

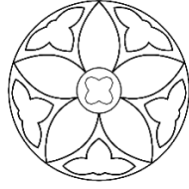
SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, September 3, 2023
Ten O'clock

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday



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

Adagio, from Sonata 1

Felix Mendelssohn

*The Call to Worship

One: Here we are in this place and in this time.

All: We have come to worship God in spirit and in truth.

One: Here we are together as beloved children of God.

All: We have come in blessed communion with each other.

One: Here we are with heightened expectation.

All: We will feast at the Lord's table.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

v. 1, 2, 3, & 4 | All Are Welcome

All Are Welcome



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And all can safe - ly
2. Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, And words are strong and
3. Let us build a house where love is found In wa - ter, wine and
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be - yond the wood and
5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their songs and vi - sions



live, A place where saints and chil - dren tell How
true, Where all God's chil - dren dare to seek To
wheat: A ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground, Where
stone To heal and strength-en, serve and teach, And
heard And loved and treas - ured, taught and claimed As



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, Rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the
wit - ness And as sym - bol of God's grace; Here as
Je - sus, Is re-vealed in time and space; As we
stran - ger Bear the im - age of God's face; Let us
laugh - ter, Prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro-claim from floor to raft - er:



all are wel-come, all are wel-come in this place.

The Invitation

Christ our Lord 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: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

One: Hear the Good News: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love towards us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

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

*Kyrie

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

*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

Proclamation of God's Word

Invitation to the Offertory & Offertory Prayer

Anthem
Beautiful City

Stephen Schwartz

*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 Gospel Lesson

Luke 10:25-37

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

The Character of a United Methodist: Does Good to Others

Response to God's Word

Celebration of Holy Communion

UMH Page 17 | Musical Setting A

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God (Father) Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

One: 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.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, 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."

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.

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

One: 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 your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God (Father), now and forever.

All: Amen, amen, amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Lord's Prayer

One: And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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

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 in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Dedication

TFWS No. 2223 | They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

*Benediction

Postlude

In Thee Is Gladness

J. S. Bach

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Worship Team

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

Liturgists: Meagan Williams, *Assistant to the Pastor of Youth and Young Adults*

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

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

Communion Servers: Joel Fechter, Joseph Hackett, LuAlice Waite, and Mary Abbott Waite

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

Greeter Team: Deana Hilton and David Wilson

Today's Communion Offering

September's Communion offering will support the ministry of Wellroot (formerly the United Methodist Children's Home). For the past 150 years, Wellroot Family Services has relied on the support of local churches to care for children and families in need. By contributing to this offering, you are assisting a child in foster care, a teen who is reshaping their future, a new mom building a support system, and parents striving for wholeness and healing with their children. While much has changed in the last 150 years, Wellroot's mission to care for vulnerable children, youth, and families remains the same. We are and will always be Faithfully Committed to Family.

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.

Youth Gathering

Sunday, September 10, 2023 | After 11 AM Service

All youth and parents of youth are invited to a time of sharing, listening, and fellowship on Sunday, September 10, immediately after the 11am service at the home of Tracy McArthur. This will be an opportunity for the youth to share with each other their hopes for the youth ministry, and a time for the parents to share among themselves how best they can support the youth to ensure they have a fruitful and thriving youth ministry. Lunch will be provided, and all are welcome.

Wednesday Night Fellowship and Suppers Resume

Starting Wednesday, September 13, 2023 | 5:30 PM

Wednesday Night Study

Starting Wednesday, September 13, 2023 | 6:30 PM

Do you want to know more about The United Methodist Church? Join us on Wednesday evenings for a weekly discussion that includes our history, traditions, and theology. We will work through the entire #BeUMC campaign curriculum, learning how we can be more engaged in the life of the church, what it means to be connectional, and what it means to be committed to Saint Mark UMC and to The United Methodist Church as a whole. Come learn what it means when we say, “The United Methodist Church is founded on a Wesleyan theology of grace, anchored in Scripture, and based in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the continuing movement of the Holy Spirit.” You can find all the resources for class on umc.org, so no book is required, but it will be helpful to have read the materials for the session prior to class, you don’t have to attend every session, while they do build on one another, they also can stand alone. If you are interested in participating and want more information, please contact Michelle Levan – michelle.levan@gmail.com or by phone at 404-405-0274.

2023 Pride T-shirt Now Available for Ordering

Buy your 2023 Saint Mark Pride T-shirt online.

<https://www.bonfire.com/saint-mark-umc-pride-2023/>

Last day to order and receive them before Pride is **Monday, September 18, 2023.**



<https://www.stmarkumc.org/an-evening-with-thressa>

12-Step Program | Saint Mark Welcome

Did you know that we have 3 12-step programs that meet at Saint Mark a week? They meet on the second floor of the Sunday School building. The classroom currently doesn't have any permanent furniture. We'd like to change that and make our guests feel welcomed and loved.

We have created a wish list of items for the room. If you would like to sponsor an item or donate financially to the project, please contact Robert Gilleo, RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org, for more information and a copy of the wish list. Let's make our guests feel welcomed and loved.

Weekly Children's Bulletins

We now have weekly children's bulletins for ages 3+ and ages 7+.

Please see an usher for the weekly bulletin and some crayons or colored pencils.