

**The Feast of the Incarnation
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020**



**St. Mark's Episcopal Church
LaGrange, Georgia**

The Liturgy of the Word, Rite II

Prelude: In the Bleak Midwinter, featuring Max Zachry and Paul Culp

Opening Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fidelis

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

All **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

Officiant 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**

Song of Praise: Angels from the Realms of Glory

Offered by the LaGrange College Singers

Henry T. Smart, arr. by Dan Forrest

LaGrange College offers this song from its own Lessons and Carols service with gratitude to the community of LaGrange. They took COVID safety precautions, recording the vocal tracks as individuals in studio, with the video lip-synced in the auditorium.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The St. Mark's Christmas Pageant

Videos and pictures from the last 10 years, with narration and short clips of music.

Homily - The Rev. R. Allen Pruitt

The Peace

Announcements

The Offertory: visit www.stmarkslg.org/giving for more information

Officiant Holy God, creator of all that is good and gracious and true. We give you thanks that we are able to offer to you out of the abundance you provide. Bless our offerings to the glory of your name that is love and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People - Form II

Intercessor I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops and other ministers: Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Rob, and Don, our Bishops, and Allen our Rector; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. For Donald, our President; Joe, our president elect; Brian, our Governor; Jim, our Mayor; and our County Commissioners and City Councilors.

Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed especially those we name silently or aloud.

Pray for those who have died.

The intercessor will pray for the specific needs of the parish.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect

Celebrant 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.*

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

Please take your votive candles from your Advent Bag, and light them in preparation for this hymn.

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 shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar heavenly hosts 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.
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The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior

Officiant Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

All **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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

The Last Gospel

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

The Blessing

Officiant May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *Amen*

The Dismissal

Officiant Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!
All **Thanks be to God!**

Closing Hymn: Joy to the World

Antioch

The Mission of St. Mark's Episcopal Church

*Love and Worship God.
Love and Serve All People.*

Welcome to St. Mark's! We hope you find worship to be meaningful. St. Mark's has a history stretching back more than 150 years, but our current mission reflects what has always been our mission: **Love and Worship God; Love and Serve All People.**

Even in the midst of our current pandemic and physical separation, we continue our work: to hear and proclaim the love and grace of God! In the mill communities of the early 20th century all the way through to the utility assistance ministry at Phillip's House or Meals on Wheels today, St. Mark's is reaching out to make a difference in LaGrange and Troup County.

If you are curious for more information, please contact the office: info@stmarkslg.org or call 706-884-8911.

WE WELCOME OUR VISITORS, NEWCOMERS, AND GUESTS.

Click here for information about how to stay connected to St. Mark's during this time of Social Distancing. You'll find links to worship, outreach opportunities, and ways to stay connected to the church and church family.

<https://www.stmarkslg.org/connect/>

To Support the Mission and Ministry of St. Mark's go to:

www.stmarkslg.org/giving