

# Christmas 2016

Rite II Service



St. Mark's Episcopal Church

102 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street | Haines City, FL 33844

# **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**

**102 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street Haines City, FL 33844**

**Office: 863-422-1416**

## **TO OUR WORSHIPPERS**

We welcome you to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, the oldest standing building in Haines City, Florida. We hope that you enjoy your worship today. This is a peaceful and beautiful place that God has provided for us to come in thanksgiving and share His love with each other. If you are seeking a place to call home away from your dwelling, please come each week and enjoy the blessings from God our Father and the love that exudes from the people who worship here. If you have any question, please contact one of our ushers or call our office number 863-422-1416.

## **OUR VESTRY**

Annette Ifill, Dawn Strachand, Myrtle John-Frazer, Joslyn Williams, Cheryl Payne, Vernon Reid, Courtland Witcher, Eugene Ralph, and James Moore.

## **OUR CLERGY**

The Rt. Rev. Gregory O. Brewer, D.D.	Bishop
The Rev. Christopher E. Brathwaite	Rector
The Rev. Becky Toalster	Assisting Priest
The Rev. Hugh McGlashon, Jr.	Rector Emeritus
The Rev. Canon Angela Ifill	Priest in Residence
The Rev. Dr. William A. Guthrie	Retired
The Rev. Dorothy Hunter-Spencer	Deacon
Mrs. Joslyn M. Williams	Director of Music

Email: [Office@StMarksHC.com](mailto:Office@StMarksHC.com)

Website: [www.StMarksHC.com](http://www.StMarksHC.com)

Facebook:

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Thrift Store information:

863-353-1536

Appointments with Fr. Chris:

407-873-3838

**Christmas 2016**  
**Year A                    Rite II**

**Prelude Music: Instrumental Music**

**Southeastern University Violinists**

**Processional Hymn:            *Once in Royal David's City***

**Hymnal 1982 #102**

***Soloist:**    Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

*He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.*

**All:**        We, like Mary, rest confounded that a stable should display  
Heaven's Word, the world's creator, cradled there on Christmas Day,  
Yet this child, our Lord and brother, brought us love for one another.

For he is our lifelong pattern; daily, when on earth he grew,  
He was tempted, scorned, rejected, tears and smiles like us he knew.  
Thus he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
For that child who seemed so helpless is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing round,  
We shall see him; but in heaven, where his saints his throne surround:  
Christ, revealed to faithful eye, set at God's right hand on high.

**Blessing of a Christmas Crèche**

Celebrant:            The Lord be with you.

***People:***            ***And also with you.***

Celebrant:            Let us pray.

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have  
made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your

Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives He brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to Him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
*Amen.*

### **Lighting of the Advent Candles:**

Today we light all the candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, the third candle is JOY, and the fourth candle is LOVE. The center candle is the Christ candle.

*The candles are lit*

Isaiah 9:6 – “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Let us Pray:

O God of hope, peace, joy, and love. As Mary and Joseph welcomed you into the world, now help us welcome you into our lives. Give us courage to hope; strength to seek peace. Fill our spirits with joy; and our hearts with love. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord or all. *Amen.*

### **The Word of God**

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

**Collect of Purity:** Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

*People: And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**Collect of the Day:** O God, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

*Amen.*

**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.

**The Psalm:**

Psalm 96

- 1 Sing to the Lord a new song; \*  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- 2 Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; \*  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations \*  
and his wonders among all peoples.
- 4 For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; \*  
he is more to be feared than all gods.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; \*  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.
- 6 Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!

- 7 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; \*  
 ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
- 8 Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; \*  
 bring offerings and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \*  
 let the whole earth tremble before him.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King! \*  
 he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
 he will judge the peoples with equity."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
 let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \*  
 let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- 12 Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
 before the Lord when he comes, \*  
 when he comes to judge the earth.
- 13 He will judge the world with righteousness \*  
 and the peoples with his truth.

