



SAINT MARK

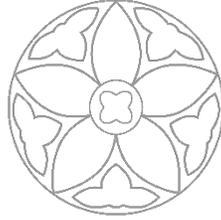
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, January 14, 2024
Eleven O'clock

Second Sunday after the Epiphany





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! Maybe you've been here more times than you can count. Maybe it's been a while, maybe never. Here is what matters: No matter who you are or where you are from, you are a child of God, and you are welcome here!

Prelude

*The Call to Worship

One: Christ calls to us, now as in days past, saying "Follow me!"

All: We turn away from temporary things, and yearn to know the eternal.

One: Time has not diminished Jesus' invitation to "Come and see!"

All: Our feet and our eyes turn towards you, the Perfecter of Love.

One: May we be quick to respond to the One who calls each of us by name.

All: Summoned, our hearts find their true home in your presence.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 400 | Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: Lord, during Advent and Christmastide we were reminded that your name, Emmanuel, means “God with us.” We are strengthened in knowing that you are ever with us, and that we do not walk alone. It is your presence that we seek to know and make known in corporate worship. Believing in your promise, we yearn to come together, even in numbers of just 2 or 3, because we trust that when we gather, you will meet us. We confess, O God, that sometimes the hardest part is just showing up.

One: Hear the Good News – Christ is faithful. Christ Jesus longs to be with us. You are, indeed, the desire of God's heart. For 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

Psalm 139

Allen Pote

Lord, you have searched me and known me, you know everything I do.
When I rise, when I lie down, you are with me through and through.
Before a word is on my tongue, you know what I will say,
Your presence follows me day by day.

Where can I flee from your spirit? Where can I go to run away?
If I go to heaven, or live in hell, you are there, you are there.
Lord, you have searched me and known me, you know everything I do.
When I rise up, when I lie down, you are with me through and through.

Before a word is on my tongue, you know what I will say,
Your presence follows me day by day.
Search me, O God, and know me. Try me and know my heart.
See if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.
Amen.

*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

John 1:43-51

One: The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Message for the Younger Church

All children and those young at heart are invited to come up to the chancel area.

*Hymn of Preparation

UMH No. 128 | He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

The Scripture Lesson

Hebrews 10:19-25

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Covenant Promises: Consistent in Presence

Response to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

UMH No. 883 | A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen. 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.

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Dedication

UMH No. 557 | Blest Be the Tie That Binds

*Benediction

Postlude

Worship Team

Preaching:

Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Andy Peabody, *Associate Pastor*

Liturgists:

Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*
Meagan Williams, *Assistant Minister of Young Adults*

Music:

Justin Bowen, *Interim Director of Fine Arts and Organist*
V. Lee Edwards, *Guest Organist*

Audio Visual:

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

Usher Team:

Buddy Wofford, *Head Usher*, Joel Black, Bob Brown, and
Deana Hilton

Greeter Team:

Andy and Pam Davis

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.

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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.



- Using your Smartphone's camera, scan the QR Code.
- Follow the prompts.



YouTube

@StMarkUMCATL

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.

What's Your Name?

To help our new Associate Pastor Rev. Andy Peabody get to know us better - please remember to wear your nametag. If you do not have a nametag, contact Robert Gilleo at rjgilleo@stmarkumc.org so that he can create one for you. Nametags are stored in alphabetical order in the cabinet in the narthex. If you don't have a nametag to wear today, look for temporary blank ones in the narthex (ask an usher for assistance).

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners

For reservations, please email Robert Gilleo at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org or complete the Microsoft Forms survey (<https://forms.office.com/r/29Xbv198wy>) no later than 5 PM Tuesday.

- Resume this Wednesday, January 17, 2024.
- Dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Program begins at 6:00 PM.

Date	Upcoming Meals	Program
January 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soup• 1/4 lbs Steak Burgers• 1/4 lbs Hot Dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet Rev. Andy
January 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soup• Baked Chicken• Hash Brown Casserole	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•

Vespers

Vespers returns January 17, 2024 to the chapel and will follow the Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinner Schedule.

New Member Class

If you would like to join Saint Mark, please reach out to Robert Gilleo at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org to sign up for the next new member class. The 2-session classes will be in-person at 10 AM on Sunday mornings or via Zoom at another time later in the week depending on the attendees' preferences.

Fast Track New Testament

The Disciple Fast Track New Testament Bible Study Class will begin Wednesday January 17th at 6:30 PM right after Wednesday Night Dinner Please contact Buddy Wofford at 404-862-0030 or prinnovate@aol.com to join, The Study Guides are \$17 and you can pay Buddy.

Church Calendar Reminders

- **Church Office Closed** | Monday, January 15 in observance of MLK, Jr. Day.
- **Church Council Meeting** | Sunday, January 21 | Wade Hall | 12:30 PM
- **Chili/Soup Cook-off** | Sunday, February 11 | Wade Hall | 12:00 PM
- **Cabaret with Clint Clark-Duke** | Wednesday, February 21 | Wade Hall | 6:30 PM