



# SAINT MARK

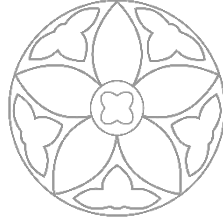
## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

**Sunday, October 22, 2023**  
**Eleven O'clock**

Twenty-First 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

**Lotus Blossom**

**Billy Strayhorn, arr. Alec Wyton**

\*The Call to Worship

One: Come, Holy Spirit.

**All: Come among us.**

One: Come, Holy Spirit.

**All: Come and fill us.**

One: Come, Holy Spirit.

**All: Come and revive us.**

One: Come, Holy Spirit.

**All: Come and use us.**

### **Praise and Thanksgiving**

\*Hymn of Praise

**UMH No. 577 | God of Grace and God of Glory**

\*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

**All: Generous and caring God, you show your love to us daily by pouring out your blessings and benefits upon our lives. You have given us good gifts, and you have not withheld your bounty from us. Forgive us for the times we fail to recognize your goodness, and for the times when we fail to extend it to others. Help us not to live by the law of scarcity, but by the law of love, so that others will also experience your generosity.**

One: Hear the good news: Great is God's faithfulness toward us, and the Lord's loving kindness will never cease. All we have comes from God, and whatever we give should honor God. 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

**My Shepherd Will Supply My Need**

**Mack Wilberg**

*My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name. In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream. He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways, And leads me for his mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.*

*When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay; One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread, My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.*

*The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days, O may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise! There would I find a settled rest while others go and come, No more a stranger, nor a guest; but like a child at 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.**

The Scripture Lesson

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

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  
**UMH No. 451 | Be Thou My Vision**

\*The Gospel Lesson  
**Luke 12: 13-21**

One: The Gospel of Our Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon  
**Life Hack Series: How to Overcome Greed**

## **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  
**Insert | God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending**

# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (G)  
F Dm B<sup>b</sup>

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of  
3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) (Bm)  
F Dm

end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly  
Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es  
grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) (D) (A)  
B<sup>b</sup> F C

cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn  
joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (A) (D)  
Dm Am Dm B<sup>b</sup> C F

to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall  
la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,  
shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) (G) (D)  
Dm B<sup>b</sup> F

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

TEXT: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.  
MUSIC: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; harm. James H. Wood, 1958  
Text © 1961, ren. 1989 *The Hymn Society* (admin. *Hope Publishing Company*)  
Music Harm. © 1958, ren. 1986 *Broadman Press* (admin. *Music Services*)

BEACH SPRING  
8.7.8.7.D

\*Benediction

Postlude

**Toccata from Symphony #5**

**Charles-Marie Widor**

## **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:** Rex Burruss, *Lay Reader*  
Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*  
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, Eric Steverson, and Julie Tootle
- Usher Team:** Buddy Wofford, *Head Usher*, Joel Black, Bob Brown, and Deana Hilton
- Greeter Team:** Pam Davis, *Head Greeter* and Luke Murphy

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## **We Invite You to Stay Connected with Saint Mark**

Visit [www.stmarkumc.org](http://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.



### **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**



**Today | 12:30 PM | Room 111**

### **What is the purpose of the Church Council?**

Per Paragraph 252 of the 2016 Book of Discipline, the church council shall provide for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church. It shall also provide for the administration of its organization and temporal life. It shall envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate the mission and ministry of the church.

### **Who can attend a Church Council meeting?**

Anyone, you do not need to be a member of the Church Council to attend the meeting. Church Council Meetings are OPEN TO ALL.

### **Who is on the Church Council?**

<https://www.stmarkumc.org/our-leadership>





Hello, SMUMC Pride Planning Team, Volunteers and Church Staff!

THANK YOU for all that you did to make our Pride Sunday 2023 an amazing success! You are the not-so-secret ingredient that made all our plans come to life and take flight. I can plan all day long, but without you showing up and pitching in, we would not have been able to make it all happen.

Thank you for donating items to the silent auction and bidding on items.

Thank you for telling jokes and singing songs at the open mic night.

Thank you for researching t-shirt vendors, water bottles, and a million other items.

Thank you for moving the tables, chairs, and water bottles.

Thank you for setting up and cleaning up.

Thank you for handing out water.

Thank you for finding tablecloths and trash cans.

Thank you for decorating the float and walking in the (long!) parade.

Thank you for driving the trucks.

Thank you for making sure we had insurance and things were paid for.

Thank you for serving food and being cashiers.

Most of all, thank you for smiling, hugging, and telling Atlanta "Happy Pride!" from our corner of Peachtree and Fifth!

I'm so unbelievably proud of every one of you.

I hear that we only had 11 lunch tickets left unsold out of 250 meals! That's amazing! We had some leftover water bottles, but Madi will be repurposing them for the upcoming Trunk or Treat event, so win-win!

I hope that you are all taking this week to rest, relax and reflect on the weekend. My experiences in Piedmont Park on Saturday and at the parade on Sunday will stay with me for a long time. Being the hands and feet (and hugs) of Jesus to people who may not ordinarily feel loved and celebrated is a sacred privilege. Let's all savor this feeling of fulfillment and purpose. Maybe we can carry a bit of Pride Sunday into every day!

Thank you again.

Love  
Paula



## **Pride 2023 in Pictures**

Relive some of the fabulous Pride festivities at Saint Mark.

### **Open Mic Night**

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/T8dSDcKHwvFH6xCq7>

### **Pride Sunday**

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/67ptf5kiGbLQgWPFA>

### **LOVE Sign Video on Atlanta News First (Peachtree TV)**

<https://youtu.be/juwt6-mvTOK?si=POHJdF-IdIYRsiiJ>

## **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>

## **Diane Haase's Celebration of Life**

Saturday, November 11, 2023 | 2 PM

Mark your calendar for Diane Haase's Celebration of Life on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 2 PM. Rev. Philip Thomason will deliver the eulogy and Rev. Gary Arnold will be accompanist to the choir.

If you ever worked, sang, or performed with Diane, we urge you to join the all-star choir we are pulling together for the celebration of life on Saturday, November 11 at 2 PM. Details to come.



### **Trunk or Treat**

**Tuesday, October 31st | 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.