**The Epistle:**

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

**The Gradual: *Instrumental Music***

**Southeastern University Violinists**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

**The Gospel:**

Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor

of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

**Sermon:** The Rev. Chris Brathwaite

**The Creed:** The Nicene Creed

Let us affirm our faith in the Nicene Creed:

*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, Form VI**

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;  
*For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.*

For this community, the nation, and the world; especially for our President, Barak Obama and our President elect, Donald Trump.  
*For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.*

For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.*

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.*  
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 Greg our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*For all who serve God in his Church.*

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; especially for those on our prayer list and for the First Responders of this city and all cities.  
*(You may add your own petitions either silently or aloud)*

Hear us, Lord;  
*For your mercy is great.*

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.  
*(You may add your own thanksgivings either silently or aloud)*

We will 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.  
*(You may add your own petitions either silently or aloud)*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*Who put their trust in you.*

**Prayer for Our Parish:** *Heavenly Father, send your Holy Spirit to guide and direct your church as we look to the future with true understanding of the revelation of your promises. Give the leadership the right thinking, speaking and actions, that they in turn may encourage the entire congregation to the richness of your bountiful goodness, so that your Name may be glorified in all we do, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**A Prayer for Our Candidate:** *O God, look with favor on John, whom you have called to a special ministry in your church. Guide him from distractions, protect him from all snares of the evil one, and keep him focused on the journey to ordained ministry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### **Confession of Sin:**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.  
*Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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.

## **Baptisms**

*Please turn to page 306 in your red Book of Common Prayer*

### **The Peace:**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*And also with you.*

### **Welcome, Notices, Announcements, Birthday/Anniversary Blessings**

#### **The Offertory Hymn: *Angels We Have Heard on High***

**Hymnal 1982 #96**

Angels we have heard on high,  
Singing sweetly through the night,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their brave delight.

(Chorus)

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see?  
What glad tidings did you hear? (Chorus)

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Chorus)

See him in the manger laid  
Whom the angels praise above;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While we raise our hearts in love. (Chorus)

**The Doxology:**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**The Great Thanksgiving – Prayer A**

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 them thanks and praise.*

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 the 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:

*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.*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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:**

And now, 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.***

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

**Fraction Anthem:**

*Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
Give us your peace, give us your peace.*

**The Invitation:**

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving

**Communion Hymn: *The First Nowell***

**Hymnal 1982 #109**

The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Chorus:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. (Chorus)

And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. (Chorus)

This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay. (Chorus)

Then entered in those wise men three  
full reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. (Chorus)

Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood mankind hath bought. (Chorus)

**Post Communion Hymn: *Silent Night***

**Hymnal 1982 #111**

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherd quake at the sight,  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly host sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

**Prayer after Communion:**

*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.*

**The Blessing:**

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; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Recessional Hymn:** *Joy to the World*

**Hymnal 1982 #100**

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, And heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let us our songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

**Dismissal:**

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and each other.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **WE PRAY FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING FOR THOSE LISTED:**

Bertram & Norma Branford, Gloria Carter, Laverne Carter, Rachel Doyle, Walter & Monica Foster, Helen Iehl, George Jenkins, Larry Laney, Bonnie McClure, Hugh & Lois McGlashon, Mary Elizabeth Merlin, Helen Millington, Sally Phillips, Jeannette Stokes, Perry T., David Williamson, Robbie Williamson, Aldwyn Ifill, Carolyn Turner, Skip McGlashon, Elaine John, Oscar Phillips, Ted & Betty Bast, The Rev. Kevin Nourie, and Betty Browne.

## **WE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:**

Michael L, Danny S, James W; Ashli A, Jean A, Quinton B, Steve C, Merrill D, Craig J, Bryan S, Andre S; Clark S; Adam C, David M, Casandra R, Patrick S; Betsy C, Anna N; James B; and Chad W. and all other military personnel serving our nation at home or abroad.

## **DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:**

Pray for St. Michael's Church, Orlando and Church of the Holy Child, Ormond Beach.

## **PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS:**

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

