

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

All are welcome. All are embraced. All are loved.



The Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day

Holy Eucharist with Baptism

Welcoming Cameron Scott Gartner

Into the Community of Saints

March 31, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church

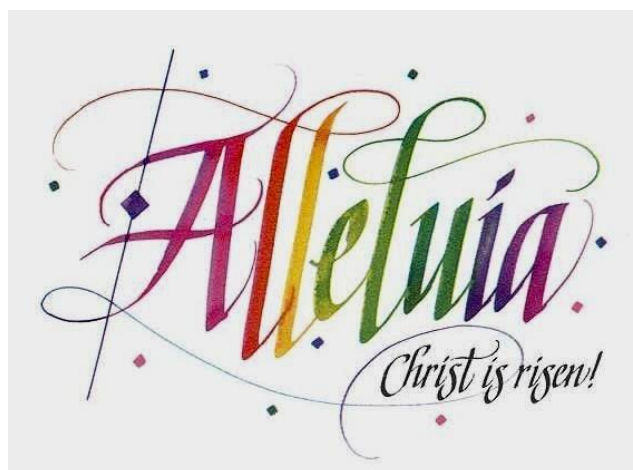
*A house of prayer for all people in the historic Radcliffeborough
neighborhood of Charleston, South Carolina*

The Rt. Rev. Ruth Woodliff-Stanley, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina

The Very Reverend Dr. Michael Shaffer, Interim Rector

Loretta Haskell, Organist & Choirmaster

Alphonso Grayson, Senior Warden – Bob Waters, Junior Warden



An Easter Welcome

Welcome to historic St. Mark's Episcopal Church! It is a joy and a pleasure to have you here on the greatest day of the Christian year. Thank you for choosing St. Mark's for your Easter celebration this year.

The empty tomb on Easter morning and the proclamation *Alleluia! Christ is risen!*, define the essence of the Christian faith. This is the moment when Jesus the great teacher, Jesus the prophet, Jesus the healer, Jesus the worker of miracles, becomes Jesus the Savior. Jesus becomes our Savior who defeats death and heralds the truth that there is life after this life. Today is the day when we proclaim that the grave could not hold Jesus. Rather, God loved him and all of us so much that even after we nailed him to the cross, God raised him from the dead; and we are promised that God will do the same for us.

However, Easter is not just about what happened to Jesus two thousand years ago or what happens to us after we die. On Easter, we also celebrate the truth that the resurrected Christ lives among us now, opening the tombs that we create for ourselves, the tombs of anger, despair, hatred, envy, violence, selfishness, and addiction. As Easter people, we are invited to listen to him, follow him, imitate him, and, in so doing, discover new lives of love, hope, meaning, and purpose.

What happened on Easter morning is happening still in the everyday lives of those who follow Jesus. We are delighted that you are here today, and we hope that you too will find yourself resurrected on this Easter morning. For you are precious in God's sight, you are loved more than you know, and God will never let you go.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! The world has changed forever and that is good news worth sharing. *Happy Easter!*





PRELUDE

Alleluia from “Exultate Jubilate”

W.A. Mozart

OPENING HYMN 207

Jesus Christ is risen today,
our triumphant holy day,
who did once upon the cross,
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing,
unto Christ, our heavenly King,
who endured the cross and grave,
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured,
our salvation have procured;
now above the sky he’s King,
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above
praise eternal as his love;
praise him, all ye heavenly host,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

A LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Celebrant says.

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The Celebrant says.

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.**

The following is sung, all standing.

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and the other Gentiles]: "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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."

14 The LORD is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.

15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:

16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! *
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"

- 17 I shall not die, but live, ***
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, *
 but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; ***
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; *
 he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me ***
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
 has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing, ***
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; *
 we will rejoice and be glad in it.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

Please stand.

HYMN 208

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The strife is o'er, the battle done,
 the victory of life is won;
 the song of triumph has begun.
 Alleluia!

The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed:
let shout of holy joy outburst.
Alleluia!

The three sad days are quickly sped,
he rises glorious from the dead:
all glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

He closed the yawning gates of hell,
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell!
Alleluia!

Lord! by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live and sing to thee.
Alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL: *John 20:1-18*

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

TRANSITION SONG

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

Song by Taizé

*In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
In the Lord I'll rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid,
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.*

THE SERMON

The Very Reverend Dr. Michael Shaffer

PROCESSIONAL TO THE FONT

Come, thou fount of every blessing

Hymnal 686

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The Priest says.

