



SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, April 16, 2023
Eleven O'clock

Second Sunday of Easter



Morning Worship

*You are invited to stand as you are able in body and spirit.

The Gathering

Words of Welcome and Grace

We welcome each of you to this service! No matter who you are or where you are from, you are a child of God, and you are welcome here!

Prelude

Easter Hymn

Michael Bedford

*The Call to Worship

Minister: We come to worship the risen Christ.

People: Christ is risen indeed!

Minister: Let all the world know our Lord has triumphed over death!

All: We will spread the good news by our acts of love, faith, and service.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 304 | Easter People, Raise Your Voices

The Invitation

Christ invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All **God of power and might, you raised Jesus Christ from the dead, making him the first fruit of all those who have died. We confess it is hard for our finite minds to understand the incomparable greatness and working of your power. Forgive us where we seek for evidence that fits our limited understanding, and for when we are inclined to hold fast to our false certitudes of what is possible and what is impossible. Remind us, again, that you are able to do far more exceedingly above all we can ask or imagine.**

Minister: Hear the Good News: "Faith is the confidence in what we hoped for and evidence of what we do not see." Christ has died, Christ is risen, In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

*Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

*The Passing of the Peace

Minister: The Peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you.

People: And also, with you.

We offer each other signs of peace.

Concerns and Celebrations of the Congregation

Pastoral Prayer

Proclamation of God's Word

Invitation to the Offertory & Offertory Prayer

Anthem

I Know that My Redeemer Liveth

G. F. Handel

*Doxology

UMH No. 94 | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

People: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-31

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“When There are Doubts”

Response to God’s Word

Celebration of Holy Communion

UMH Page 17 | Musical Setting A

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us into your favor, and set before us the way of life.

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: (Sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosana in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Minister: Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead, and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup. And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: (Sung) Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Minister: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in you holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

People: (Sung) Amen, Amen, Amen

The Breaking of the Bread

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father (God), 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. Amen.

The Communion of the People

*The Prayer of Dedication

All: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world I the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Dedication

UMH No. 308 | Thine Be the Glory

*Benediction

Postlude

In Thee Is Gladness

J. S. Bach

Worship Team

- Preaching:** Rev. Jess Cusick, Pastor of Youth and Young Adults
Liturgists: Rev. Carolyn Stephens, Senior Pastor
Sheila Stephens, Minister of Education and Spiritual Formation
Meagan Williams, Assistant Director of Young Adult Ministry
Music: Jon Easter, Director of Fine Arts and Organist
Audio Visual: Deana Hilton, Jay Drew, Johnny Sims, Eric Steverson & Julie Tuttle
Acolytes: Mary Murray & Wesley Porter
Ushers: Joseph Hackett, Mark Jefferson, Russel McKinney, & Buddy Wofford, Head Usher
Greeters: Andy & Pam Davis

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We Welcome You

Welcome! We are so glad you are worshipping with us today!



Attendance

Please sign the attendance pad located at the end of your row or scan this QR code to register your attendance and share prayer requests using our online Connection Card.

Tithes & Offerings

Please place your offering in the plate during this morning's service, or use the Secure Giving App, or Saint Mark's assigned number for text donations is 844-703-1444 and the keyword is 'operating'. To give via text, text the word 'operating', a space, and the amount you would like to give. For example, to give \$25, text 844-703-1444 operating 25. Your generosity allows us to love, accept and serve the people of our community.

Our Welcome Statement

As a United Methodist Church, we are proud to be a congregation with open hearts, open minds, and open doors. We strive to be a congregation that embodies God's absolute love and hospitality, proclaiming Jesus as our savior and as our model of the ultimate embodiment of God's love. We believe that all persons are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God's good creation. Saint Mark United Methodist Church welcomes all persons into the full life and ministry of our congregation, regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, family, or socioeconomic status, physical or mental ability, or faith history.

We Invite You

Want to stay updated on the Saint Mark Community?

Visit www.stmarkumc.org and subscribe to the newsletter on the homepage. We send our Remarks newsletter every Wednesday, a message from our Senior Pastor every Friday, and a Sunday Morning at Saint Mark email.

Today's Communion Offering

Next Sunday is Native American Ministries Sunday. This month's communion offering will go to Native American Ministries.

How do your gifts support Native American Ministries?

Part of the funds collected allow us to collaborate with existing native ministries, create programs and support seminary scholarships for United Methodist Native Americans. Fifty percent of the offering remains in North Georgia to develop local ministries.

Announcements & Special Events

Church Council will meet next Sunday at 12:30 PM in Room 111. A light lunch will be served at 12:15 PM. All are welcome to attend.