



SAINT MARK

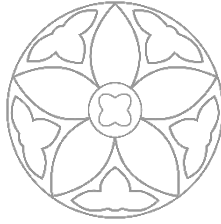
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, January 28, 2024
Eleven O'clock

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany





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! Maybe you've been here more times than you can count. Maybe it's been a while, maybe never. Here is what matters: No matter who you are or where you are from, you are a child of God, and you are welcome here!

Prelude

II. Adagio from Sonata No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn

*The Call to Worship

One: The Lord God Almighty invites us to join in the holy work of Christ Jesus.

All: We gladly offer up our gifts and talents in service to the One whose love saves us.

One: Christ's love for the neighbor and the stranger knows no bounds.

All: Help us, Lord, to be quick to see and to respond to the needs of our siblings in Christ.

One: The Spirit is moving amongst us, preparing us to do a new thing.

All: Open our eyes, quicken our hearts, and focus our thoughts, that we may be a part of what the Lord Almighty would have us to do.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 98 | To God Be the Glory

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: Creator God, we confess we have not loved you with our whole hearts, and we have certainly not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have found it easier and more satisfying to prioritize our own wants and desires. We have not done your will, and we have broken your law. Too often we are not in love and charity with our neighbor. Nor have we faithfully attended to the cries of the needy. Forgive us we pray, and free us for joyful obedience.

One: Hear the Good News – God's love is boundless, God's mercies are never ending, and God's grace is sufficient. With Christ's help, we can care for our neighbors as well as care for ourselves. Let us be renewed afresh today. 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.

Announcement

Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

Eric Steverson

Concerns and Celebrations of the Congregation

Celebration of Disciple 1 Fast Track Graduates

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

If Ye Love Me

Peter Niedmann

If ye love me, keep my commandments and I will pray the Father, and he will give you, He shall give you another comforter.

If ye love me, keep my commandments and I will pray the Father, and he will give you, He shall give you another comforter.

That he may abide with you forever, even the spirit of truth.

That he may abide with you forever, even the spirit of truth.

If ye love me, keep my commandments and I will pray the Father, and he will give you, He shall give you another comforter.

*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

Psalm 111:1-10

One: The Word of God for the people of God

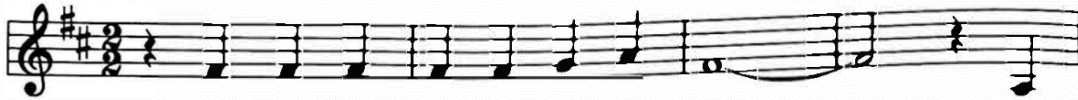
All: Thanks be to God!

Message for the Younger Church

All those who are young in body or in spirit are invited to come up to the chancel area.

*Hymn of Preparation

Insert (next page) | Make Me a Channel of Your Peace



1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____
 2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____
 4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. _____

Where
 Where
 It



there is ha-tred, let me bring your love. _____
 there's de-spair in life, let me bring hope. _____
 is in par-don - ing that we are par - doned, _____

Where
 Where
 in



there is in - ju - ry, your par-don, Lord, _____ and
 there is dark - ness, _____ on - ly light, _____ and
 giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, _____ and in

1 | 2, 4 *Fine*



where there's doubt, true faith in you. _____
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy. _____
 dy - ing that we're born to e-ter-nal life. _____



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek _____ so



much to be con - soled as to con - sole, _____ to be



un - der-stood as to un - der - stand, _____ to be



loved as to love with all my soul. _____

D.C.

WORDS: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple (Matt. 6:12-15)

MUSIC: Sebastian Temple

CHANNEL OF PEACE

Irregular

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*The Gospel Lesson

John 13:3-15

One: The Gospel of Our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Covenant Promise: Faithful in Service

Response to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

UMH No. 883 | 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 live with respect in Creation, 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

*Hymn of Dedication

UMH No. 593 | Here I Am Lord

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

UMH No. 431 | Let There Be Peace On Earth

Postlude

IV. Allegro assai vivace from Sonata No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn

The floral arrangements on the Altar, designed by **David Boswell**, are given by **East Carolina University** to the Glory of God and in loving memory of **Dr. Jesse Peel**.

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Worship Team

Preaching: Rev. Andy Peabody, *Associate Pastor*

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

Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*

Meagan Williams, *Assistant Pastor of Young Adults*

Music: Justin Bowen, *Interim Director of Fine Arts and Organist*

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

Usher Team: Joel Black, Joseph Hackett, Deana Hilton, and Yin Xu-Moore

Greeter Team: Luke Murphy and Chip Dupont

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.



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.



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.

2024 Commitment to Saint Mark

If you need help setting up, confirming, managing your electronic donations, or financial commitment for 2024, please contact **Deana Hilton** at dhilton@stmarkumc.org or **404-873-2636**, ext. 14.

