



SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GOD'S GRACE TRANSFORMING LIVES

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

781 PEACHTREE STREET, NE | ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308 | WWW.STMARKUMC.ORG

MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023 | 11:00 AM

THE GATHERING

THE WELCOME

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

Prelude on Repton

Robert J. Powell

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: God is our Help in ages past.

People: The Lord is our Hope for years to come.

Minister: God is the Foundation on which we build.

All: We are firmly established.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

*HYMN OF PRAISE

UMH No. 117 | *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All Faithful God, you have carried us throughout the years, holding us closely in the palms of your hands. You have sheltered us in the stormy blast and have sustained us by your grace. Yet Lord, we must confess that we tend to forget what you have done, and we often times fail to stay connected to You and what we know is true. Forgive us we pray. By the presence of your Holy Spirit remind us again of your faithfulness and love.

Minister: Hear the Good News: The same God who was with us years past is the same God who is with us today. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be 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.

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, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERTORY

PRAYER

OFFERTORY SOLO

I Have A Dream

Charles H.H. Perry

*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.

*GOSPEL LESSON *John 1:29-35*

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNGER CHURCH

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

UMH NO.140 | *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Nehemiah 1:1-4*

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

(Re)Building a Legacy: Staying Connected

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UMH 884 | Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church

We believe in the one God, creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations, the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer, and in grace equal to every need.

We believe in the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.

We believe in the church, those who are united in the living Lord for the purpose of worship and service.

We believe in the reign of God as the divine will realized in human society, and in the family of God, where we are all brothers and sisters.

We believe in the final triumph of righteousness and in the life everlasting.

Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

UMH No. 519 | *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E-Flat

J.S. Bach

*Where indicated, please rise in body or spirit.

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Preaching: Rev. Carolyn Stephens, Senior Pastor
Liturgists: Rev. Jess Cusick, Pastor of Youth and Young Adults
Kenny Smallhorn, Candler School of Theology Intern
Sheila Stephens, Minister of Education and Spiritual Formation
Meagan Williams, Assistant Director of Young Adult Ministry
Music: Jon Easter, Director of Fine Arts and Organist
Madeline Pascavage, Soloist
Audio Visual: Jay Drew, Johnny Sims, and Eric Steverson
Ushers: Keith Adams, Joel Black, Bob Brown, and Deana Hilton

WELCOME | THINGS TO KNOW



Welcome! We are so glad you are worshipping with us today!

ATTENDANCE | Please sign the attendance pad located at the end of your pew or scan this QR code to register your attendance and share prayer requests using our online Connection Card.

PRAYER REQUESTS | Let us pray for you. Prayer request cards are located in the pews. Please return your request to the offering plate or the prayer boxes in the Narthex.

NURSERY | A nursery provided for infants and toddlers is located on the first floor of the Education building. Please see the usher for more information. We encourage children of all ages to be present and participate in worship.

FOOD & BEVERAGES | Please no food or open containers in the Sanctuary.

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.

PARKING & SHUTTLE SERVICE | We have a shuttle service that runs between the AT&T parking deck (located at 759 West Peachtree Street) and church on Sunday mornings beginning at 8:30am. Don't forget to bring your parking ticket to church with you for validation (see the usher for assistance).

PEW CUSHIONS | Need some extra cushion for the pew? Ask an usher for a pew cushion.

HYMNALS | We sing from 2 hymnals, including the red United Methodist Hymnal located in the pew racks and the black The Faith We Sing, located at the end of the pews. Large print hymnals and Bibles are also available. Please see an usher for assistance.

HEARING & VISUAL AIDS | Enhanced listening devices and reading glasses are available in the Narthex, please see an usher for assistance.

RESTROOMS | Men's & Women's restrooms are located just outside the chapel. As you exit the sanctuary turn left. Once you reach the chapel, turn left then immediately right. The Women's restroom is the third door on the left. For the men's restroom, pass the Women's restroom and the Men's restroom is just around the corner. Gender Neutral restrooms are available downstairs. As you leave the sanctuary turn left, take the set of stairs down just before the balcony stairs on the left. The restrooms are on the first landing. Please see an usher for assistance.

FRANCES WINSHIP WALTERS CHAPEL

During the month of January, the Frances Winship Walters Chapel will be closed for interior repairs. The Sunday 9 AM service will meet in the Sanctuary. Vespers will meet in Room 209 when the service returns on Wednesday, January 18, 2023. Also, during the renovations of the Chapel, the Parlor will be closed, and the Interactions Class will meet in Wade Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To learn more about upcoming events, to subscribe to our weekly newsletter (the Remarks), see the church calendar, or give, visit stmarkumc.org.

CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED

The Church Offices will be closed Monday, January 16, 2023 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

MIDWEEK RETREATS

Return Wednesday, January 18, 2023

5:00 pm | Bible Study with Pastor Carolyn and Candler Intern, Kenny Smallhorn, Jr.

5:30 pm | Wednesday Night Fellowship Supper

6:30 pm | Vespers in Room 209

7:30 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room 3rd Floor Education Building

PARK AND MAKE YOUR MARK

"Make Your Mark" Day is back - and this one is extra special because volunteers will be among the first to PARK in our new parking deck!

Join us on **Saturday, February 18th from 9 am – 1 pm** as we gather to spruce up our space while enjoying time together. We are looking for at least 60 people this time - yes, we want to make this this biggest one ever. There will be projects for ages 8+ and all physical abilities.

Arrive for breakfast around 8:45 and start making your mark from 9 am to 1 pm, with lunch provided. You will still have time to enjoy your weekend as well as have some fun with your Saint Mark family.

Sign up and share your project passion via this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Feb18-Park-MakeYourMarkDay>

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Children's Ministry is in need of four to six volunteers to help facilitate our nursery on an alternating schedule. If you LOVE babies and toddlers and can provide a one and a half to two-hour service once a month, WE NEED YOU! Please contact **Sheila Stephens** at sstephens@stmarkumc.org.

CELEBRATING MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.



Martin Luther King, Jr., (January 15, 1929-April 4, 1968) was born Michael Luther King, Jr., but later had his name changed to Martin. His grandfather began the family's long tenure as pastors of the Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, serving from 1914 to 1931; his father has served from then until the present, and from 1960 until his death Martin Luther acted as co-pastor. Martin Luther attended segregated public schools in Georgia, graduating from high school at the age of fifteen; he received the B. A. degree in 1948 from Morehouse College, where both his father and grandfather had graduated. After three years of theological study at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania where he was elected president of a predominantly white senior class, he was awarded the B.D. in 1951. With a fellowship won at Crozer, he enrolled in graduate studies at Boston University, completing his residence for the doctorate in 1953 and receiving the degree in 1955. In Boston he met and married Coretta Scott, a young woman of uncommon intellectual and artistic attainments. Two sons and two daughters were born into the family.

In 1954, Martin Luther King, Jr. became pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Always a strong worker for civil rights for members of his race, King was, by this time, a member of the executive committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the leading organization of its kind in the nation. He was ready, then, early in December, 1955, to accept the leadership of the first great nonviolent demonstration of contemporary times in the United States, the bus boycott described by Gunnar Jahn in his presentation speech in honor of the laureate. The boycott lasted 382 days. On December 21, 1956, after the Supreme Court of the United States had declared unconstitutional the laws requiring segregation on buses, during these days of boycott, King was arrested, his home was bombed, he was subjected to personal abuse, but at the same time he emerged as a leader of the first rank.

In 1957 he was elected president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization formed to provide new leadership for the now burgeoning civil rights movement. The ideals for this organization he took from Christianity, its operational techniques from Gandhi. In the eleven-year period between 1957 and 1968, King traveled over six million miles and spoke over twenty-five hundred times, appearing wherever there was injustice, protest, and action; and meanwhile he wrote five books as well as numerous articles. In these years, he led a massive protest in Birmingham, Alabama, that caught the attention of the entire world, providing what he called a coalition of conscience. and inspiring his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail"; he planned the drives in Alabama for the registration of blacks as voters; he directed the peaceful march on Washington, D.C., of 250,000 people to whom he delivered his address, "I Have a Dream", he conferred with President John F. Kennedy and campaigned for President Lyndon B. Johnson; he was arrested upwards of twenty times and assaulted at least four times; he was awarded five honorary degrees; was named Man of the Year by Time magazine in 1963; and became not only the symbolic leader of American blacks but also a world figure.

At the age of thirty-five, Martin Luther King, Jr., was the youngest man to have received the Nobel Peace Prize. When notified of his selection, he announced that he would turn over the prize money of \$54,123 to the furtherance of the civil rights movement.

On the evening of April 4, 1968, while standing on the balcony of his motel room in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was to lead a protest march in sympathy with striking garbage workers of that city, he was assassinated.