

God's Grace Transforming Lives

# Sunday, July 16, 2023 Eleven O'clock

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



# 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

Elevation

**Raymond Weidner** 

\*The Call to Worship

One: God delights in the praises of God's people.

God listens to voices raise on high in worship.

God comes to those who seek God's face.

All: We come to praise God's holy name.

We come to worship the Lord of host

We come to seek the God of our salvation.

We come in humble adoration.

# Praise and Thanksgiving

\*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 369 | Blessed Assurance

#### \*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: All-wise and generous God, you have given us all we need to live fully the abundant life Jesus Christ offers to each of us. You have also equipped us to help others experience the same, by doing the good works you have prepared in advance for us to do. We are, however, unwilling at times to act because we are fearful to step out of our comfort zones and customs. Forgive us, we pray. Give us your grace to take the first step of faith in doing what you have placed on our hearts to do.

One: Hear the good news: God has empowered us to change our worlds. We can begin by being the change, and trust God to help us do the rest. 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.

Reception of New Members | Aaron Groves and Anna Rader

\*The Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you.

All: And also, with you.

We offer each other signs of peace.

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

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

**Michael Phillips** 

\*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 Gospel Lesson Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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

\*Hymn of Preparation
UMH No. 140 | Great Is Thy Faithfulness

The Scripture Lesson

Acts 9:1-16

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

God in the Movies: Evan Almighty | A Greater Work

# 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
UMH No. 593 | Here I Am, Lord

\*Benediction

Postlude

Antiphon I

**Marcel Dupre** 

## Worship Team

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, Senior Pastor

Liturgists: Rev. Jess Cusick, Pastor of Youth and Young Adults

Rex Burruss, Lay Member

Tabitha Jamal, Candler School of Theology Summer Intern Sheila Stephens, Minister of Education and Spiritual Formation Meagan Williams, Assistant to the Pastor of Youth and Young Adults

Jon Easter, Director of Fine Arts and Organist

Audio Visual: Johnny Sims (Coordinator of Online Ministry), Jay Drew, Eric

Steverson, and Julie Tootle

Ushers: Joseph Hackett, Mark Jefferson, Russell McKinney, and Buddy

Wofford (Head Usher)

**Acolyte:** Mary Murray

**Greeters:** Chip Dupont and David Wilson

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#### We Welcome You

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



Music:

#### 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.

### 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.





https://www.stmarkumc.org/marches

#### Upcoming Events at Saint Mark







