



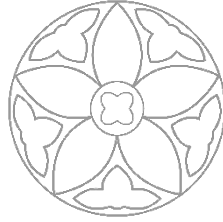
SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, October 1, 2023
Eleven O'clock

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday



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! No matter who you are or where you are from, you are a child of God, and you are welcome here!

Prelude

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Mark C. Jones

*The Call to Worship

One: Come to Christ, the living stone, rejected by the world, but in God's sight chosen and precious.

All: We have responded to Christ's call, and seek to be built into a spiritual house, a living reminder of God's presence on earth.

One: Once we were no people, but now we are God's people, called out of the darkness into God's marvelous light. Therefore, we sing with the Church in all ages:

All: Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer. By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

TFWS No. 2236 v. 1 & 3 | Gather Us In - 2236

The Invitation

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

One: Hear the Good News: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love towards us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

*Kyrie

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

*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

Proclamation of God's Word

Invitation to the Offertory & Offertory Prayer

Anthem

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name. Two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them. Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the Father, break the bread and bless the cup. Alleluia! Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make us sacraments of thee, that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be. Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully, we will serve thee faithfully.

*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

Luke 18:9-24

One: The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Life Hack Series: How to Overcome Pride

Response to God's Word

Celebration of Holy Communion

Musical Setting TFWS 2257

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also, with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God (Father), creator of heaven and earth.

You have made from one every nation and people to live on all the face of the earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blest is one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

One: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world, and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God (Father), now and for ever.

All: Amen. Amen. Amen. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Lord's Prayer

One: And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

All: 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.

The Communion of the People

The Prayer of Dedication

Remember, O Lord, your Church upon this earth; deepen her influence and extend her power for good, till the kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ. Look down in mercy upon our distraught and fevered world: forgive our mistaken ambitions, selfish passions, and presumptuous claims; remove all suspicion and bitterness from among the nations, and bring them to peace and concord by the redeeming love of Christ. Have mercy, O Lord, upon those who are passing through sore trial: the poor, the sick, the anxious, the oppressed, those who are in danger from the fury of the elements or from the violence of others. Inspire in us and in our siblings the will to help those who are suffering. Heal, protect, and strengthen them according to their need. Comfort those in sorrow with the comfort which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. We pray for our own dear ones, that surrounded by your love they may be kept in health and joy, and abide in safety and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Dedication

UMH No. 191 | Jesus Loves Me

*Benediction

Postlude

The People Respond... Amen!

Dan Locklair

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.

Worship Team

Preaching: Rev. Steve Fazenbaker, *Retired Elder in Full Connection, North Georgia Annual Conference*

Liturgists: Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*

Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, *Senior Pastor*

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

Music: Jon Easter, *Director of Fine Arts and Organist*

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

Anointing Station: Rev. Dr. Carol Rawlinson, *Retired Elder in Full Connection, South Carolina Annual Conference*

Communion Servers: Rebecca Barlow, Madi Dunn, Michelle Levan, Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, and Meagan Williams,

Usher Team: Buddy Wofford, *Head Usher*, Joseph Hackett, Mark Jefferson, and Russell McKinney

Greeter Team: Pam Davis, *Head Greeter*, Roger Brown and Chip DuPont

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Today's Communion Offering

Today's Communion offering goes to support Saint Mark's **Breakfast and Supper Club** ministries. Volunteer teams serve a hot meal to our neighbors in need every Saturday morning and Tuesday afternoon.



Attendance

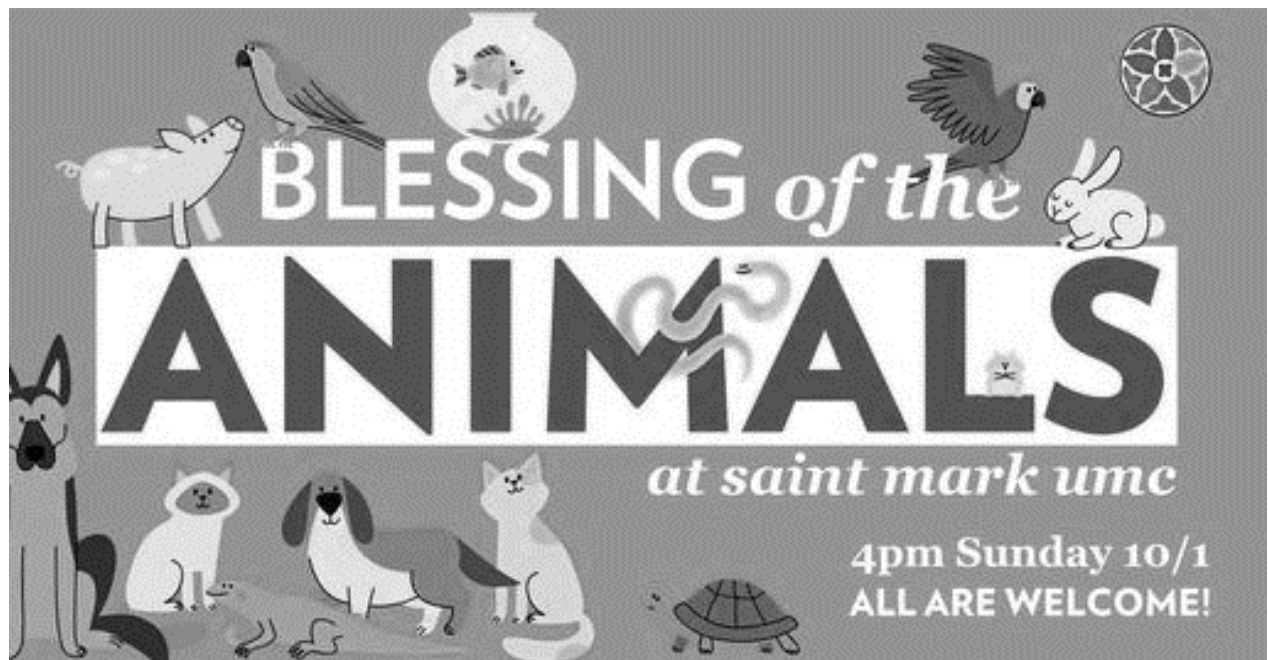
Please sign the attendance pad located at the end of your row or scan this QR code to register your attendance and share prayer requests using our online Connection Card.

