

SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, March 10, 2024
Eleven O'clock

Fourth Sunday in Lent





11 AM Morning Worship

**You are invited to stand as you are able in body and or in spirit.*

The Gathering

Prelude

IV. Adagio from Organ Symphony No. 5

Charles Marie Widor

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!

*The Call to Worship

One: Come all and gather to praise the Lord of all creation.

All: We worship the Lord with gladness, give thanks to the Lord, and bless God's name.

One: Praise the Lord your God, over all nations, races, and peoples.

All: We worship the Lord who made us. We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

One: Praise the Lord of goodness and the Lord of love.

All: The Lord is good; God's love endures forever, and God is faithful to all generations.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 529 | How Firm a Foundation

***Prayer of Confession & Pardon**

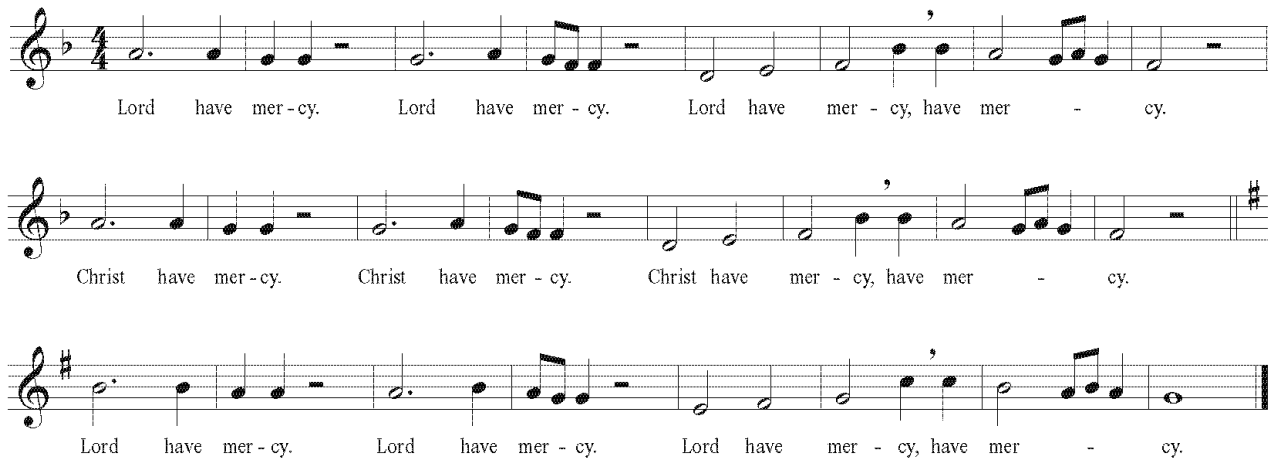
All: God of love and God of light, you have given all of yourself in order to save us from our sins. You call us to follow you into the light, so that you may see us fully in order to forgive us fully. All you ask in return is that we believe in you and in your son, Jesus Christ. Yet so often we fail to follow the example that you have given us in Jesus, and we choose to stay in the darkness. Forgive us, we pray. Shine your light on us so that we may live in the light of your love.

One:Hear the good news: God loves us despite our shortcomings. God's love is so much that God gave us the gift of Jesus, so that the world might be saved through him. Go forth and proclaim God's love to all! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

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

***Kyrie**

Carl Maultsby



Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy, have mer-cy.

Christ have mer-cy. Christ have mer-cy. Christ have mer-cy, have mer-cy.

Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy. Lord have mer-cy, have mer-cy.

***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.

Ministry Moment

Missions and Outreach

Frank Wrenn and Rev. Andy Peabody

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

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Gilbert Martin

**When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.**

**See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!**

*Doxology

Take My Life and Let it Be

**Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

The Scripture Lesson

Ephesians 2: 1-10

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Message for the Younger Church

All who are young in age or spirit are invited to come up to the chancel area.

*Hymn of Preparation

UMH No. 510 | Come, Ye Disconsolate

*The Gospel Lesson

John 3:14-21

One: The Gospel of Our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

The Way of the Cross: Love Is the Reason

Response to God's Word

*Affirmation of Faith

UMH No. 886 | The World Methodist Social Affirmation

One: We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people; and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again; and in the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

All: We believe; God, help our unbelief.

One: We rejoice in every sign of God's Kingdom; in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice and reconciliation; in each act of self-giving on behalf of others; in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough; in all responsible use of the earth's resources.

All: Glory be to God on high; and on earth, be peace.

One: We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action: through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith; through the exploitation of people because of greed and indifference through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life; through the search for security by those military and economic forces that threaten human existence; through the abuse of technology which endangers the earth and all life upon it.

