



# **SAINT MARK**

## **UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

GOD'S GRACE TRANSFORMING LIVES

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

781 PEACHTREE STREET, NE | ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308

[WWW.STMARKUMC.ORG](http://WWW.STMARKUMC.ORG) | 404-873-2636

# MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 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

*God of the Sparrow*

Franklin D. Ashdown

### \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: The steadfast love of the Lord never fails.

**People: God's mercies never come to an end.**

Minister: Indeed, the Lord's mercies are new every morning.

**All: Great is God's faithfulness and compassion.**

## PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE

UMH NO.122 v. 1, 3, 4, 6 | *God of the Sparrow God of the Whale*

\*Where indicated, please rise in body or spirit.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Cantor: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

**All Merciful and compassionate God, you are never too busy to hear our cry for help. You came to us when we were cast down and broken, and held captive in our sinful state. You sent your son, Jesus Christ, to proclaim good news to the poor, to set prisoners free, and to restore sight to the blind. Yet, we must confess that so often we fail to show compassion to others. We hurry through life in the busyness of our day, neglecting to extend mercy to those who cry for help. Forgive us we pray. Remind us again of the unfailing mercy and love you show to us each day.**

Minister: Hear the good news: God has shown us what pleases the Lord – to act justly, to show mercy, and to walk humbly with God. Do this, and you will live the full and abundant life Christ offers to all. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

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

\*KYRIE

**Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

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

ANTHEM

*All My Trials*

Bob Chilcott

*If religion was a thing that money could buy, the rich would live and the poor would die. All my trials, Lord, soon be over. Oh, I have a little book that sets me free, and every page spells liberty. All my trials, Lord, soon be over. Too late my brothers! Too late, but never mind. All my trials, Lord, soon be over. So, hush little baby, don't you cry, you know that man was born to die. All my trials, Lord, soon be over.*

\*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.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Ezekiel 37:1-14*

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God

**People: Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNGER CHURCH

HYMN OF PREPARATION

UMH NO.420 | *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

\*GOSPEL LESSON *Luke 18:35-43*

Minister: The Gospel of Our Lord

**People: Thanks be to God!**

SOLO

*If I Could Help Somebody*

Sheila Stephens, Soloist

Alma Bazel Androsso

SERMON

*Journeying with Jesus: Learning about Mercy*

## RESPONSE TO THE 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

*See page 6 – O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come*

### \*BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Fugue on the Carillon of Soissons Cathedral*

Maurice Durufle

# O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come 544

G B7 Em Am D7 G

1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to  
 2 From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our  
 3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we  
 4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in

C D7 G A D A D G B7 E Am

pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to  
 bod - ies clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we  
 rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -  
 your com - mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -

D7 G C D7 G Am G D G

be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
 would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.  
 clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
 rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

## 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 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.

**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).

**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.

**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 & ADA restrooms are available. Please see an usher for assistance.

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|-------------------|---|
| Preaching:        | Rev. Carolyn Stephens, Senior Pastor  |
| Liturgists:       | Rev. Jess Cusick, Pastor of Youth and Young Adults<br>Rev. Dr. Brett Opalinski, Elder, Florida Annual Conference &<br>Assistant Dean of Methodist Studies; Assistant Professor in the<br>Practice of Spiritual Formation and Church Leadership<br>Kenny Smallhorn, Candler School of Theology Intern<br>Meagan Williams, Assistant Director of Young Adult Ministry |
| Music:            | Jon Easter, Director of Fine Arts and Organist<br>Sheila Stephens, Soloist  |
| Audio Visual:     | Jay Drew, Johnny Sims, & Eric Steverson   |
| Acolyte/Crucifer: | Emily & Lucas Toscano   |
| Ushers:           | Joseph Hackett, Mark Jefferson, Russell McKinney, & Buddy Wofford   |

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### **COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

**Saturday, April 8, 2023 | Noon – 2:00 PM (note new time)**

Mark your calendars for our Community Easter Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza. We will have an Easter Egg Hunt, Bouncy House, Face Painting, Balloon Animals, Bubbles & more!

#### **Volunteers Needed**

- Day of the event set-up and break-down
- Helpers & Greeters during the event

To volunteer, contact Sheila Stephens at [SStephens@stmarkumc.org](mailto:SStephens@stmarkumc.org).

### **EASTER LILIES**

Lilies are symbols of the resurrection, we use them to fill our sanctuary during Easter. If you would like to reserve a lily in memory or in honor of someone, please go to: <https://www.stmarkumc.org/order-lilies>. The lily donations will be listed in the Easter bulletin. The cost is \$10 a lily.

### **EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Join us in Wade Hall at Saint Mark United Methodist Church for Easter Sunday Brunch. Dale Becker and his team will be our team crafting an absolutely amazing meal that you will not be able to pass up. Limited seating is available so secure your ticket now.

<https://www.stmarkumc.org/store/p/easter-sunday-brunch>

### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

Sunday, April 2, 2023 | Palm (Passion) Sunday

- *Chancel Choir presenting the Solemn Mass by Louis Vierne at 11 am*

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

- *No Wednesday Night Supper*

Thursday, April 6, 2023 | Holy (Maundy) Thursday

- *Service at 7 pm*

Friday, April 7, 2023 | Good Friday

- *Ecumenical Midtown Stations of the Cross at 1:30 pm*
- *Service at 7 pm*

Saturday, April 8, 2023

- *Easter Egg Hunt Eggstravaganza 12 - 2 pm*

Sunday, April 9, 2023 | Easter Sunday

- *Sunrise Service at 7 am*
- *Service with Choir and Brass at 9 am & 11 am*
- *Easter Sunday Brunch after 11 am service*