading from John's First Letter.

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

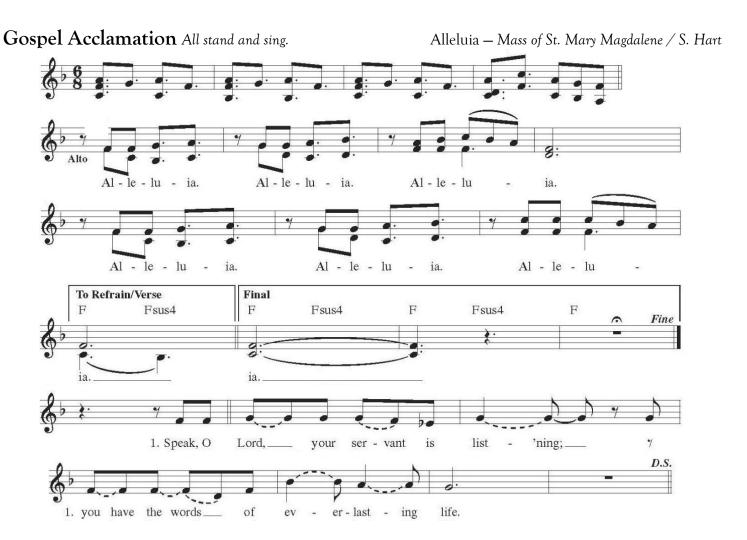
that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

All Thanks be to God.



The Gospel John 15:1-8

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

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

All

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Lauren S. Lukason

A time of silent reflection follows the sermon.

### Profession of Faith

Enriching Our Worship

Priest

Please stand, in body or in spirit, and join in affirming our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed.

All

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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 congregation are invited to add their own prayers during the silences, either aloud or in their hearts.

Intercessor

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. (Silence)

For all people in their daily life and work.

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for all who feel alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For all victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For all who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For Churches of the Charles River Deanery: St. John's Chapel, Groton School, Groton; St. Michael's Church, Holliston; St. Paul's Church, Hopkinton; St. Luke's Church, Hudson; and Congregational Chapters of the Episcopal Church Women; for the peace and unity of the Church of God; For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, and Alan and Carol, our Bishops; for the Presiding Bishop nominees: Scott, Daniel, Sean, Robert and DeDe; the nominees for Bishop Diocesan of this diocese: Brendan, Jean Baptiste, Gideon, Julia, and Edwin; and for all bishops and other ministers; For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially those on our parish prayer list: Molly & Hayden Hawthorne, Verda Larsson, Katie Farrell, Kathi Mirza, Charlene and Vincent Kaye, Kimberley Turk, Liz Elliot, Wayne Hartwell, Steve Mros, and Caroline & Erin. Who else needs our prayers today? (Silence) Hear us Lord; For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. For what or for whom do we give thanks today? (Silence) We exalt you, O God our King; And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. (Silence) Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them; Who put their trust in you.

Priest

These are our prayers. Receive them in your mercy. And grant us, O Lord, your peace—your peace that passes our human understanding. **Amen.** 

#### The Peace All stand.

Priest The peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

#### Announcements

## **Offertory Sentence**

Priest

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

- Ephesians 5:2

## Hymn All stand and sing.

What wondrous love is this — Hymnal 1982 #439

All stand, as able, as the gifts of bread and wine, and money are brought forward.



Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835. Music: Wondrous Love, from The Southern Hurmony, 1835; alt. acc. Carlton R. Young, (b. 1926).

## Holy Communion

#### Sursum Corda

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.
Priest Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

Book of Common Prayer, Prayer B

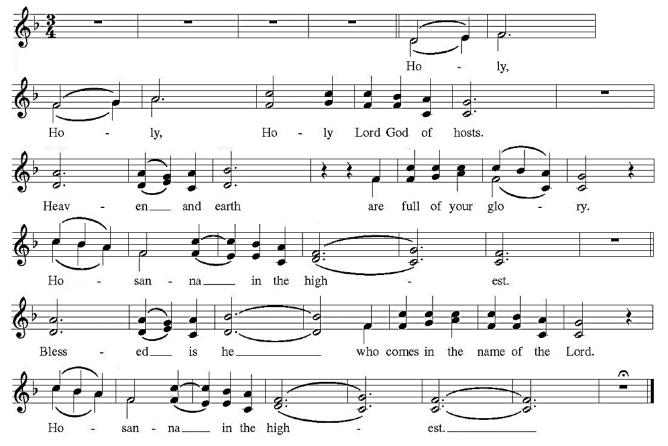
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

