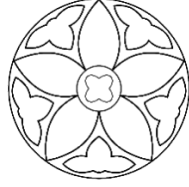


SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, August 27, 2023
Eleven O'clock

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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

Prelude on a “Kyrie”

Jean Langlais

*The Call to Worship

One: God is our refuge and strength!

All: In God we trust.

One: God is our portion and our lot!

All: In God’s goodness we rest.

One: We will worship God for all our blessings and benefits.

All: We will sing of God mercies forever.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 368 | My Hope Is Built

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: Gracious God, in your goodness you have made us and invited us to choose the way of abundant life that you offer to all. You have set the path of righteousness before us, telling us to walk therein, for our wellbeing and wholeness. We confess that we do not always choose the way of life that is your will for us, but often seek to go our own way, to the harm of ourselves and others. Forgive us we pray. Reorient us to you, the Eternal Light, so we can see clearly your way.

One: Hear the good news! God's will for us is to have life and have it abundantly. Choose now the way of Christ, so you can live. 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.

Let us offer each other signs of peace, reconciliation, and love.

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

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Dale Wood

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone. Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one; Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call Thee, come O Lord of hosts today. With Thy wonted loving kindness, hear Thy servants as they pray. And Thy fullest benediction shed within its walls always.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son. Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One. One in might and One in glory, while unending ages run.

*Doxology

UMH No. 95 | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

The Scripture Lesson

Romans 12: 3-16

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Message for the Younger Church

All children are invited to come up to the chancel area.

*Hymn of Preparation
V. 1 - 4 | I Have a Dream

I Have a Dream

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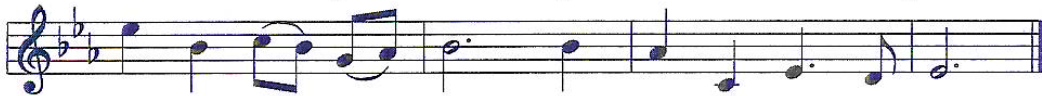
1. "I have a dream," a man once said, "where
2. But in this world of bit - ter strife the
3. Fierce per - se - cu - tion, war, and hate are
4. So dream the dreams and sing the songs, but
5. Lord, give us vi - sion, make us strong, help



all is per - fect peace; where men and wom - en,
dream can of - ten fade; re - al - i - ty seems
rag - ing ev - ery - where; God calls us now to
nev - er be con - tent; for thoughts and words don't
us to do your will; don't let us rest un -



black and white, stand hand in hand, and all u - nite in
dark as night, we catch but glimps - es of the light Christ
pay the price through strug - gles and through sac - ri - fice of
ease the pain: un - less there's ac - tion, all is vain; faith
til we see your love through-out hu - man-i - ty u -



free - dom and in love, in free - dom and in love."
sheds on hu - man - kind, Christ sheds on hu - man-kind.
stand - ing for the right, of stand - ing for the right.
proves it - self in deeds, faith proves it - self in deeds.
nit - ing us in peace, u - nit - ing us in peace.

WORDS: Pamela J. Pettitt
MUSIC: Charles Hubert Hastings Parry
Words © Pam Pettitt

REPTON
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*The Gospel Lesson
Matthew 7:21-27

One: The Word of God for the people of God
All: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

The Character of a Methodist: Does the Will of God

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

UMH No. 529 | How Firm a Foundation

*Benediction

Postlude

Hymne d'Actions de Grâce "Te Deum"

Jean Langlais

Worship Team

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

Liturgists: Robert Gilleo, *Chairperson, Hospitality and Evangelism*
Katie Long, *Lay Reader*

Amber Stewart, *Chairperson, Church Council*

Mark Woods, *Chairperson, Finance Committee*

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

Audio Visual: Johnny Sims, *Coordinator of Online Ministry*, Jay Drew, Deana Hilton, Eric Steverson, and Julie Tootle

Acolytes: The Cundiff Family

Usher Team: Buddy Wofford, *Head Usher*, Joseph Hackett, Mark Jefferson, and Russell McKinney

Greeter Team: Roger Brown and Chip DuPont

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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.

We Invite You to Stay Connected with Saint Mark

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.



Saint Mark 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.

Announcements & Special Events



Popsicles on Peachtree

Today, after this service | Front Terrace