

Morning Prayer - October 13, 2024 PROPER 23 B

Scott Hilton, Lay leader. Jean Ellis, Lector.

This morning prayer service will be using the Book of Common Prayer (red book) in the pews. Below are the Collect and Readings for today along with announcements. The service will start on page 78.

Collect

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Psalm 90:12-17

Domine, refugium

- 12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.
- 13 Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
- 14 Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; *
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
- 15 Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
- 16 Show your servants your works *
and your splendor to their children.
- 17 May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

The Epistle

Hebrews 4:12-16

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The Gospel Reading

Mark 10:17-31

As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

St. Mark's Prayer List

Jenifer Hurley, Anna Oliverson, Kate, Fran Fletcher, Elizabeth, Kathryn Read, Evie and her family Beth, Brendan, and Corinne, Andrew Ward, Christine, Marcia & Ralph Regner, Jane, Lisa, Ben, Ross, Bonnie, Pamela, Bob, Brian Smith, Angela, Lorenz, Ovril, Margaret Bateman, Cathy, Sherrie Carroll, Betty & Tom MacNamara, Brooke, Sandra, Charlotte, David Andrew, Sue Sweeney, Olivia, Doug Read, Daniel Corcoran, Gil Dube, Valerie Beleski, Meagan, Michelle Eberle, Amela, and Mark Amela and Mark, Janet Andrews, Tom Nielsen, Michelle Eberle, Ross, Jen Green. George Weemer and the Weemer Family, Tracy, Marge, Pam Mark, John Gallacher, Linda O'Donnell, Beth, Bob Dwyer

We Pray for those who have recently died

Christopher Hemingway, Peter Hemingway, Jim Doherty

Thanksgiving for healing

Maryjane

Announcements

October 13th to Oct 20th

Sunday, October 13th

10 a.m. – Morning Prayer, Scott Hilton lay leader

Monday, October 14th

7 p.m. – Monthly Vestry meeting. Contact Scott Hilton if interested in joining.

Thursday, October 17th

10 a.m.–5 p.m. St. Mark's office hours.

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. – Choir Practice

Sunday, October 20th

10 a.m. – Morning Prayer, Jean Ellis lay leader

5 p.m. – Dinner Church

Jean Ellis and her family were featured on the Tamron Hall Show on October 1st!

[Click here to watch](#)

Dinner Church is an alternative worship experience based on the traditions of the early church. Participants gather for a meal that also incorporates times of prayer and discussion. The experience is family-friendly, inviting multiple generations to reflect and pray together. All are welcome, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey. This month's dinner church is on **Sunday, October 20, 2024, at 5 p.m.** Contact **Judie Hilton** if you plan to attend at familyministry@st-mark.org.

St. Mark's Friday Bible Study meets every other week 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.

Keep the plastic coming!

St. Mark's is partnering with Trex Company to help the environment while enhancing the local community by turning plastic bags into a bench that will be installed at one of the Westford public beaches.

Eligible plastic items include shopping bags, dry cleaning bags, cereal box liners, bubble wrap, produce bags, bread bags, newspaper sleeves, Ziploc and other reclosable bags, and plastic wrap that surrounds something like a case of water bottles. Plastic must be clean, dry, and free of food and organic residue. Plastic can be dropped off at the collection bin in the Narthex. For more information, contact dorothygaumer@gmail.com.

Merrimack Valley Food Bank

For the month of October, the Money collected in the Outreach box at the altar will go to the Merrimack Valley Food Bank. The food bank is one of four in Massachusetts and serves over 70,000 individuals per month in Central Mass. See this presentation for more details - [LINK](#)

St. Mark's 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.

The next Vestry Meeting will be on **Monday, October 14th** , at 7 p.m. on Zoom. Contact Scott Hilton for a link if you would like to join.

Ongoing Ministries

Food Collection - a reminder that we collect food in the wicker basket in the Narthex all year long. The need is constant, so if you have non-perishables and personal care items, please feel free to put them in the basket.

Pastoral Care: Want to receive communion? Need prayers for healing? Just want to talk to a priest? Please email or call Herb Elliott at herb.elliott@cheza.com or call 978-501-8479. Herb heads up our Pastoral Care team and can have you added to the prayer list, arrange for a Pastoral Care team member to give you a call, send a card, or organize other support. Herb also has contact information for local clergy who have offered to respond to Pastoral Care needs. You can also use the "Request Pastoral Visit" button on St. Mark's website.