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:

#### Sanctus

Holy — Mass of St. Mary Magdalene / S. Hart



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. Through 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,

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

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 all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

## The Lord's Prayer

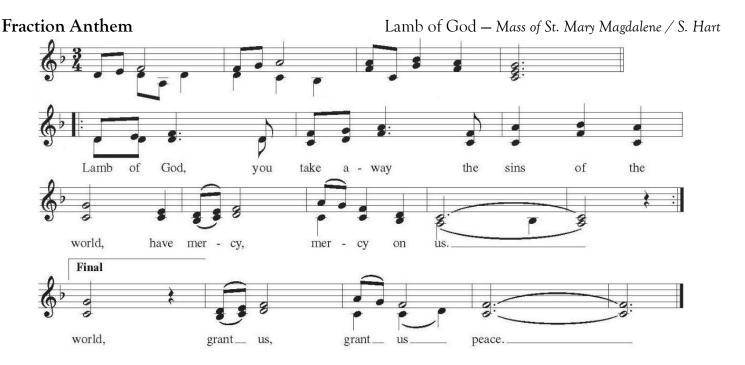
Priest As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

#### **Fraction Sentence**

Priest Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.



Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and lives for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving. This is God's Table, where all who hunger will be fed.

To receive the bread, place one palm on the other and extend your hands toward the priest. Gluten-free wafers are available; please notify the priest when you come forward to receive.

To receive the wine, receive the cup from the Chalicebearer, take a sip, and hand it back to the Chalicebearer, who will wipe the rim before presenting it to the next person.

If you would prefer to receive a blessing in the name of God instead of Communion, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest to indicate your preference to the priest.

If you would prefer to remain in your seat, please notify an usher and the priest will come to you.

## Music during Communion

Choir Anthem

## Post-communion Prayer All stand or kneel, as able.

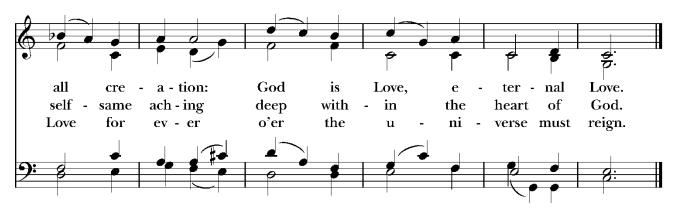
Priest Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## Blessing

God, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead, strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life; And the blessing of God... **Amen.** 





Words: Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt. Held by A.R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991). Copyright © 1942 Renewal 1970, by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission.

### **Dismissal**

Priest Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### Postlude

#### Join us for Coffee & Conversation!

All are welcome and invited to gather for coffee & conversation following the service.

If you are visiting for the first time, or the first time in a long time,
please introduce yourself; we would love to greet you!

If you can't stay, know that we welcome you in our hearts and hope that we see you again.

## Serving Today

Crucifer Cameron Russo Travis Russo Acolyte LEM & Intercessor Chris Schneider Lector Tina Shinnick Ushers Louise D'Onofrio & George Morrison Altar Guild Mary Camelio & Joanna Eva Chris Schneider & Ginnie Wright Counters Coffee Host Michele Crane & Margaret Whipple Director of Music Esther Zabinski Presider The Rev. Lauren S. Lukason

## Coming up at St. Mark's

Sunday (4/28)	9:00am - Holy Eucharist & Coffee Hour 10:00am - AED/CPR Training	Thursday	7:30pm - Live & Let Live AA Meeting
	7:30pm - Open AA Meeting	Friday	7:00pm - Model A Restorers Club of MA
Monday	5:00pm - FHS Track Team Dinner	Saturday	8:00am - Men's Breakfast
	7:30pm - Prayer Shawl Zoom Meeting		5:30pm - ABCs of Estate Planning at
			Trinity, Wrentham (RSVP)
Tuesday	6:30pm - Ladies AA Meeting		
		Sunday	9:00am - Holy Eucharist & Coffee Hour
Wednesday	11:30am - Bridge Club	(5/5)	5:00pm - Improv Soup
	7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal		7:30pm - Open AA Meeting

#### **AED/CPR Training**

There will be a free one-hour AED/CPR training session directly following today's (April 28) service.