All: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

One: We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ: to take up the cross; to seek abundant life for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come. The kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

All: Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Dedication

UMH No. 480 | O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

*Benediction

Congregational Response

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross vs. 4

**Near the cross! I'll watch and wait,
Hoping, trusting ever;
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river.
In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever!
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.**

Postlude
Postlude in D

Healey Willan

Worship Team

Preaching: Rev. Andy Peabody, *Associate Pastor*
Liturgists: Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*
Meagan Williams, *Assistant Minister of Young Adults*
Luke Murphy, *Youth Intern*
Music: Justin Bowen, *Interim Director of Fine Arts and Organist*
Audio Visual: Johnny Sims, *Coordinator of Online Ministry*, Nikki and Tiffany Baltazar, Jay Drew, Deana Hilton, Hayden McArthur, Anna Rader, Paul Spencer, Eric Steverson, and Julie Tootle
Usher Team: Buddy Wofford, *Head Usher*, Joseph Hackett, Mark Jefferson, and Russell McKinney
Greeter Team: Andy Davis and Pam Davis

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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.

Safe Sanctuary Training

TODAY, March 10, 2024 | 12:30 PM | Wade Hall

This training will equip and empower all who work with Saint Mark's vulnerable populations with the training and tools you need to recognize abuse, as well as teach you about Saint Mark's reporting guidelines. All who currently work or hope to work with vulnerable populations should attend.



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 one of the QR codes below. 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.

SecureGive



PayPal



Venmo



Text to Give



- To give via text, scan the QR code, and replace the \$\$ in the text with the amount you would like to give. For example, to give \$25, text operating 25.



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.

Current COVID-19 Safety Guidelines

If you are sick, please stay home. If you have come into contact with someone positive for COVID-19, follow the precautions recommended by the CDC. In order to care for our collective well-being, we strongly recommend that anyone who is eligible to be vaccinated do so, especially before participating in indoor activities.

Flower Ministry

The Flower Ministry is carried out by our own outstanding designer, **David Boswell**. He seeks to serve the Saint Mark community and to glorify God by creating skillful and graceful flower arrangements to enhance worship and other church sponsored activities. To request a flower dedication, please contact the **Church Office** at office@stmarkumc.org.

Easter Eggtravaganza

Saturday, March 30, 2024

We need Easter Candy for the Egg Hunt!

Please donate bags of individually wrapped candy by Wednesday, March 20th, if you are able. No chocolate, please. It melts! We greatly appreciate it!

We need Volunteers for the Easter Eggtravaganza on Saturday, March 30th.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Madi Dunn at MDunn@stmarkumc.org.

Congregational Hikes | Walk with us...

- April 20th- Atlanta Beltline | Monroe Dr. Access Point
- June 22nd - Sweetwater Creek State Park
- August 17th - Suwanee Greenway Trail
- October 19th - Amicalola Falls State Park

Saint Mark Green Team Survey

Please fill out this short survey to help steer Saint Mark's engagement with environmental issues and creation care. Whether you are interested in getting involved or not, this survey will help our green team prioritize its goals.

<http://tinyurl.com/SMUMCgreenteamsurvey>

Mission Sunday

NEXT Sunday, March 17, 2024 | After Second Service

See Insert

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners

For reservations, please email **Robert Gilleo** at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org no later than 5 PM Tuesday. Dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Program begins at 6:00 PM.

Tickets: \$10 for seniors, \$11 general

Upcoming Meals

Wednesday, March 13 | Saint Patrick's Day

Corned Beef and Cabbage

Wednesday, March 20 | Breakfast for Dinner

Bacon, Sausage, Quiche, and Pancakes

Thursday, March 28 | 6 PM | Holy Thursday

Ukrainian Stuffed Cabbage

Beef, Pork, and Rice

EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Caramelized Apple Wood Bacon
Assorted Fresh Fruit | Breakfast Sausage
Spinach Salad with Feta Cheese | Caesar Salad

Roast Sirloin of Beef

Honey Glazed Ham

Chilled Fresh Gulf Shrimp

Quiche Lorraine

Carrot Soufflé | French Green Beans with Mushrooms
Pan Seared Asparagus | Roasted Brussels Sprouts with Bacon

Assorted Breads | Muffins and Sweets

Carrot Cake | Strawberry Cream Cheese Pie

Iced Tea | Coffee | Water | Assorted Juices

\$20 per person | Reservations Required | stmarkumc.org/store

Holy Week



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



March 24 | *Palm Sunday*

March 28 | *Holy Thursday*

Mid-Week Fellowship Dinner | 6 PM

Dramatic Setting of John 13 | 7 PM



March 29 | *Good Friday*

Ecumenical Stations of the Cross | 1:30 PM

Seven Last Words of Christ | 7 PM

March 30 | *Easter Eggtravaganza*

Children's Games | Bouncy House

Easter Egg Hunt | Volunteers Needed



March 31 | *Easter Sunday*

7 AM | Sunrise Service | Terrace

9 AM | Service | Sanctuary

11 AM | Service | Sanctuary

12:30 PM | Brunch | Reservations Requested