The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The Parents and Godparents of Cameron say.

I present Cameron Scott Gartner to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Priest asks the Parents and Godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

Priest

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents

I will, with God's help.

The Priest then asks the Parents and Godparents of Cameron

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces
of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer I renounce them.

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer I do.

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer I do.

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer I do.

After the candidate has been presented, the Priest addresses the congregation saying.

Priest Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Cameron in his life in Christ?

People ***We will.***

The Priest then says these words.

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Entire Congregation answers questions

Priest Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

People ***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.***

Priest Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People ***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.***

Priest Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People ***I will, with God's help.***

Priest Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People ***I will, with God's help.***

Priest Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People ***I will, with God's help.***

Priest Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People ***I will, with God's help.***

Priest Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People ***I will, with God's help.***

PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

The Assisting Priest then says to the people.

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Priest Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Priest Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

Priest Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest Send them into the world in witness to your love.
People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

Priest Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People *Lord, hear our prayer.*

The Priest says.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The Priest then says.

Priest The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

The Priest says.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise.

In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Priest touches the water.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant and People

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
 might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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

People and Celebrant sing

Our Father, which 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 debt, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Fraction Anthem: *Taste and see*

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WLAP # 764

The musical score is written in 3/2 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are: "Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord, of the Lord." The score includes various musical notations such as chords, notes, rests, and a "Fine" marking at the end of the third system.

INVITATION

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.

At St. Mark's Episcopal Church, all desiring a deepening and reaffirming relationship with Christ are invited to come forward for Holy Communion or for a blessing. This is the table not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love God. Come, not because the Church invites you; it is Christ who invites you to be fed and blessed here. For He knows you by name and calls you by name.

Communion will be offered in two kinds. The wine may be received by either sipping the chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to dip your wafer in the wine, so that you may receive by intinction. If you do not wish to receive the wine, please indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest when the chalice reaches you at the altar rail. Communion in one kind (in bread only) is a perfectly valid way to receive the sacrament. Gluten free hosts are available upon request. For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. If you would like to have communion brought to your seat, please let an usher know.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

I Serve a Risen Savior
In Remembrance of Me

LEVAS 42
LEVAS 149

After Communion, the Celebrant says.

Let us pray. (*All pray*)

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.

The Officiant concludes with the Easter Blessing

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **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.**

CLOSING HYMN 180

He is risen, he is risen!
Tell it out with joyful voice:
he has burst his three days' prison;
let the whole wide earth rejoice:
death is conquered, we are free,
Christ has won the victory.

Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted,
with glad smile and radiant brow!
Death's long shadows have departed;
Jesus' woes are over now,
and the passion that he bore—
sin and pain can vex no more.

Come, with high and holy hymning,
hail our Lord's triumphant day;
not one darksome cloud is dimming
yonder glorious morning ray,
breaking o'er the purple east,
symbol of our Easter feast.

He is risen, he is risen!
He hath opened heaven's gate:
we are free from sin's dark prison,
risen to a holier state;
and a brighter Easter beam
on our longing eyes shall stream.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

CLOSING HYMN

Thank You, Lord

Sung by all

*Thank You, Lord (x's 3) I just want to thank you Lord.
You've Been So Good (x's 3) I just want to thank you Lord.
You've Been My Friend (x's 3) I just want to thank you Lord.*

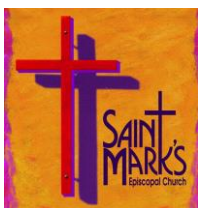
POSTLUDE:

Toccata

Charles-Marie Widor

The worship is over. Now the service begins.

*The Flowers are given to the Glory of God
by St. Mark's Episcopal Church in honor of
Cameron Scott Gartner*



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

The Very Reverend Dr. Michael Shaffer, *Celebrant & Preacher*

The Reverend Dr. Jennie C. Olbrych, *Assisting*

Alphonso Grayson, *Crucifer*

Lerone Johnson, Sr., *Thurifer*

Rob Turner, *Eucharistic Minister*

Grayson Sanyal & Sarah Grayson, *Acolytes*

Erin Shaffer, *Lector*

Loretta Haskell, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Frances Hsieh, *Violinist*