### Ladies' Book Group

The Ladies Book Group will meet on **Friday, May 17**, from 4-6 pm at Ellen White's house in Attleboro. We are reading "American Dirt" by Jeanine Cummins. If you would like further information, please contact Louise D'Onofrio at <a href="mailto:lkdonofrio@comcast.net">lkdonofrio@comcast.net</a>.

### Food Pantry

One item a week is guaranteed to help feed families who are in need.

Requested this week: stew, juice, canned/jarred fruit. Thank you for your generosity!

#### Prayer List

Please keep the people on our prayer list in your thoughts and prayers.

Send any updates, deletions, or additional names to the church office.

Molly & Hayden Hawthorne, Verda Larsson, Katie Farrell, Kathi Mirza, Charlene and Vincent Kaye, Kimberley Turk, Liz Elliot, Wayne Hartwell, Steve Mros, and Caroline & Erin.

## Help Elect the Next Diocesan Bishop

Who: YOU!

What: Bishop "Meet-and-Greets": The nominees will participate in a series of open meetings giving the people of the diocese an opportunity to meet and learn more about them.

When: May 7, 7:00pm - All Saints' Parish, Ashmont, Dorchester

May 8, 10:00am - St. Mary's Church, Barnstable

May 9, 2:00pm - Christ Church, Needham

May 10, 7:00pm - Christ Church, Andover (childcare provided)

May 11, 10:30am - Zoom (with Zoom rooms for youth, young adults, and all others)

Why: The election of the 17th bishop diocesan of the Diocese of Massachusetts takes place on Saturday, May 18 at Trinity Church in Boston. Your comments and impressions will be enormously helpful to Rev. Lauren and your Diocesan Convention Delegates: St. Mark's: Judy Hartwell

(<u>jhartwell@socialaw.com</u>) & Marjorie Arvedon (marvedon@comcast.net); Trinity: Walter Pelrine (pelrine.scouts@gmail.com) & Bill Tansi (bill@scruboaks.net) as they prayerfully discern how to cast their vote.

The Rev. Dr. Brendan J. Barnicle
The Rev. Edwin D. Johnson
The Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Th.D.
The Very Rev. Gideon L. K. Pollach
The Rev. Julia E. Whitworth

## Coming up at Trinity

Sunday 11:00am - Holy Eucharist & Coffee Hour Thursday 10:00am - Bridge (Chapel)

(4/28) **Monday** 7:00pm - Boy Scouts

7:00pm - Spiritual Life Team (Zoom)

Friday 10:00am - Bridge (Chapel)

Tuesday 7:00pm - AA Meeting

Saturday 5:30pm - ABCs of Estate Planning Wednesday 7:00pm - AA Meeting

Sunday 11:00am - Holy Eucharist & Coffee Hour

(5/5)

#### ABCs of Estate Planning Evening - Saturday, May 4; 5:30pm

Join us for a presentation of the ABCs of Estate Planning presented by local Foxboro attorney John Benson of the Benson Law Group. The evening will include dinner, catered by Café Assisi in Wrentham (please note gluten-free preference in RSVP: <a href="mailto:trinitywrentham.org/rsvp-estate-plan-event">trinitywrentham.org/rsvp-estate-plan-event</a>) or scan the QR code. Questions?: Brian Dyke 508-212-3418 / <a href="mailto:briandyke@verizon.net">briandyke@verizon.net</a>



#### Annual Yard Sale: Saturday, June 15

Start saving the usual donations: small furniture, household/kitchen items, collectibles, books, videos, games and small toys. (No computers, TVs, printers, VHS videos). Questions? Contact either Eufemia Campagna <a href="mailto:leufemiac@gmail.com/508-261-6101">leufemiac@gmail.com/508-261-6101</a>, Susan Nelson 508-384-2448, or Diane Pelrine <a href="mailto:pelrine.scouts@gmail.com/508-384-8570">pelrine.scouts@gmail.com/508-384-8570</a>.

