

SAINT MARK

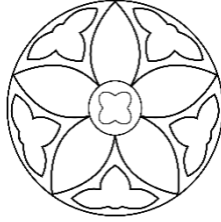
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, March 17, 2024
Eleven O'clock

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Mission Sunday





11 AM Morning Worship

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

The Gathering

Music as we gather

Prelude

Prelude on 'St. Columba'

Henry Coleman

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: Following in the footsteps of Christ is not always easy.

All: The Way of the Cross leads us to repentance, suffering, and sacrifice.

One: Sometimes the challenge seems so hard, and we wonder if we can endure.

All: Wherever we are on the journey, the Lord God Almighty is with us, every step.

One: God's good future for us is calling to us, even when the way ahead is daunting.

All: With God's help, we will walk boldly into our futures, full of hope, and bearing the light and peace of Christ for all to see.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 451 | Be Thou My Vision

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: Compassionate and faithful God, you have sent Jesus Christ, your Son, to show us your love and the way of your Kingdom. He came and offered us life, so that we might live fully and abundantly. Yet, we have traded his gift of true life for the fleeting and fading things of this world. We have pridefully indulged ourselves, refusing to lay down our lives, so we can take hold of the life he gives. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

One: Hear the Good News: God will never lead you where Christ has not been. Our Lord has walked the way of the cross, and will walk with you. All you need to do is to follow. 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.

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

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

**O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give thee back the life I owe that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.**

**O Joy, O Joy, O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, O I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not in vain, that morn shall tearless be.**

**O Love, O Love, O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give thee back the life I owe that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.**

*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 Gospel Lesson

John 12:20-33

One: The Gospel of Our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

The Way of the Cross: Die So You Can Live

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. 138 | The King of Love My Shepherd Is

*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

Fantasia in G Minor

Johann Pachelbel

Mission Project

Wellroot Young Adult Cleaning Essentials baskets

Wade Hall

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Worship Team

Preaching:	Rev. Andy Peabody, <i>Associate Pastor</i>
Liturgists:	Madi Dunn, <i>Children's Minister</i> Meagan Williams, <i>Assistant Minister of Young Adults</i> Luke Murphy, <i>Youth Minister Intern</i> Danni and Gabbi Washington, <i>Lay Members</i> Robbie Cundiff, <i>Youth Lay Member</i> Aaron Groves, <i>Young Adult Lay Member</i>
Music:	Justin Bowen, <i>Interim Director of Fine Arts and Organist</i>
Audio Visual:	Johnny Sims, <i>Coordinator of Online Ministry</i> , Nikki and Tiffany Baltazar, Jay Drew, Deana Hilton, Hayden McArthur, Anna Rader, Paul Spencer, Eric Steverson, and Julie Tootle
Usher Team:	Buddy Wofford, <i>Head Usher</i> , 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.

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.

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.

Church Council Meeting Reminder

After Second Service today beginning at 12:30 PM.

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 20 | Breakfast for Dinner**
Bacon, Sausage, Quiche, and Pancakes
- **Thursday, March 28 | 6 PM | Holy Thursday**
Ukrainian Stuffed Cabbage | Beef, Pork, and Rice

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.

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>

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

Bounce House!
Easter Egg Hunt!

Pictures with the
Easter Bunny!

Crafts!
Face Painting!

SAINT MARK UMC PRESENTS
2ND ANNUAL
EASTER

EGGSTRAVAGANZA

SATURDAY, MARCH 30TH
11 AM-1 PM

781 PEACHTREE STREET
NE, ATLANTA, GA

Easter Egg Hunt
starts at 11:30 am



For more information visit
[HTTPS://WWW.STMARKUMC.ORG/EVENTS](https://www.stmarkumc.org/events)