



SAINT MARK

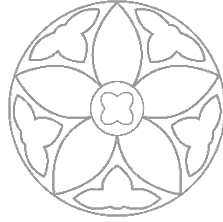
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, September 24, 2023
Eleven O'clock

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost





11 AM 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

Aria

Craig Phillips

*The Call to Worship

One: Come let us worship God.

All: Let us come in Spirit and in truth.

One: Let us offer sacrifice of praise to our God.

All: Let us praise the One who is our Lord.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 400 | Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: Compassionate God, you have shown your love and mercy to each of us, and you have called us to do the same to each other. We confess, however, that so often we are more inclined to be resentful and hold a grudge for the wrong done to us. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us of the mercies you have shown all of us through Jesus Christ our Lord.

One: Hear the good news: God is merciful and forgiving, and commands us to do the same. Show mercy as you would desire to receive mercy. Forgive as you would desire to be forgiven. 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

The Road Home

Stephen Paulus

Tell me where is the road I can call my own, that I left, that I lost, so long ago. All these years I have wandered, oh when will I know there's a way, there's a road that will lead me home.

After wind, after rain, when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream in the gold of day. Through the air there's a calling from far away, there's a voice I can hear that will lead me home.

Rise up, follow me, come away is the call, with love in your heart as the only song. There is no such beauty as where you belong, rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

*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.

Message for the Younger Church

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

*Hymn of Preparation

UMH No. 138 v. 1, 3, 5, & 6 | The King of Love My Shepherd Is

*The Gospel Lesson

Luke 15: 11-32

One: The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Life Hack Series: How to Overcome Resentment

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. 378 v. 1, 3, 4, & 6 | Amazing Grace

*Benediction

Postlude

Toccata on Amazing Grace

Christopher Pardini

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We Welcome You

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.

Worship Team

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

Liturgists: Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*

Mary Abbott Waite, *Saint Mark UMC Story Keeper and Lay Reader*

Paula Ward, *Lay Member & Pride Committee Chairperson*

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, Deana Hilton, Anna Rader, Eric Steverson, and Julie Tootle

Usher Team: Buddy Wofford, *Head Usher*, Joel Black, Bob Brown, Deana Hilton, and Yin Xu-Moore

Greeter Team: Andy Davis and Pam Davis, *Head Greeter*



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.



Announcements & Special Events



Don Schoner's Celebration of Life

On Saturday, September 30, 2023 at 1 PM, please join Don's husband, **Bobby Strickland**, for a time of celebration here at Saint Mark UMC. Wear comfortable clothes and fun colors. There's no minister, no formal program. There will be an open mic and you are welcome to share a favorite story with the group, but it's totally up to you. Bobby will be facilitating the celebration. He will be speaking from his heart, and hopes you do the same. We will be together for two hours.

An Evening with Thressa Gardner Price has been canceled

Congregation Listening Sessions

The listening session scheduled for today has been rescheduled for Sunday, October 1, at 12:15pm, following the 11am service. The session will be held in the chapel.

The sessions are open to 20 persons per gathering, to permit the time needed to answer the questions asked.

<https://forms.office.com/r/3uLaYmUVXy>

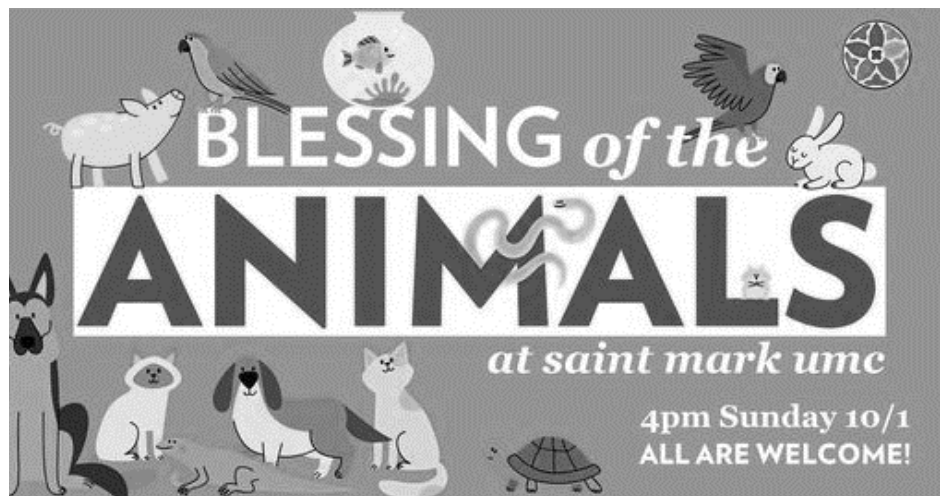
Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 | 5:30 PM | Baked Potato Bar

All dinners include an assortment of salads, desserts and iced tea.
Cost is \$11 per person. \$10 for seniors 65 and over.

Make your reservations now for Wednesday Night Dinners.

<https://forms.office.com/r/29Xbv198wy>



2023 PRIDE SUNDAY Volunteers Needed

Saint Mark's Pride Sunday is just around the corner, and we need your help to make it awesome!

Whether you've got a few hours or the whole day, every volunteer hand counts. Jump on this <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B45AFAE23A5F94-saint#/> to snag a volunteer slot, to help with lunch on the front lawn, decorating the truck for the parade, or handing out water.

Let's come together and make this day shine!

2023 PRIDE SUNDAY Lunch

Order your Pride Day lunch today so you won't have to stand in the payment line the day of Pride. \$20 per lunch.

<https://www.stmarkumc.org/store/p/pride-lunch>