Tithes & Offerings

Please place your offering in the plate during this morning's service, or use one of the QR codes below. Your generosity allows us to love, accept and serve the people of our community.

- Using your Smartphone's camera, scan the QR Code. & follow the prompts.

SecureGive



PayPal



Venmo



Text to Give



- To give via text, scan the QR code, and replace the \$\$ in the text with the amount you would like to give. For example, to give \$25, text operating 25.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners

For reservations, please email **Robert Gilleo** at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org or complete the Microsoft Forms survey (<https://forms.office.com/r/29Xbv198wy>) no later than 5 PM Tuesday.

Dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Program begins at 6:00 PM.

Date	Upcoming Meals	Program
January 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soup• Baked Potato Bar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eddie Gammill and Film Maker, Sofia

Midtown Alliance 2024 Annual Meeting

Midtown Alliance is seeking volunteers for their 2024 Annual Meeting, which will take place on the morning of Tuesday, March 5th at the Fox Theatre. This annual signature event attracts Atlanta's business, civic, and residential leaders and is our first and largest event of the year. It includes an amazing networking breakfast at 7AM, followed by an engaging program at 8AM with Midtown leadership, City leadership, and a keynote speaker.

Volunteers should be enthusiastic about the exciting developments in Midtown and be able to be at the Fox from 6:00 AM to 8:30 AM on the morning of the event. Volunteers will be involved with:

- Electronic guest check-in and name badge distribution
- Ushering guests upstairs to the breakfast, and downstairs to the program
- Passing out event programs at the start of the event
- Guiding guests to seating

If you are available, please contact **Philip Rafshoon** at Philip@MidtownATL.com or **404-274-5404** by **Friday, February 16th** – thanks for your consideration and support of Midtown Atlanta.

Four Quartets Study at Wednesday Midweek Retreat

For four Wednesdays, January 24 – February 14, read and reflect together on T.S. Eliot's provocative poem Four Quartets. In this long poem, Eliot explores humankind's relationship to time, the universe, and the divine. Written in the years just before and during the early part of World War II, this poem has great relevance for the tenor of our own time. It also provides a good lead up to Lent.

Mary Abbott Waite is facilitator. You will find a free PDF at [http://www.lettersjournal.org › uploads › 2017/05](http://www.lettersjournal.org/uploads/2017/05)

Church Calendar Reminders

- **Disciple II** | Tuesdays | Zoom | 6:00 PM
- **Vespers** | Wednesdays | Chapel | 6:30 PM
- **Young Adult Book and Bible Study** | Wednesdays | Room 201 | 6:30 PM
- **Four Quartets Study** | Wednesdays | **Room 205 | 6:30 PM**
- **Fast Track Disciple I – New Testament** | Wednesdays | Room 111 | 6:30 PM
- **New Member Class Session 2 of 2** | Sunday, January 28 | Wade Hall | 10:00 AM
- **Souper Chili Cookoff** | Sunday, February 11 | Wade Hall | 10:00 AM
- **Cabaret with Clint Clark-Duke** | Wednesday, February 28 | Wade Hall | 6:00 PM
- **LifeSouth Blood Drive** | Sunday, March 3 | Outside | 9:00 AM

Prayer Ministry

Please visit our prayer ministry page at <https://www.stmarkumc.org/prayer-ministry>. There you can submit a prayer request, view prayer requests, and see any pastoral care announcements. If you know of someone in need of our prayers and the person is not listed on our Prayer Ministry page, please email **Robert Gilleo** at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org to let him know.

Chancel Choir

Our choir is one of the wonderful ministries of our church in which you can serve. We've heard quite a number of you singing, and you are good, therefore, you are a potential candidate for the choir. You do not have to be a professional singer to join the choir. You just need to be willing to use the gift God has given you to the glory and honor of God. The choir is looking for more members to be a part of its ministry. Will you not join? Reach out to **Phil Crumbly** at PCrumbly@bellsouth.net for more information.

Congregational Care

Pastor Carolyn has been thinking about some of the ways we can continue caring for each other as a church family, and one of the ways it can be done is through a congregational care ministry. This is a ministry where members write notes and call other members who are sick or homebound, or who have not been in worship for a period of time. This intentional care by members will be in addition to what I, and now Pastor Andy, will continue to do. If you are interested in being a part of the congregational care team, please let me know. Please email **Robert Gilleo** at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org to let him know, so that we can add your name to the team. I know this will be fruitful and thriving ministry of our church.

FAITH HOPE LOVE



GIVE BLOOD

Saint Mark
United Methodist Church
Blood Drive

Sunday, March 3

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.



Click or scan the QR code!

All donors will receive a \$20 gift card!

All donors will receive a recognition item and a free cholesterol screening. Donors must be 16 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, and show photo I.D. 16-year-olds require written parental permission.

LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers