

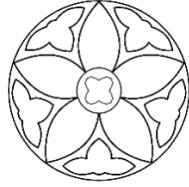
SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, July 30, 2023
Eleven O'clock

Ninth 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

Be Thou My Vision

Dale Wood

*The Call to Worship

One: Lord, today we choose to clothe ourselves in you. To buckle your truth like a belt around our waist.

All: To know we have your righteousness as a breastplate upon us. To walk with peace into all the places our feet tread.

One: To hold tight to our shield of faith, defeating each arrow of the enemy. To wear salvation as a helmet around our thoughts, and to grasp hold of your words at work in us,

All: To use them like a sword to cut through darkness and confusion. Today we chose to clothe ourselves in you.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 98 | To God Be the Glory

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

One: Spirit of God, we confess that we put on airs more often than we put on the armor of God.

All: We are guilty of girding ourselves with untruths instead of the truth. We try to protect ourselves with arrogance, wrong beliefs, and self-reliance instead of righteousness, faith, and your gift of salvation. Our footsteps do not follow your path of peace. And we do not always seek your way of life abundant. Forgive us, Holy God. Give us with the wisdom and strength to change our ways, so that we may live as your faithful ambassadors.

One: Hear this Beloved Children, God calls us to stand firm and unmovable always reaching for the prize of the high calling in Jesus Christ. God loves us eternally and nothing will separate us from God's Love. Therefore, in the name of Christ, you are forgiven.

All: In the name of 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

Walk in the Light

Andre Thomas

*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 12:31-33, 44-52

One: The Gospel of Our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn of Preparation

UMH No. 451 | Be Thou My Vision

The Scripture Lesson

Ephesians 6:10-17

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Solo

A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes

By. David, Hoffman and Livingston

Sermon

God in the Movies: Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs | Spiritual Armor

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. 206 | I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

*Benediction

Postlude
Fanfare

William Mathias

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.



Worship Team

Preaching: Sheila Stephens, Minister of Education and Spiritual Formation

Liturgists: Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, Senior Pastor

Tabitha Jamal, Candler School of Theology Summer Intern

Rev. Dr. Brett Opalinski, Elder in Full Connection, Florida Annual Conference and Emory University | Candler School of Theology | Assistant Dean of Methodist Studies; Assistant Professor in the Practice of Spiritual Formation and Church Leadership

Meagan Williams, Assistant to the Pastor of Youth and Young Adults

Music: Jon Easter, Director of Fine Arts and Organist

Abby Parish, Soloist

Audio Visual: Johnny Sims (Coordinator of Online Ministry), Jay Drew, Eric Steverson, and Julie Tootle

Ushers: Joel Black, Bob Brown, Deana Hilton, and Yin Xu-Moore

Greeters: Deana Hilton and David Wilson

Acolytes: Audra and Duncan Dial

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The altar flowers are offered to the Glory of God and in memory of Jim Edwards, Jr. by his loving wife of over 55 years, Sharon Edwards.

We Welcome You

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.

Saint Mark Welcome Statement

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.

Announcements & Special Events

What is your favorite hymn?

Let Jon know what's your favorite hymn: <https://tinyurl.com/mr246x5z>



GROOVIN' DOWN IN MIDTOWN

a neighborhood block party

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10th

5 – 8 pm

Peachtree Street & 4th Street

LIVE MUSIC @ FOOD TRUCKS @ ACTIVITIES



Groovin' Down in Midtown
Thursday, August 10, 2023 | 5-8 PM

Join us for a GROOVY neighborhood block party that will recreate the 1970s on 4th Street at Peachtree!

This free event will feature live music from the [Spaghetti Junction](https://www.facebook.com/spaghattijct/) (<https://www.facebook.com/spaghattijct/>), food trucks, ice cream, beer and wine, activities for all ages, and an opportunity to mingle with your Midtown neighbors.

The 1970s ushered in a time of great cultural change and innovation. Midtown Atlanta was, and remains, alive with the spirit of peace, love and an ever-increasing interest in building a strong community.

