

# **Morning Prayer**

## **Rite II**



**St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Johnstown, PA**

**January 11, 2026**

*Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be always acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.*

## **Confession of Sin**

The Leader says to the people

*Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.*

Officiant and People together, kneeling or standing

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to set forth his praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

*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*

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

## The Invitatory and Psalter

Leader            Lord, open our lips.  
People            *And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.*

Leader and People

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.*

**Venite**    *Psalm 95:1-7*

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; \*  
    let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
    and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, \*  
    and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the corners of the earth, \*  
    and the strength of the hills is his also.  
The sea is his, and he made it, \*  
    and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship and fall down, \*  
    and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is the Lord our God, \*  
    and we are the people of his pasture  
    and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; \*  
    let the whole earth stand in awe of him.  
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, \*  
    and with righteousness to judge the world  
    and the peoples with his truth.

*Please be seated*

## The Psalm 29

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
    ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
    worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
    the God of glory thunders; \*  
    the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- 4 The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
    the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
    the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- 6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
    and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- 7 The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire;  
    the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; \*  
    the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 8 The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe \*  
    and strips the forests bare.
- 9 And in the temple of the LORD \*  
    all are crying, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
    the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- 11 The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
    the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

## The Lessons

### Old Testament: Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
    my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
    he will bring forth justice to the nations.

He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;

I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

I am the LORD, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

The Word of the Lord  
*People: Thanks be to God.*

**The Song of Mary**   *Magnificat*  
*Luke 1:46-55*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For he hath regarded \*  
the lowness of his handmaiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

### **The Epistle: Acts 10:34-43**

Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God

as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

***The Word of the Lord***

*People: Thanks be to God*

**A Song of Praise    Benedictus es, Domine**

Blessed art thou, O Lord God of our fathers; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou for the Name of thy Majesty; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the temple of thy holiness; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou that beholds the depths,  
and dwell between the Cherubim; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou in the firmament of heaven; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

Blessed art thou, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; \*  
praised and exalted above all for ever.

**The Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17**

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

***The Word of the Lord***

*Thanks be to God*

## **The Renewal of Baptismal Vows**

Celebrant Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and  
renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People *I do.*

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.*

*He was conceived by the power of the Holy  
Spirit*

*and born of the Virgin Mary.*

*He suffered under Pontius Pilate,*

*was crucified, died, and was buried.*

*He descended to the dead.*

*On the third day he rose again.*

*He ascended into heaven,*

*and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again to judge the living and the  
dead.*

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*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.*

People

Celebrant	Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
People	<i>I will, with God's help.</i>
Celebrant	Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
People	<i>I will, with God's help.</i>
Celebrant	Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?
People	<i>I will, with God's help.</i>
Celebrant	Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?
People	<i>I will, with God's help.</i>
Celebrant	Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People	<i>I will, with God's help.</i>

The Celebrant concludes the Renewal of Vows as follows

May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. *Amen.*

## Homily

## Offertory

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

## The Prayers

The people stand or kneel

Leader        *The Lord be with you.*  
People        And also with you.  
Leader        *Let us pray.*

Leader and People

*Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as is in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
And 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 forever. Amen.*

## Suffrages A

V.       Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
R.       *And grant us your salvation.*  
V.       Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
R.       *Let your people sing with joy.*  
V.       Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
R.       *For only in you can we live in safety.*  
V.       Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
R.       *And guide us in the way of justice and truth.*  
V.       Let your way be known upon earth;  
R.       *Your saving health among all nations.*  
V.       Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

- R. *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*
- V. *Create in us clean hearts, O God;*
- R. *And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.*

### *The Collect of the Day*

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. *Amen.*

### *A Collect for Sundays*

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### *Prayers for a New Priest*

*Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, we humbly ask you to supply your grace to all priests who are called to the ministry of your peoples. Fill them with the Holy Spirit, the truth of your doctrine, and clothe them with piety so that they may faithfully serve where they are called. Open their hearts to the possibility and consideration of a new path whereby they may serve you. We beseech you to guide to us, the pastor you would have shepherd your people at St. Francis in the Fields and St. Mark's. Open the hearts of these parish families to acceptance of your choice for us, so that together, we may increase our faith, devotion, and obedience, and be prepared to readily do the good works you have planned for us to do. We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.*

