



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ONE LOVE



MANY COLORS

Sunday, October 15, 2023
Ten O'clock

PRIDE Sunday
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



10 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

Jesus Love Me

Jason D. Payne

This piece quotes Jesus Loves the Little Children, whose lyrics have been updated to be more inclusive:

*“Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.
Every color, every race, all are covered by His grace.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.”*

Introit and Procession of Flags

Many Gifts, One Spirit

Allen Pote

Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice. Many reasons, one promise, many questions, one choice. O God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above. In our differences unite us in the circle of your love. O God, remind us we are not alone. Though we move on different pathways, we are walking to your throne. Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand. We are members of one family, growing strong by joining hands. Take our many ways of working, blend the colors of each soul into the beauty of a rainbow. Give us life, Lord, make us whole.

*The Call to Worship

One: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases.

All: God’s compassion never fails.

One: The mercies of the Lord never ends.

All: God’s mercies are new every morning.

One: God’s love extends to all creation.

All: We are the beloved of God.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

V. 1, 2, 4, & 5 | 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.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Tune: TWO OAKS, 9 6 8 6 8 7 10 with refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950
© 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: God of infinite love, we thank you that your love for us has no bounds or limits. Your love for us has no qualifications or requirements. You love us because you are love. We are your beloved and you have commanded us to show your love to others by loving our neighbors as ourselves. Sometimes we fall short, so forgive us we pray. Open our hearts that we may respond to your love, and in turn extend your love to others.

One: Hear the good news: God is love, and we are invited into this love and to share it with others. Let us do all that is possible to let others know they are loved. 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.

Ministry Moment

Rev. James T. Moor

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

He Never Failed Me Yet

Robert Ray

*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.

Ministry Moment

Rev. Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts

The Scripture Lesson

Philippians 4:4-9

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.

Solo

How We Love

Beth Nielsen Chapman

*The Gospel Lesson

Matthew 5:43-48

One: The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Life Hack Series: How to Overcome Hate

Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens

Response to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Sending Forth

As is our tradition at Saint Mark on Pride Sunday, we invite you to stand as you are able and head to the outer edges of the sanctuary during our hymn of dedication. Help us draw a circle, making sure no one stands alone. We'll stand side by side as we sing together "Draw the Circle Wide."

*Hymn of Dedication

Draw the Circle Wide

Insert begins on next page

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Draw the Circle Wide



Draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the



cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide. No one stands a-lone, we'll stand side by



side. Draw the cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide. Draw the



wide. Draw the cir-cle wide, draw it wid-er still. Let this



be our song: no one stands a-lone. Stand-ing side by side,



draw the cir-cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the



2

wide. Draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide. No one stands a-lone, we'll stand side by

side. Draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle

div.

wide. Draw the cir-cle wide, draw it wid-er still. Let this

div.

be our song: no one stands a-lone. Stand-ing side by side,

to repeat *Repeat as desired*

draw the cir-cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

to end

Draw the cir-cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

molto rit.

cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide.

*Benediction

Postlude

Toccata on "All You Need Is Love"

Paul Ayers

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 A. Stephens, *Senior Pastor*
- Liturgist:** Rev. Steve Fazenbaker, *Retired Elder in Full Connection*
The North Georgia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts, *Senior Pastor*
Oak Grove United Methodist Church
Saint Mark Senior Pastor | July 2010 – December 2019
Rev. Jimmy Moor, *Retired Elder in Full Connection*
The North Georgia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church
Saint Mark Senior Pastor | January 2003 – June 2010
Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*
- 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*, Bob Brown, Terry Davis, Joseph Hackett, Betsy Moore, and Yin Xu-Moore
- Greeter Team:** Andy and Pam Davis, *Head Greeter*
- Procession of Flags:**
- Red:** The Ward Family (*Chris, Diana, Paula and Gracie*)
 - Orange:** Christian and Kristen Fuller
 - Yellow:** The Washington Family (*Gary, Greg, Danni, and Gabb*)
 - Green:** Jill and Trudy Lee-Barber
 - Blue:** Paul and Susan Spencer
 - Purple:** Robert Gilleo, Deana Hilton, and William Steele

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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.

