



SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, April 7, 2024
Eleven O'clock

Second Sunday of Easter
Service of Holy Communion





11 AM Morning Worship

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

The Gathering

Prelude

The Old Rugged Cross

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: Christ, our Lord, is risen.

All: Hallelujah! He is risen indeed.

One: Christ, our Lord, has conquered death

All: Hallelujah! He is victorious.

One: Christ, our Lord, has set us free.

All: Hallelujah! We have been raised to new life with him.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 304 | Easter People, Raise Your Voices

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: Glorious God, by your great power you conquered death, hell, and the grave, raising Jesus Christ to life, and gave us new life with him. The same power by which you raised him from the dead is the same power at work in us, enabling us to live as resurrection people. Too often, however, we forget who we are, we forget what you have done for us, and we choose to live outside of our true identity. Forgive us, we pray. By the power of your Holy Spirit remind us that we are yours; remind us that we are Easter people.

One: Hear the good news: You have been raised with Christ and seated with him in the heavenly realms. Live therefore as children of God. 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.

One: 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

Offertory
My Savior's Love

*Doxology
UMH No. 94 | Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Offertory Prayer

*The Gospel Lesson
John 20: 19-31

One: The Gospel of Our Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon
From Doubt to Profession

Response to God's Word

Celebration of Holy Communion
UMH Page 17 | Musical Setting A

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, God (Father) Almighty, creator of heaven and 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. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. 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.

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.

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.

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, now and forever.

All: Amen.

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

*At the front left of the Sanctuary,
Rev. Dr. Carol Rawlinson is available for prayer and anointing.*

*The baskets at each communion station are for donations to the
Midtown Assistance Center.*

Hymn during Communion

UMH No. 140 | Great Is Thy Faithfulness

The Prayer of Dedication

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth

*Hymn of Dedication

UMH No. 303 | The Day of Resurrection

*Benediction

Postlude

Toccata in F Major

Buxtehude

Worship Team

Preaching:

Rev. Andy Peabody, *Associate Pastor*

Liturgists:

Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, *Senior Pastor*

Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*

Meagan Williams, *Assistant Minister of Young Adults*

Anointing:

Rev. Dr. Carol Rawlinson, *Retired Elder in Full Connection, South Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church*

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*, Chip duPont, Mark Jefferson, and Russell McKinney

Greeter Team:

Andy and Pam Davis



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.

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.



We Invite You to Stay Connected with Saint Mark

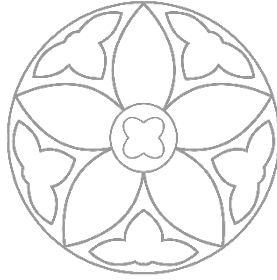
Visit www.stmarkumc.org and subscribe to the newsletter on the homepage. We send our Remarks newsletter every Wednesday, a message from our Senior Pastor every Friday, and a Sunday Morning at Saint Mark email.

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. Dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Program begins at 6:00 PM.

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

- April 10 Homemade Lasagna
- April 17 Baked Potato Bar
- April 24 Low Country Boil (Shrimp and Sausage)
- May 1 Taco Bar
- May 8 BBQ Pulled Pork and Chicken
- May 15 Cookout (Hamburger and Hot Dogs)



Saint Mark United Methodist Church **Welcome Statement**

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.

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WELCOME | THINGS TO KNOW

Welcome! We are so glad you are worshipping with us today!

Today's Communion offering will benefit the Midtown Assistance Center. Over 30 years ago, Saint Mark joined four other congregations to establish the Midtown Assistance Center, an interfaith nonprofit committed to helping Atlanta's working poor. MAC assists clients with rent, utilities, food, transportation, and clothing during times of crisis.

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

UMC101

Young Adult Small Group | Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm | April 3rd - May 22nd

Are you a young adult interested in learning more about Saint Mark's connection to the Methodist tradition? Join the young adult ministry in our upcoming UMC 101 small group series! Whether you're new to the United Methodist Church or grew up in the UMC, this series will provide you with a deeper understanding of Methodist beliefs, practices, and history. Join us on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, April 3rd - May 22nd at Saint Mark UMC.

General Conference Listening Sessions

Today, Sunday, April 7 | After 2nd Service | Chapel

Wednesday, April 10 | Wednesday Night Supper | Wade Fellowship Hall

Regarding our denomination's upcoming General Conference, which will be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, from April 23 to May 3. This is the postponed 2020 General Conference, which was delayed because of the pandemic. General Conference is the official legislative body of our denomination that is able to revise The Book of Discipline – the polity that governs our denomination, and The Book of Resolutions – the statements on social issues that represent the position of the denomination. The decisions that are made at General Conference will impact conferences and local churches across the denomination.

Open Doors Planning Session

Sunday, April 21 | After 2nd Service | Wade Hall

For those who are interested in helping with Open Doors this year, we will have an informational and brainstorming session on Sunday, April 21. Our first Open Doors this year are:

- Sunday, May 19th
- Sunday, June 16th
- Sunday, July 28th

These are the same dates that Atlanta will be having Streets Alive! Peachtree St. will be closed to vehicle traffic and pedestrians will be free to walk, ride, or scoot down Peachtree St. from 1-5 pm. For more information, please contact, Pam Davis, at fireflyrd@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

April 21	Church Council
April 23 – May 3	General Conference Charlotte, NC
April 28	Green Team Kick-off Meeting
May 5	Churchwide Celebration of our Volunteers
May 19	Streets Alive
June 3-7	Vacation Bible School Lutheran Redeemer
June 13-15	North Georgia Annual Conference Athens, GA
June 16	Streets Alive
July 10-12	Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference Lake Junaluska, NC
July 28	Streets Alive