### Girl Scout Clothing Drive

Time to clean out your closets! The Girl Scouts of Wrentham and Plainville are conducting a clothing drive. The funds will finance the annual camping weekend and bridging ceremony. Most of the items are items the Trinity yard sale does not collect. Please bag the items in 13-gallon trash bags. Any condition items—except wet and/or moldy—are accepted. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more details or contact Diane Pelrine at 508-384-8570.

#### **Prayer List**

Please keep the people on our prayer list in your thoughts and prayers. Send any updates, deletions, or additional names to the church office.

Jim Derick & the Derick Family, Chip Bolinger, Barbara Romans, Joe Levesque, Anthony, Tyler, Evan, Jolin Donna McCleskey, Charlie Kendrick, Michael and Marianne Caliri, Anne Jampel, Christopher Lloyd, George Labonte, Barbara Sherman, Justin Wheeler, Dolly Casey, Diana Anderson, Arlene, Jane Robison, Bill Holst, Maria Baquerizo, Ellen Wilson, Mary Ellen Lloyd, Brian Silcott, Andrew Langmead and family.

#### We're glad you joined us today.

If you have questions or other needs, please ask. We're happy to help and hope you find a bit of what you might be seeking today.

Visit us online to learn more: www.stmarksfx.org

www.facebook.com/stmarksfoxborough

#### Who We Are

St. Mark's is a growing and dynamic parish. Inside our brick walls you'll find a warm and accepting community of faith: a place where long-time members and first-time visitors connect with God, one another, and a call to serve our community and the world.

At St. Mark's, worship and parish life blends our love and respect for ancient and beautiful liturgical traditions with our desire to put faith into action. You'll find spiritual nourishment through Episcopal worship, learning opportunities for all ages and ever-expanding outreach and justice advocacy ministries.

We actively collaborate with neighborhood organizations. We sustain our vital campus partnerships while creating new initiatives that respond to critical social needs. With imagination, joy, and faithful purpose, we live into our mission, as a people called into community to do God's work.

#### **Pastoral Care**

The clergy of St. Mark's expects to be called to the side of our parishioners during times of crisis, sudden illness, or death, any time of the day or night. We will be there to offer prayers, be a spiritual support and, if need be, offer the rites and prayers for the dying. In the case of a pastoral emergency, please call Rev. Lauren, (203) 326-1807.

Sometimes the bumps in life's journey do not rise to the level of an emergency, and yet they would be made easier with the care and concern of another. The community of St. Mark's is here to support you in these difficult times — with a phone call, a prayer shawl, a casserole, or a visit — or simply by remembering you in our Sunday prayers. If you have hit a bump or find yourself stuck in one of life's bogs, please be in touch with Rev. Lauren or our Interim Pastoral Care Coordinator Maria de Ris, (508) 612-5635 / maria.deris@verizon.net.

## Clergy Hours

See Office Hours below. Available for conversation and meetings: Sunday afternoons, Mondays - Thursdays. Emergency pastoral care, 24/7.

Due to the nature of pastoral work and a collaborative call, much of Rev. Lauren's time is spent outside of the office. If you would like to set up a time to meet or speak outside of the hours the office is open, please contact Rev. Lauren by phone (203) 326-1807 or email (priest@stmarksfx.org).

#### Office Hours

Mondays 11:00am - 3:00pm; Wednesdays 11:00am - 3:00pm; Thursdays 1:00pm - 3:00pm

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

116 South Street Foxborough, MA 02035 508-543-8191 | stmarksfx.org Trinity Episcopal Church
47 East Street | P.O. Box 55

Wrentham, MA 02093 508-384-3958 | trinitywrentham.org

The Rev. Lauren Sayre Lukason, Priest-in-Charge
Trinity and St. Mark's Episcopal Churches are parishes of the
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

The Right Rev. Alan M. Gates, Bishop | The Right Rev. Carol Gallagher, Assistant Bishop