



SAINT MARK

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

Sunday, April 28, 2024
Eleven O'clock

Fifth Sunday of Easter



11 AM Morning Worship

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

The Gathering

Prelude

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:God Almighty, we enter into your sanctuary with joy in our hearts!

All: We come before you asking for your blessing and desirous of your favor.

One:Christ our Savior, we seek to walk in your footsteps and to know your ways!

All: We want to be freed, to be transformed, and to be remade in your image.

One:Holy Spirit, we yearn to abide in your presence and to be led by you!

All: We hope to live our lives under your guidance and beneath the protective shelter of your wings.

Praise and Thanksgiving

*Hymn of Praise

UMH No. 158 | Come, Christians, Join to Sing

*Prayer of Confession & Pardon

All: Holy One – We dare not come before you believing or trusting in our own righteousness. Rather, we come before you believing and trusting in your limitless grace and abundant love. Forgive us for our proclivity to selfishness; our bent to sinning. Help us to become the beloved community you want us to be.

One:Hear the Good News – God's love IS never ending, and it remains at work within you and within the life of Saint Mark. Be still, and know that God is with you, and ever will be. You are loved, even exactly as you are. But listen for God's leading, be honest and yet gentle with your soul, and trust you are indeed growing in faith. 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 & 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 and Offertory Prayer

Anthem

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, alleluia!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.
The Lord hath delivered his people, alleluia.

O be joyful in God all ye lands.
O sing praises to the honor of his name.
Make his praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard, alleluia!
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, alleluia!

*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!**

The Scripture Lesson

1 John 4:11-21

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. 162 | Alleluia, Alleluia Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

*The Gospel Lesson

John 15: 1-8

One: The Gospel of Our Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Bear Fruit

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. 368 | My Hope is Built

*Benediction

*Choral Response

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord lift his countenance upon you
and give you peace, and give you peace;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you, be gracious;
the Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

Postlude

Worship Team

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

Liturgists: Rev. Andy Peabody, *Associate Pastor*
Madi Dunn, *Children's Minister*
Meagan Williams, *Assistant Minister of Young Adults*
Luke Murphy, *Youth Minister 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*, Joel Black, Bob Brown, and Deana Hilton

Greeter: Dorian Jean Laguerre

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Thank you, Meagan Williams!

As also shared in worship last week, today is Meagan Williams last Sunday with us. Meagan has been such a blessing to Saint Mark. She has done a wonderful job in building the young adult ministry, and has played a significant role, participating in leading worship. We are truly thankful for her invaluable contributions to the ministry of Saint Mark. We will celebrate Meagan with a farewell reception after the 11:00am worship service today. We invite you to come out and let Meagan know how thankful we are for her, and how much we appreciate her.

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 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.

Parking

Visiting with us throughout the week? Don't forget to validate. Members with cars registered in the system DO NOT need to validate.



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.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners

For reservations, please email **Robert Gilleo** at RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org no later than 12 Noon Wednesday. Dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Program begins at 6:00 PM. Tickets: \$10 for seniors, \$11 general

- May 1 Taco Bar
- May 8 BBQ Pulled Pork and Chicken
- May 15 Cookout (Hamburger and Hot Dogs)

Habitat for Humanity Build

<https://www.stmarkumc.org/habitat>

Saint Mark United Methodist will be again be participating in our Atlanta Habitat for Humanity build! This year, we're building a new home alongside Jemario, our homebuyer.

When we partner with Atlanta Habitat, we join them as a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization by building quality, affordable homes alongside the homeowners themselves creating opportunities for families to thrive beyond the build and well into the future. Please join our build and encourage your family and friends!

IT'S TIME FOR



731 PEACHTREE
STREET NE

A SUMMER CAMP

ADVENTURE WITH GOD

Psalm 56:3

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

JUNE 3-7, 9 AM- 1 PM

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION:



Scan here for
your VBS toolkit!

Sign up
your child!

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION:



Volunteer
Yourself!

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Email mdunn@stmarkumc.org



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- If writing a check, please designate Wesley Woods in the for line.
- To make a gift online visit wesleywoods.org/donate or use your phone camera to scan the QR code.
- Mail a check made payable to Foundation of Wesley Woods, 1817 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30329. *(Designate your church in the for line.)*



WESLEY WOODS
FOUNDATION

INVITATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO PRIDE AUCTION



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**HERE ARE A FEW WAYS
YOU CAN GET INVOLVED**

PRIDE SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 13, 2024

**WE'RE GEARING UP TO HOST ANOTHER PRIDE
AUCTION THIS YEAR! MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
THE PRIDE AUCTION IS SCHEDULED FOR
JUNE 6TH TO 20TH THIS YEAR.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PRIDE COMMITTEE OPERATES
INDEPENDENTLY AND IS NOT FUNDED THROUGH THE
CHURCH BUDGET . THEREFORE WE RELY ON YOUR
SUPPORT TO MAKE OUR EVENTS POSSIBLE**

**YOUR PARTICIPATION, DONATIONS, AND INVOLVEMENT
ARE CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS YEAR'S
AUCTION. WHETHER IT'S CONTRIBUTING ITEMS FOR
AUCTION, VOLUNTEERING YOUR TIME, OR SPREADING
THE WORD, EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS.**

**TO COORDINATE DONATIONS, WE ASK THAT YOU EMAIL
NOEY BARRERA-DISLER AT BDFAMILY99@GMAIL.COM
WITH DETAILS ABOUT THE ITEMS YOU WISH TO
CONTRIBUTE OR ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.
Donations are accepted until May 17th.**

**Thank you for being an integral
part of our Saint Mark UMC family.**

DONATE ITEMS:

We encourage you to consider purchasing gift cards from your favorite restaurants, coffee house, or stores. Additionally, unique artwork, handmade crafts, gift certificates, or special items available locally would be appreciated. Every contribution, regardless of size, holds the power to positively impact those around us.

OFFER SERVICES:

Donate your time and skills. Whether it's providing a home-cooked meal, gardening services, or offering a music lesson, your talents can help diversify and enrich our auction, appealing to a wider audience.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

If you prefer, you can make a monetary donation to support the auction. These funds will be used to enhance the event and contribute to our Pride Activities.

SPREAD THE WORD

Share the news about our Pride Auction with friends, family, and colleagues who might be interested in participating. The more people involved, the greater impact we can make together.



2024 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON



SAINT MARK
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Join us for a church-wide celebration of our volunteers,
Sunday, May 5, after the 11:00 Service.