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

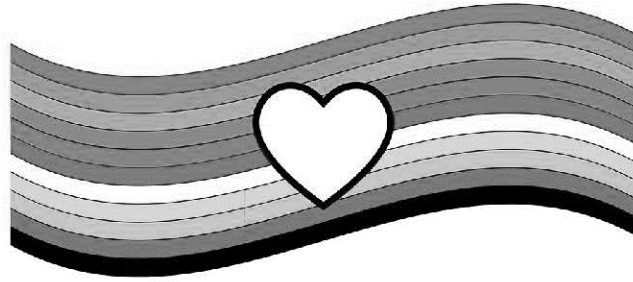
Visit www.stmarkumc.org and subscribe to the newsletter on the homepage. We send our Remarks newsletter every Wednesday, a message from our Senior Pastor every Friday, and a Sunday Morning at Saint Mark email.



Join us today at 4pm for our annual Blessing of the Animals on The Terrace!

Let's come together as a community to honor our four-legged, winged, and finned family members. Whether they bark, purr, chirp, or swim, all are welcome!

ONE LOVE



MANY COLORS

2023 Pride Activities Calendar



PRIDE Float Decorating Dates

Wednesday, October 4 | 6:30 PM | GYM

Sunday, October 8 | 9:45 AM | GYM

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | 6:30 PM | GYM

Help our youth and young adults decorate our float for Pride.
For more information, please contact Robert Gilileo in the church office at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org.

PRIDE Open Mic Night

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Join us on Wednesday, October 11th, after our fellowship dinner, for a special Pride Week open mic night! Whether you'd like to sing, play an instrument, recite poetry, share a joke, or tell a story, we invite you to help us celebrate and honor LGBT Pride. Let's come together in unity, love, and celebration, sharing our gifts and stories with one another.

Former Saint Mark Intern Kenny Smallhorn will be joining us as host. Please email Paula Ward at paula22ward@gmail.com to confirm your slot, or just show up and show out!



PRIDE Day Volunteers Needed

Sunday, October 15, 2023



SCAN ME

Saint Mark's Pride Sunday is just around the corner, and we need your help to make it awesome!

Whether you've got a few hours or the whole day, every volunteer hand counts. Snag a volunteer slot, to help with lunch on the front lawn, decorating the truck for the parade, or handing out water. Let's come together and make this day shine!

<https://tinyurl.com/2zjhcb6d>

PRIDE Day Lunch

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Order your Pride Day lunch today so you won't have to stand in the payment line the day of Pride. \$20 per lunch.

First come, first served, while supplies last, we will have BBQ pulled chicken, BBQ pulled pork, and smoked spicy black bean burger options.

<https://tinyurl.com/5cfe6xe6>



SCAN ME

PRIDE Sunday

One Service | 10 AM

Rev. Dr. Beth LaRocca-Pitts | Rev. James T. Moor | Rev. Phillip Thomason in attendance.

Validated Parking Available at the AT&T Deck.



SCAN ME



RACIAL JUSTICE AND HEALING ACADEMY 2023

ngumc.org/racial-justice-and-healing-academy

The Racial Justice and Healing Academy is designed for those who want to learn how to pursue racial justice and healing in their local church and community. It equips participants with the tools, support, and encouragement to lead, start, continue, or join local racial justice and healing efforts. The RJHA is 5 unique modules that will inspire, challenge, inform, equip, and encourage the participants to take steps towards racial healing in the spaces where they have influence.

MODULES

The Racial Healing Framework **September 9**
10am to 2pm
Brian Tillman speaks on his Racial Healing Framework and how to begin to use it in your context.

Racial Trauma Tour **October 13 and 14**
12pm on Friday to 4pm on Saturday
Includes admission, meals, transportation, and lodging.
Bus tour visiting sites including the Cherokee Capital, a black town established before the civil war, and a school founded by Booker T. Washington that was part of one of our UM Churches.

Where to Start in the Local Church **November 11**
10am to 2pm
Learn some of the skills and ideas used by other churches.

Anti-Racism 4REALS Workshop **January 20**
10am to 2pm
A workshop Sheila Beckford and Michelle Ledder, the authors of Anti-Racism 4 REALS: Real Talk with Real Strategies in Real Time for Real Change.

Radical Reconciliation Workshop **February 24**
10am to 2pm
Workshop with Curtiss Paul DeYoung, one of the authors of Radical Reconciliation: Beyond Political Pietism and Christian Quietism.

AT A GLANCE

COST

\$300 for the full Academy, a savings of \$200 over paying for individual modules, for North Georgia clergy and laity. Ala cart registration is available - see website for cost details. Includes lunches, two books, and more.

LOCATION

Trinity UMC
901 Veterans Drive
Dalton, GA 30721
(except the October Tour)

REGISTER

