

Church Mark.

We speak concerning Christ and the Church.

A MONTHLY PAMPHLET OF FACTS, NOTES, AND INSTRUCTION.

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"The Communion of the Church of England, as it stands distinguished from all Papal and Puritan innovations, and as it adheres to the doctrine of the cross."—
From the will of Bishop Ken, A. D. 1710.

MORNING.

I rise and yield my clasped hands to Thee,
Henceforth the darkness hath no part in
me,

Thy Sacrifice this day :

Abiding firm, and with a freeman's might,
Stemming the waves of passion in the fight.

Ah ! should I from Thee stray,

My heavy head, Thy table where I bow,
Will be my shame, which are mine honour
now.

Thus I set out ;—Lord, lead me on my
way.

EVENING.

O Holiest Truth ! how have I lied to Thee,
I vowed this day Thy festival should be ;

Yet I am dim ere night.

Surely I made my prayer and I did deem
That I could in me keep Thy morning beam,

Immaculate and bright.

But my foot slipped, and as I lay, he came,
My gloomy foe, and robbed me of Heaven's
flame.

Help Thou my darkness, Lord, till I am
light.

. GREG., Nazianzen, tr. by DR. NEWMAN.

—◆◆◆—
"TEACH ME THY WAY,
LORD."

As Christians we should have in
view one great aim to which all
others should be subservient—
Obedience to the will of God.

What that will is He has made plain to us ; before us stands that Pattern of perfect obedience which we must strive after if we would please God. Although we can no more attain to that perfection than the finite can grasp the infinite, yet the effort *must* be made to mould our lives in accordance with it, or we cannot hope for the mercy and favor of God. Whatever we undertake for the good of others, however desirous we may be of leading useful lives, in a world full of opportunities of doing good, obedience to God's will must be the motive which can alone commend us to Him. It may seem a contradiction, but it is nevertheless true, that we may be shutting out God by the very works which He commands and approves, if we do them without the desire to do His WILL being our first object. What active lives some of us lead ; what warm human sympathies, it may be, or what abundant energies we possess which find vent in efforts to supply the countless needs which we see around us ; but how purely of the earth all this may be ; how it may all lie apart from the higher