

## Serving Today

Crucifer/Server—Michael Thompson

Chalice Bearer—Michael Thompson

Reader—Betty Barton Blythe, Michael Thompson

Intercessor—Betty Barton Blythe

Ushers—Betty Barton & Jimmy Blythe

We welcome this morning as **guest preacher** the Rev. Tom Macfie, former rector of this parish.

**Prayer Requests:** Cricket Bogert, Peggy Bonds, , Lisa Cantrell, Corky Carlisle, Bev Chase, Margaret Edsall, Sue Hawkins, Karen Keele, Pat Kirby, Mike Mattei, George Ramseur, Jean Stell, Evelyn Taylor, Bill, the people of Gaza, Israel, and Ukraine

**Departed:** Paul Cahoon

**St. Mark & St. Paul office and CAC will be closed** on Monday, December 25, Tuesday December 26 and Monday, January 2.

**The Rev. Rob Lamborn** will be off work December 26-January 2. The parish office will be open December 27-30. For urgent matters outside of office hours please contact Senior Warden Lynn Taylor.

**Sunday Services** at St. Mark and St. Paul on December 31 will be at 8:30 and 11:00 am. **The Feast of the Epiphany** will be celebrated there with a service a 4:30 pm followed by a potluck supper. **Sunday school, youth, and adult education** will resume Sunday, January 8.

**CAC serves those in need** with food and in other ways 9 to 11am, Monday through Friday (closed December 26 & January 2). Please call 931-598-5927.

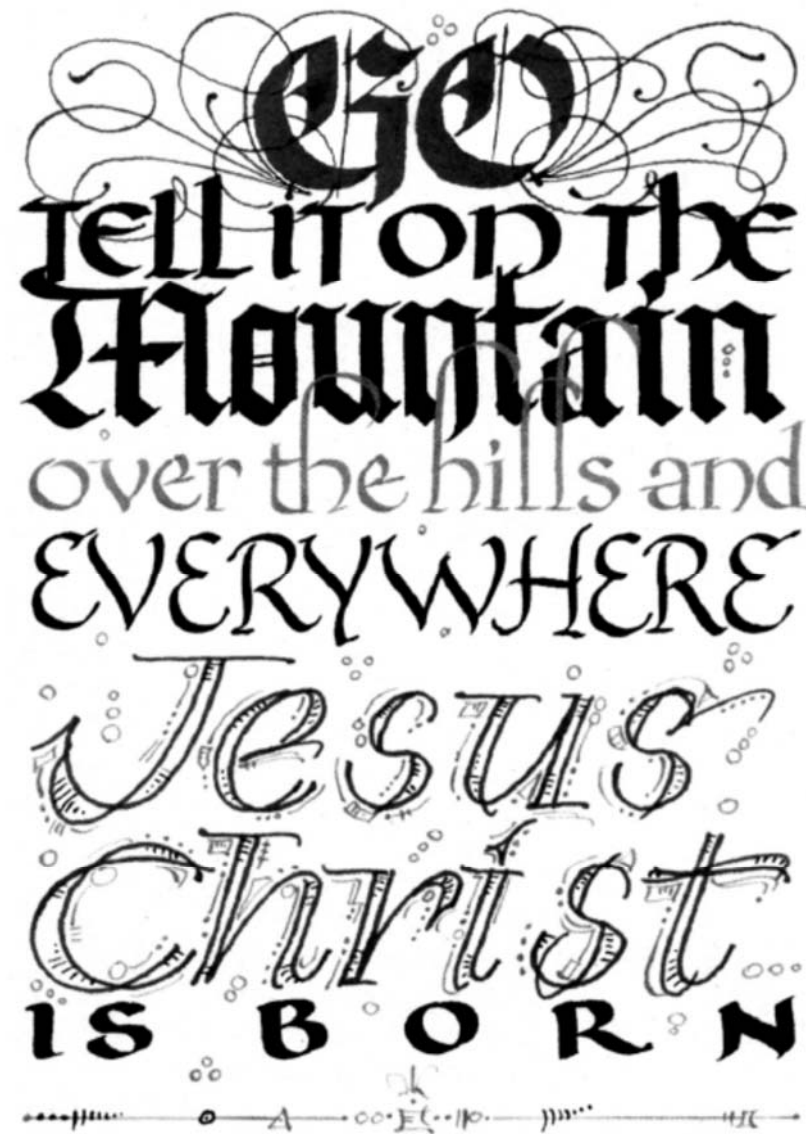
**The Feast of the Epiphany** will be celebrated here with a service on Saturday, January 6, at 4:30pm, followed by a potluck supper.

### **The mission of the Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul is**

to worship God,  
to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ,  
to serve the world for which Christ died,  
to educate and nurture our community,  
and welcome all

The Nativity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ  
Christmas Day  
December 25, 2023 10:00 am

Parish of St. Mark & St. Paul



# The Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

10:00 AM

## The Word of God

Prelude: *Les bergers (The Shepherds), from La Nativité du Seigneur*

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Opening Hymn 93 (*blue book*): “Angels from the realms of glory” (*Regent Square*)

Opening Acclamation ..... page 355

Song of Praise, Hymnal 107: “Good Christian friends rejoice” ..... (*In dulci jubilo*)

Collect of the Day ..... page 213

First Reading: Isaiah 62: 6-12 (*insert*)

Psalm 97 (*insert*)

Second Reading: Titus 3:4-7 (*insert*)

Sequence Hymn 105: “God rest you merry, gentlemen” (*God Rest You Merry*)

Gospel: Luke 2:1-20 (*insert*)

The Sermon ..... The Reverend Robert C. Lamborn

The Nicene Creed ..... page 358

Prayers of the People (*The people respond, “Hear our prayer.”*)

The Peace

*Adults and children having gifts to be blessed bring them forward.*

Antiphon: Where is the child who is born a King?

V. They opened their treasures and offered him gifts;

R. Gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Celebrant: Blessed are you Lord our God. You give the Spirit’s gifts to all people. Use these gifts to bring the Spirit’s gifts of skill, imagination and learning to those who have brought them before your altar, in Jesus’ name we pray. *Amen.*

Blessing of Gifts

Announcements

Offertory Hymn 104: “A stable lamp is lighted” (*Amdújar*)

# The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving:

Eucharistic Prayer B..... page 367

Sanctus, Hymnal S130

The Lord’s Prayer (*Contemporary version*)

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

Fraction Anthem: Hymnal S164

Communion of the People

*All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. Anyone may come forward to receive a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your chest. Gluten-free wafers are available; simply ask the priest.*

Postcommunion Prayer ..... page 366

Christmas Blessing

May Almighty God, who sent the Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent the angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior’s birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you peace and favor. *Amen.*

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Hymn 99: “Good Christian friends, rejoice” (*In dulci jubilo*)

Dismissal

Postlude: *Dieu parmi nous (God among us), from La Nativité du Seigneur*

Olivier Messiaen