This event is produced by the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, with support from St. Mark United Methodist Church of Atlanta and is sponsored by Midtown Alliance.

We need volunteers from Saint Mark to show up like we always do!

Please sign up here or contact Eric Steverson:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084fafa23a3fcc52-groovin#/>

Link to Midtown Alliance promo:

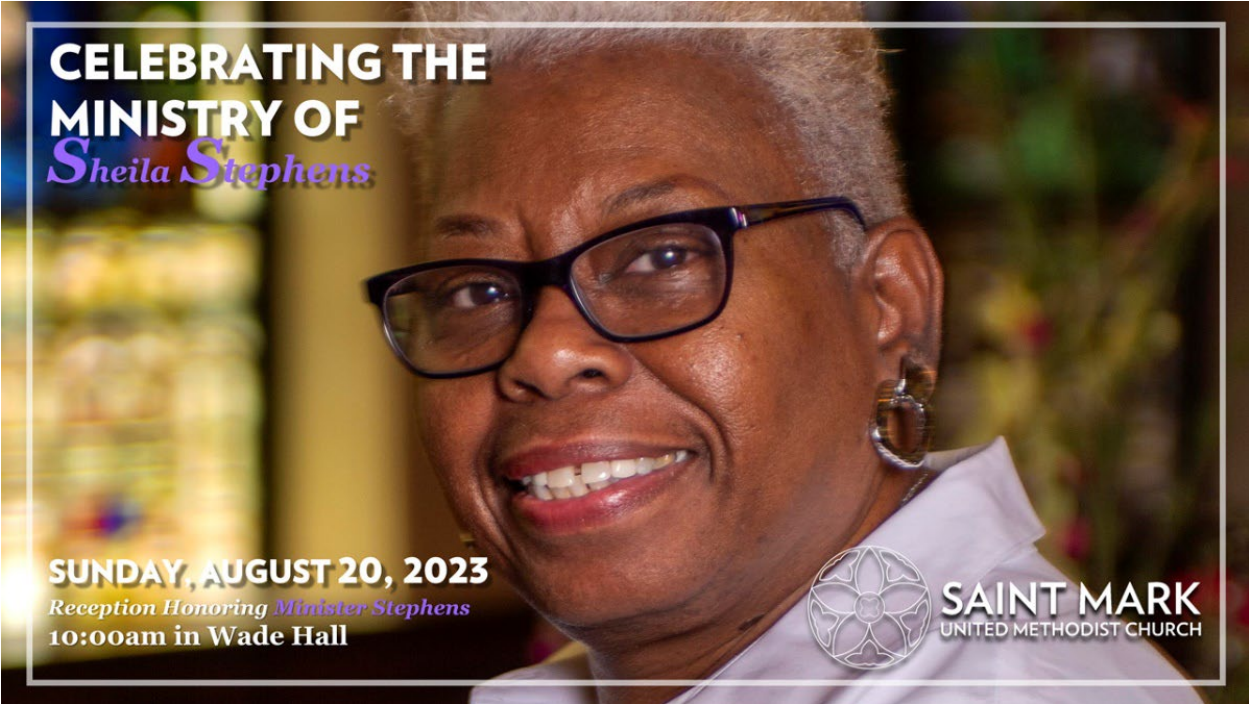
<https://www.midtownatl.com/do/groovin-down-in-midtown>



LAMOLY-CUSICK
Baby Shower
SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2023
805 Peachtree Street | Recreation Room




SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**CELEBRATING THE
MINISTRY OF**
Sheila Stephens

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023
Reception Honoring Minister Stephens
10:00am in Wade Hall



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Atlanta Musicians Band

PRESENTS:

Marches and Rags of Atlanta

MUSIC BY:
J. ROSAMUND JOHNSON
JAMES REESE EUROPE
JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
AND MORE!

The Recording Industry's



JULY 30

4PM

SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FREE CONCERT



LOCAL 148-462

**ATLANTA
FEDERATION OF
MUSICIANS**