*A Collect for the Renewal of Life*

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness while it was day, we may, when the night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Collect for Peace*

O God, who the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life, and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Collect for Grace*

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have Brought us in safety to this new day; Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfillment of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. but that we, being ordered by thy governance, may do always what is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*A Collect for Guidance*

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*For Peace*

Eternal God, in whose perfect kingdom no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness, no strength known but the strength of love: So mightily spread abroad your Spirit, that all peoples may be gathered under the banner of the Prince of

Peace, as children of one Father; to whom be dominion and glory, now and for ever. *Amen*

*For those about to be Baptized (at St. Francis)*

O God, you prepared your disciples for the coming of the Spirit through the teaching of your Son Jesus Christ: Make the hearts and minds of your servants ready to receive the blessing of the Holy Spirit, that they may be filled with the strength of his presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*In Times of Conflict*

O God, you have bound us together in a common life. Help us, in the midst of our struggles for justice and truth, to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For those who Influence Public Opinion*

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For those we Love*

Almighty God, we entrust all who are dear to us to *thy* never-failing care and love, for this life and the life to come, knowing that *thou* art doing for them better things than we can desire or pray for; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*For the Answering of Prayer*

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's Name: We beseech thee mercifully

to incline thine ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

## **The General Thanksgiving**

Officiant and People

*Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
for all your goodness and loving kindness  
to us and to all whom you have made.  
We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
and all the blessings of this life;  
but above all for your immeasurable love  
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
That with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
Not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
by giving up our selves to your service,  
and by walking before you  
in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.*

## **A Prayer of St. Chrysostom**

*Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee, and hast promised through thy well beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them:  
Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.*

Let us bless the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. *Amen.*

From *The Book Of Common Prayer 1979*

**Remember Today In Your Prayers:**

Carol Adams, Louise Mead, Susan Kelly & Mike Teore, Catherine McCloskey, Maryann Marchl, Rick McKinley, David Wertz & Rebecca Church, Stacy Moskal,

**Continue to Remember In Your Personal Prayers:**

Donovan Pendell, Cynthia Greig, Bill & Doris Horner, Dottie Venet, Bonnie Murray, Vince & Irene Joyce, Richard Burkert, Regina Hoover, Shawn & Tyler McKinley, Keith Hipp, Marlene Rhin.

## ***Readers and Greeters January-February 2026***

If you are unable to read on the day you are scheduled, please find a substitute or let Mother Nancy know so a sub can be found in a timely manner. Thank you.

### **Sunday Readers**

January 11	Donovan Pendell & Pam Hysong
January 18	Lisa Bell-Loncella & Colleen Curry
January 25	Susan Kelly & Doug Zawiskie
February 1	Richard Burkert & Dona Carosi
February 8	Doug Zawiskie & Pam Hysong
February 15	Joann Lacko & Lis Bell-Loncella
February 22	Dona Carosi & Collen Curry

### **Greeters**

January 11	Tina Grata & Joann Lacko
January 18	Melisa Babalonis & Aiden
January 25	Melissa Babalonis & Aiden
February 1	Sam & Heidi Buchan
February 8	Jane & Jerry Strittmatter
February 15	Amy & Penn Whitlow
February 22	Tina Grata & Joann Lacko

**Sunday: The First Sunday after the Epiphany**

Sunday: Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Morning Prayer II

Saturday Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Vestry Retreat

**Next Sunday: The second Sunday after the Epiphany**

Sunday Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Annual Parish Meeting

Potluck Luncheon

Wednesday Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 pm Compline

## **The First Sunday after the Epiphany**

## **The Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**January 11, 2026**

### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer**

St. Stephen Episcopal Church, McKeesport and the  
Rev Dr. Moni McIntyre

### **Alter Flowers Given To The Greater Glory of God**

In Loving Memory  
of  
Frances Haddock  
Perpetual Flowers

In Loving Memory of  
Benjamin & Viola Hastings  
Perpetual Flowers

### **Next Week's Readings**

Isaiah 49:1-7  
Psalm 40:1-12  
1 Corinthians 1:1-9  
John 1:29-42

*Sharing Christ's love unconditionally through  
transformational worship and service*