

SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, May 28, 2023
Ten O'clock

Pentecost Sunday
Memorial Day Weekend



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

Chorale and Variations on “Come, Creator Spirit”

Maurice Durufle

*The Call to Worship

One: The Holy Spirit is here!

All: In our breath within us and all around us.

One: The Holy Spirit moves us!

All: With courage and conviction.

All: Let us worship God!

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 547 v. 1 & 2 | O Church of God, United

*The Scripture Lesson

Acts 2:1-21 (NIV)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?"

Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 547 v. 3 & 4 | O Church of God, United

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

One: We come to the Lord recognizing our need for divine grace.

In humility, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

All: God of all, we confess that we have been selfish in our pursuits of power and notoriety. Help us to remember that you, O Lord, laid down your life for your friends because of your deep love. Forgive us, we pray. Stir our hearts with love for one another through the love of Jesus Christ.

One: Hear the Good News: Those who know love, know God. Therefore, let us love one another as Christ loves us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

*Gloria Patri

Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

*The Passing of the Peace

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

All: And also, with you.

We offer each other signs of peace.

Ministry Moment | Pride 2023

Noey Barrera-Disler

Concerns and Celebrations of the Congregation

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

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.

Proclamation of God's Word

Invitation to the Offertory & Offertory Prayer

Anthem

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

K. Lee Scott

*Doxology

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

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 15:12-17

One: The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn of Preparation

UMH No. 393 | Spirit of the Living God

sung 3 times

Sermon

Conversations of the Heart: Building Friendship

Response to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. 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. Amen.

* universal

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Dedication

TFWS No. 2117 | Spirit of God

*Benediction

Postlude

Chorale and Toccata on "Come, Creator Spirit"

Maurice Durufle

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Our Prayer List

<https://www.stmarkumc.org/prayer-ministry>

Worship Team

Preaching: **Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens**, Senior Pastor

Liturgists: **Noey Barrerra-Disler**, Lay Reader in Spanish & Ministry Moment
Tabitha Jamal, Emory University, Candler School of Theology Intern
and Lay Reader in Urdu

Rev. Dr. Brett Opalinski, Elder in Full Connection, Florida Annual
Conference and Emory University | Candler School of Theology |
Assistant Dean of Methodist Studies; Assistant Professor in the
Practice of Spiritual Formation and Church Leadership

Sheila Stephens, Minister of Education and Spiritual Formation

Cecilia VanderLinde, Lay Reader in Afrikaans

Meagan Williams, Assistant to the Minister of Youth & Young Adult
Ministries

Yin Xu-Moore, Lay Reader in Chinese

Music: **Jon Easter**, Director of Fine Arts and Organist

Audio Visual: **Jay Drew, Johnny Sims, Eric Steverson**, and **Julie Tootle**

Ushers: **Joel Black, Bob Brown, Deana Hilton**, and **Yin Xu-Moore**

Greeters: **Pam Davis** and **David Wilson**

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

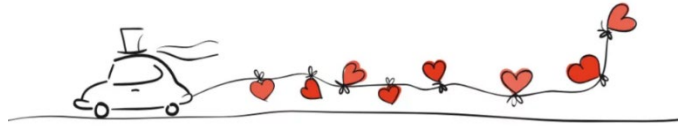
Please place your offering in the plate during this morning's service, or use the Secure Giving App, or Saint Mark's assigned number for text donations is 844-703-1444 and the keyword is 'operating'. To give via text, text the word 'operating', a space, and the amount you would like to give. For example,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

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.

Announcements & Special Events

Congratulations to
Rev. Jess and Lauren Lamoly
on their marriage.



Rev. Jess will be back in the office on Thursday after a few days off with family.



Please consider donating time at vacation homes, gift certificates, high quality merchandise or services. If you are an individual member who cannot think of something to donate, please consider calling your family, friends, or a favorite restaurant to see

if they would be willing to donate an item to our Silent Auction or if you have a poster, vinyl album or any merchandise signed/autographed by a celebrity, perhaps you might be willing to donate that.

We will gladly pick up your donation, or it can be dropped at Saint Mark's business office during regular church office hours. You can also drop off it at Saint Mark during services on Sunday. **Our last day to receive silent auction items is next Sunday, June 4, 2023.**

The Church Offices will be closed on **Monday, May 29, 2023**
in honor of Memorial Day.



**'I will pour out
my spirit on all'**
JOEL 2:28

2023 NORTH GEORGIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JUNE 1-3 | ATHENS



The North Georgia Annual Conference will be held **June 1-3, 2023** at The Classic Center in Athens, Georgia. Bishop Robin Dease will preside.

Please be in prayer for those from Saint Mark that will be at

Annual Conference: Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, Rev. Steve Fazenbaker, Robert Gilleo, Michelle Levan, Jason Lowery, and Jon Woody.