Announcements & Special Events

Church Calendar Reminders

Monday, October 16, 2023 | Church Offices Closed | Pride Monday

Diaper Drive

Next Sunday, October 22, 2023



Trunk or Treat

Tuesday, October 31, 2023 | 5:30 - 7 PM



Join us for a fall evening full of fun, fellowship, costumes, and candy! Our Halloween event will be a safe, festive event for our children, families, and community. Spread the word! If you would like to help with this event, you can:

- **Decorate Your Trunk** - Help make it a great evening for our kids and community by pulling out all the stops and decorating your car trunk as part of our trunk-or-treat!
- **Donate Candy** - Bring individually wrapped candy to the church office. Candy will be handed out at the trunk-or-treat.
- **Volunteers** - We need help with set-up, greeting guests, and clean-up. If you are interested in helping, please email Madi Dunn at MDunn@stmarkumc.org

Congregational Listening Sessions Questions

We know that we were not able to answer all your questions during the listening sessions. Please know that we are working on them and will do our best to provide you with answers to your questions and post on the website, in the Remarks, and other communication platform.



Celebrating the Ministry of Jon Easter

Sunday, October 22, 2023 | 9:45 AM | Wade Hall

Outreach Closet Donations

As we head into fall season, we need to outfit our outreach closet with winter items. We have created a link and a QR code below for you to order much needed items.



