



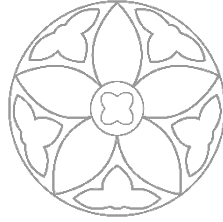
**SAINT MARK**  
**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

God's Grace Transforming Lives

**Sunday, October 8, 2023**  
**Eleven O'clock**

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost





## **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

**Adagio, from "Symphony #5"**

**Charles-Marie Widor**

#### \*The Call to Worship

One:Awaken us to your glory, God of light.

**All: Let us see the beauty of your presence.**

One:Awaken us to your splendor, Son of righteousness.

**All: Let the radiance of your countenance shine upon us.**

One:Awaken us to your revelation, Spirit of truth.

**All: Let us walk in the way you lead. Amen.**

### **Praise and Thanksgiving**

#### \*Hymn of Praise

**UMH No. 103 | Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

\*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

**All: Gracious and compassionate God, day by day you show us your lovingkindness and tender mercies. When we have failed or missed the mark, you do not treat us as we deserve, but extend your grace to us. We fail, however, to model your way of kindness and mercy. We are more ready to lash out in anger than to offer grace. Forgive us we pray. Remind us of how patient you are with us, and help us to grant the same to others.**

One: Hear the good news: God is tenderhearted and forgiving to us, and calls us to be the same to others. 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.**

\*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

**For the Beauty of the Earth**

**John Rutter**

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, over and around us lies; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night, hill and vale, tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild. Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For each perfect gift of thine, to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heav'n, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

\*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 21:33-46**

One: The Gospel of Our Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Message for the Younger Church

*All children are invited to come up to the chancel area.*

\*Hymn of Preparation  
**UMH No. 592 | When the Church of Jesus**

The Scripture Lesson  
**James 1:19-25**

One: The Word of God for the people of God  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon  
**Life Hack Series: How to Overcome Anger**

## **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. 384 | Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

\*Benediction

Postlude

**Toccata in Seven**

**John Rutter**

## **Worship Team**

**Preaching:** Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, *Senior Pastor*

**Liturgists:** Amy Holloway, *Lay Reader*

Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*

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, Eric Steverson, and Julie Tootle

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

**Greeter Team:** Deana Hilton and David Wilson

## **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.*



### **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](http://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.

## **Outreach Closet Donations**

As we head into fall season, we need to outfit our outreach closet with winter items. We have created a link below for you to order much needed items.

We have a donation center just off the Narthex or you may bring your donations to the church office Monday - Thursday from 10 AM to 5 PM.

<https://www.walmart.com/registry/ER/c57f8471-383f-41cc-9fce-a86c5bc8ec55>



## **Celebrating the Ministry of Jon Easter**

Sunday, October 22, 2023 | 9:45 AM | Wade Hall

## **Congregational Listening Sessions Questions**

We know that we were not able to answer all your questions during the listening sessions. Please know that we are working on them and will do our best to provide you with answers to your questions and post on the website, in the Remarks, and other communication platform.

## **Trunk or Treat**

Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> | 5 - 7 PM

Join us for a fall evening full of fun, fellowship, costumes, and candy! Our Halloween event will be a safe, festive event for our children, families, and community. Spread the word! If you would like to help with this event, you can:

- **Decorate Your Trunk** - Help make it a great evening for our kids and community by pulling out all the stops and decorating your car trunk as part of our trunk-or-treat!
- **Donate Candy** - Bring individually wrapped candy to the church office. Candy will be handed out at the trunk-or-treat.



## **Diane Haase's Celebration of Life**

Saturday, November 11, 2023 | 2 PM

Mark your calendar for Diane Haase's Celebration of Life on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at 2 PM. Rev. Philip Thomason will deliver the eulogy and Rev. Gary Arnold will be accompanist to the choir.

If you ever worked, sang, or performed with Diane, we urge you to join the all-star choir we are pulling together for the celebration of life on Saturday, November 11 at 2 PM. Details to come.

## **Church Calendar Reminders**

**October 9** | Church Offices Closed | Columbus Day | Indigenous Peoples Day

**October 15** | Pride Sunday | One Service | 10 AM

**October 16** | Church Offices Closed | Pride Monday

Also note from Monday, October 9 - Sunday, October 22, both Pastor Carolyn and Deana Hilton, Executive Director, will be in the Holy Land.

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# ONE LOVE



# MANY COLORS

## 2023 Pride Activities Calendar

### **Pride Float Decorating & Sign Making**

**Sunday, October 8, 2023 | 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 Meagan Williams in the church office at [MWilliams@stmarkumc.org](mailto:MWilliams@stmarkumc.org).

### **Pride Week Dinner**

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | 5:30 PM | Wade Hall**

Special Pride Week Dinner: Surf and Turf

Reservations Required

Limited Seating (Same price \$11 | \$10)

<https://forms.office.com/r/29Xbv198wy>



## **Pride Open Mic Night**

**Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | 6:00 PM | Wade Hall**

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](mailto:paula22ward@gmail.com) to confirm your slot, or just show up and show out!

## **Pride Day Service**

**Sunday, October 15, 2023 | 10 AM | One Service**

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

## **Pride Day Volunteers Needed**

### **Sunday, October 15, 2023**

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. Go here <https://tinyurl.com/2zjhcb6d> to 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!



## **Pride Day Lunch on the Front Lawn**

### **Sunday, October 15, 2023 | 11:30 AM**

Lunch menu options will include pulled BBQ chicken sandwiches, pulled pork BBQ sandwiches, smoked spicy black bean burgers (all served on potato buns), chips, cookies, and sodas (while sandwich options last)  
<https://www.stmarkumc.org/store/p/pride-lunch>



## **Pride Parade**

### **Sunday, October 15, 2023 | 12 PM**

The Atlanta Pride Parade draws over 100,000 people along the streets of Midtown Atlanta! Traditionally stepping off from the Atlanta Civic Center MARTA Station at noon on Sunday and continuing down Peachtree Street, the parade will turn right onto 10th Street and end a block from the Charles Allen Gates to Piedmont Park.