

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says:
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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.

the Priest, stands and says
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.*

The Peace
All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant: The peace of the *Lord* be always with you.
People: And also with you

-Announcements-

Offertory Hymn: SUNG BY THE CHOIR

Doxology: Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing..

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:

Celebrant and People (S130)

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

Then the Celebrant continues

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 by 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. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

Then the Celebrant continues

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,

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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 St. Mark, St. John and all your Saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters, through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.**

Officiant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Officiant and People Together:

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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: HAVE MERCY ON US.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: HAVE MERCY ON US.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: GRANT US PEACE.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:

All: Therefore let us keep the feast.

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.

ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS ARE INVITED TO PARTAKE IN HOLY EUCHARIST AT GOD’S TABLE

Communion Hymn: 324 LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE

After Communion-Blessing and Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us pray;

Celebrant and People: 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

CELEBRANT: GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD;

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD!

Recessional Hymn: 490 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

CHURCH SERVICE TIME WILL REMAIN AT 8:30AM SUNDAY MORNINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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 I From the Book of Common Prayer

Intercessor: With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, -let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Kevin our bishop, and Audrey, bishop of Central Pennsylvania,-and for all the clergy and people, especially the clergy and members of Christ Church, Towanda, from our Diocese and St. Philip Dibe Parish – Kajo Keji-let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For our President, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, especially-Cheryl, Monica, Don, Gloria, Carol, Fr. John, William, Tim, Nancy, Jim, Doris, Bill, Luan, Valerie, Chris, Mary Ann, Marilyn, Ben, Greg, Tom, Jesse, Lisa, Heather, Donna, Chuck, Milton, Betty, Ilona, and Logan - let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, - let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For deliverance from all danger, violence, oppression, and degradation, let us pray to the Lord.. **Lord, have mercy.**

That we may end our lives in faith and hope, without suffering and without reproach, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

In the communion of St. Mark and St. John- and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God. **To thee, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant: Lord, hear the prayers of *your* people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of *your* Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

St. Mark and St. John Episcopal Church
December 14, 2025
The Third Sunday of Advent
The Rev. Timothy Griffin
Mr. Kris Hartenstine-Director of Music

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn: 56 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (VS 5-8)

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
People: And blessed be His Kingdom, now and for ever, AMEN.

Celebrant: 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.

Canticle 16- The Song of Zechariah (SUNG)

1 Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David’s tree. So have the prophets long declared that with his mighty arm God would turn back our enemies and all that wish us harm.
2 With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall, the oath once sworn to Abraham; from foes to save us all; that we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise, in holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.
3 My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way, to tell God’s people they are saved from sin’s eternal sway. Then shall God’s mercy from on high shine forth and never cease, to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray:

The Celebrant says the Collect: Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen

The Lessons (see insert)
HYMN: 544 JESUS SHALL REIGN (VS 1-3) (VS 4-5)
The Gospel
The Sermon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 2025 Book has opened to take reservations for Bulletin, Communion Cup Sponsorship and Flower Sponsorship. If you would like to reserve a specific date, please contact the office. The Bulletin Sponsorship fee is \$10 for Sunday Services, Ash Wednesday, and Holy Week Services and \$20 for Holidays (Christmas & Easter). Communion Cups Sponsorship- \$15 per week or \$50 per month. Altar Flower Sponsorship is \$28.00.

LAY READER SCHEDULE

Date	Reading	8:30 AM	
December 14	3 Advent	Rose Douglas	Jim Pompa
December 21	4 Advent	Sue Ellen Andreas	Zachary Baker
December 24	Christmas Eve – 6:30PM		
December 28	1 Christmas	Bill Diehm	Tom Lager

ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

Date:	Set Up	Clean Up
December 14	Laura Ferko	Sue Urban
December 21	Karen Gasker	Rose Douglas
December 28	Tom & Diane Lager	Shelly Pompa

Pastoral Needs: Fr. Tim Griffin is available for all pastoral needs. If you should need assistance, please contact him at 215-796-4602 or email: frtimgriffin@gmail.com

LAYING OF HANDS- HEALING- Will Take Place Every 2nd Sunday of the Month following the 8:30am Service

Email Updates: Fr. Tim will be comprising a newsletter and would like to send it electronically, via email. Please fill out form located on the wooden table outside the main sanctuary.

Cleaning Volunteers: Those interested in cleaning should contact Deb Fry 484-866-6111 or Dfrybikes81@gmail.com
Cleaning Orientations will be held on Tuesday evenings beginning at 6pm.

Choir Rehearsals: Practices will be held immediately after the 8:30am services. New members welcome!

Christmas Decorating- Will take place immediately following the 8:30am service on December 21st- Volunteers needed!

Christmas Potluck Dinner and Ornament Exchange – The Annual Christmas Dinner is scheduled for December 21st at 4:00 p.m. Please save the date; further details will be provided soon.

Vestry Meetings Scheduled- Our Vestry will meet on December 10th beginning at 6pm.

Christmas Services- will be held on December 24th, Christmas Eve, at 6:30pm.

Lessons and Carols: Join us for Lessons and Carols during the 8:30am service on December 28th to continue the Christmas celebration.

Blessing Box- Items most needed: Canned tuna, Canned chicken, Peanut butter, Jelly, Fruit cups, Canned fruit, Small mayonnaise, Hamburger Helper, Breakfast cereal (individual serving), Evaporated milk

SICK AND HOMEBOUND– Please remember in your prayers: Cheryl, Monica, Don, Gloria, Carol, Fr. John, William, Tim, Nancy, Jim, Doris, Bill, Luan,Valerie, Chris, Mary Ann, Marilyn, Ben, Greg, Tom, Jesse, Lisa, Heather, Donna, Chuck, Milton, Betty, Ilona, and Logan

*If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please contact the parish office

St. Mark and St. John Episcopal Church
21 Race Street, Jim Thorpe, PA 18229-2003
E-mail: markjhn1@ptd.net (Parish)
Find us on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/st.mark.stjohn.jt>
View our website! <https://www.stmarkandjohn.org>

Scan to donate now:



Parish office hours: Monday- Wednesday 10am – 2pm, Thursday & Friday- By appointment

SERVICES

Sunday 8:30am- Main Sanctuary

Other services TBA

9:00am

September – May

Church School

CHRISTMAS, EASTER, AND HOLY DAYS AS ANNOUNCED

STAFF

Parish Office (Karen Horvath, Parish Secretary)

570-325-2241

Kris Hartenstine Director of Music hartenstinekris@gmail.com

484-895-7143

Michele Bubar, Bookkeeper, email: michele@fasttaxnepa.com

570-325-3438

Pastoral Needs

Fr. Tim Griffin: 215-796-4602 or email: frtimgriffin@gmail.com

CHURCH SCHOOL

Zachary and Melissa Baker

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Deborah Fry ('26)

Junior Warden: Karen Gasker ('28)

Sue Ellen Andreas ('27)

Jonna Li Catrini ('28)

Michael Leonetti ('28)

Sam Strohl ('28)

Robert Muscovitch ('28)

Clerk of the Vestry

Sue Urban

Treasurer

Bill Diehm



St. Mark and St. John Episcopal Church

Sunday, December 14, 2025

The Third Sunday of Advent

Parish Mission Statement

Our parish will be energetic, effective, and loving as we seek to be inclusive and diverse in accomplishing God's work in the Church and Community.



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