Walmart

<https://tinyurl.com/28rtpjd8>



Amazon

<https://tinyurl.com/3ve9fje2>

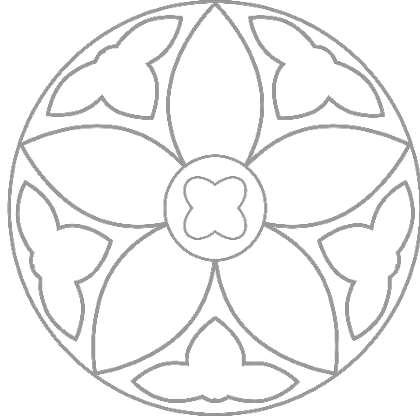


YouTube

@StMarkUMCATL

We Invite You to Stay Connected with Saint Mark

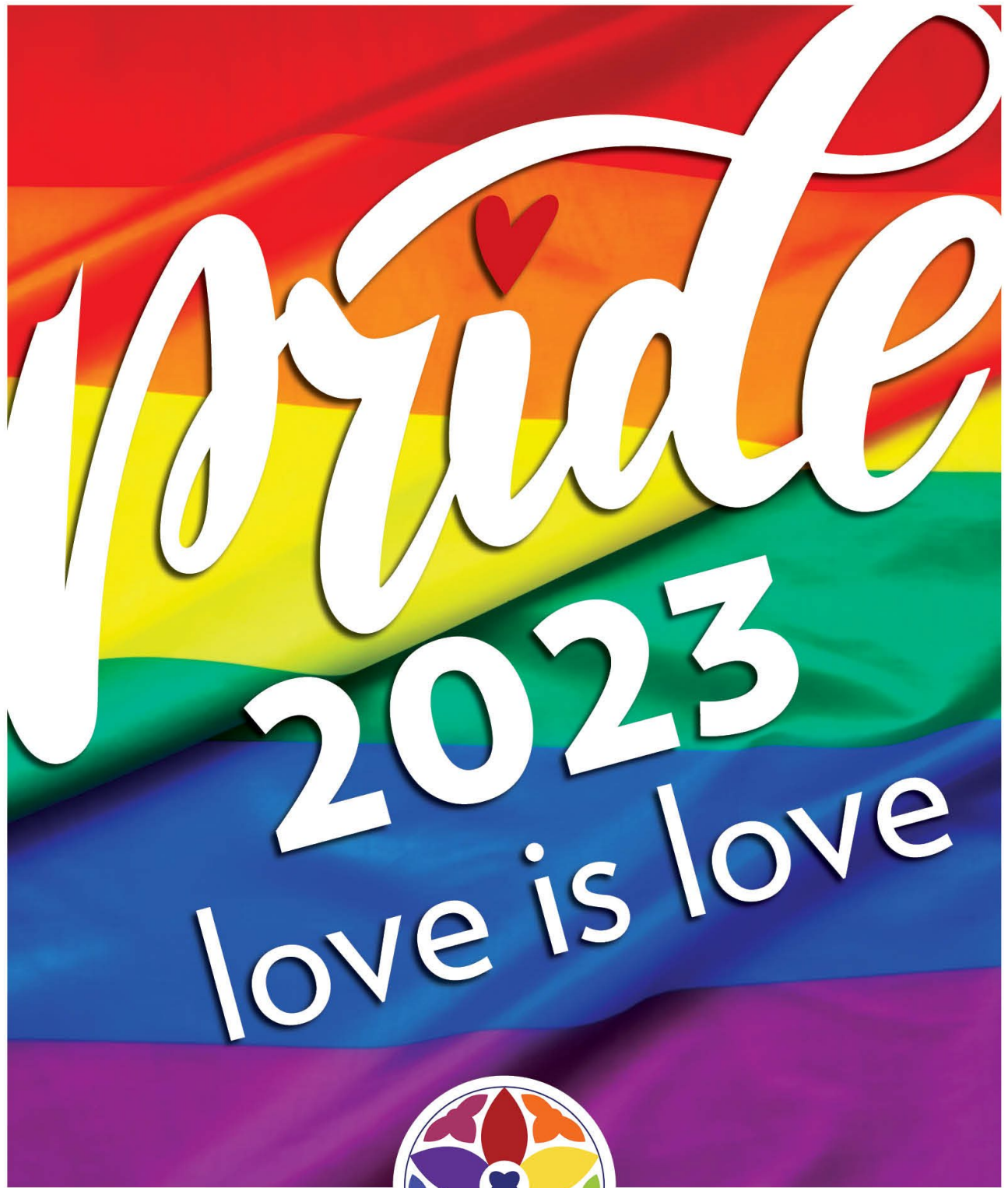
Visit www.stmarkumc.org and subscribe to the newsletter on the homepage. We send our Remarks newsletter every Wednesday, a message from our Senior Pastor every Friday, and a Sunday Morning at Saint Mark email.



THANK YOU!

The Saint Mark Pride Committee would like to thank the following individuals and/or companies.

- **Dr. Jeff Bradley** and **David Boswell** for installing the Pride flag from the bell tower as well as decorating the sanctuary.
- **Mark McCracken** for donating the utensils.
- **Pastor Carolyn** for donating the cookies.
- **Minister Sheila Stephens** for donating the sodas.
- **Percy Moten, Scott & Dale Becker**, and **Robert Gilleo** for picking up the 5000+ bottles of water.
- **Laura Butler** for donating chips.
- **Sherrie Graham** for her truck and driving in the parade today.
- **Our Youth** and **Young Adults** for decorating the float and walking in the parade.
- **Nancy Morgan/Handy Dynamic** is for truck, trailer & generator.
- **DJ Eric James** for music on the Terrace.
- **The Planning Committee** headed up by **Paula Ward, Noey Barrera-Disler** and **Sheri Barrera-Disler**.
- And all of the **Day of Volunteers** that make this celebration happen.



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Join the celebration on the front terrace with BBQ, music, a water stop,
and good family fun for the whole neighborhood!

(Stop by and welcome the Pride Judges at their table on our sidewalk!)

781 peachtree street, atlanta, ga 30308 | stmarkumc.org | 404.873.2636