Ginny Grayson & Patricia Gates, *Altar Guild*

Ellen Hardin & Angela Hare, *Ushers*

Announcements



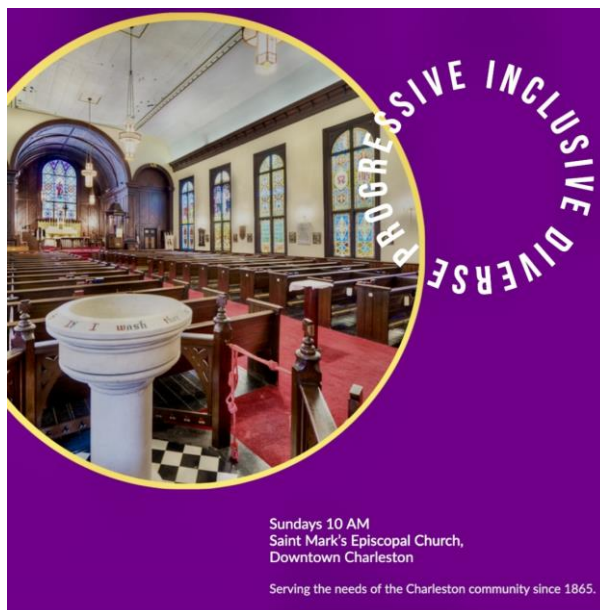
Reception for the Newly Baptized

Please join us following our worship service today for a brief reception honoring newly baptized Cameron Scott Gartner and his parents Nick and Nikki. We also welcome Nick and Nikki's family, Nikki's mother Carol Deluca, Nick's mother, Laura Gartner, Cameron's Godparents Justin and Victoria Gartner, as well as Kristen Gartner, Caroline Hill, Robert Chatham and Bill Hill. We also honor today Scott Martin Deluca, Cameron's grandfather, who surely is with us in spirit. We at St. Mark's Episcopal Church are blessed and enriched by your presence among us, as we celebrate the communion of Saints and welcome the Gartner family to our *Beloved Community*.

Altar Flower Donations – Altar Flowers may be donated by signing up for any given Sunday in the Altar Flower Notebook in the church Narthex. Suggested donation is a minimum of \$40.00.

Free parking is available during Sunday Worship Services at Ashley Hall School parking lot, located at the corner of Warren and Smith Streets, only one block from St. Mark's Church.

Parish Office Hours are every Friday, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Other times, contact Fr. Michael at 843-830-1220



Welcome to St. Mark's



I'm so glad you are here.

Whether you are visiting Charleston for the first time, have recently moved here, have visited our church before or are doing so for the first time, we hope you will consider making St. Mark's Episcopal Church your spiritual home. Whoever you are and wherever you are in your life journey, we invite you to join our community effort in making the world a better place to live. There are no litmus tests. We don't want to change you. We want to support you as you grow into the person you were born to be.

In the Episcopal Church, we dream and work to foster God's vision of *Beloved Community* where all people may experience dignity and abundant life and see themselves and others as beloved children of God. *Beloved Community* stands on the foundation of recognizing that any person's fundamental identity is God's beloved child. Such innate belovedness compels us to treat every single person on this planet with respect and dignity and to work for justice and peace and end our participation, knowingly or unknowingly, in assumptions or systems which trample on the beloved identity of our neighbors.

We humans cannot exist in isolation. We depend on connection, community, and caring. Simply put, we cannot be without each other. As Archbishop Desmond Tutu explained, "*My humanity is bound up in yours, for we can only be human together.*" Tutu understood that the potential of human beings working collectively to achieve goals is infinitely greater than the potential of any individual.

We are a community of believers who come to worship, to pray, to love and to be loved, as we work to ease the burdens we share, living in the twenty-first century. We not only welcome but *embrace* a diverse community of people with different ethnic, racial, sexual orientation and social backgrounds, who may have different ways of being their authentic selves in the world. Our focus is to live into right relationship with each other and all creation as followers of Jesus. We are strengthened by our diversity, as we strive for unity, not uniformity.

So, I invite you to join us. Bring your gifts and passions, along with your doubts and your curiosity, but most of all, your hearts and minds. There is a place for everyone in God's church, and we may be the place where you can flourish, just as you are, *God's beloved child*.

Gratefully,
Michael Shaffer +
Interim Rector – St. Mark's Episcopal
frmichael@saintmarkschurch.com
Cell: 843-830-1220
St. Mark's Parish Office: 843-722-0267