



# SAINT MARK

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

God's Grace Transforming Lives

**Sunday, May 5, 2024**  
**Nine O'clock**

Sixth Sunday of Easter



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK



## 9 AM Morning Worship

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

### The Gathering

*You are invited to use the paper you were given upon entering to write words signifying prayers of hope and/or remembrances of harm. When coming forward to receive communion, you will have a chance to offer these in confidence.*

#### 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!

\*Hymn of Praise

**UMH No. 98 | To God Be the Glory**

#### A Prayer of Celebration for All God's Children

One: Let us pray:

**All: Creator and Maker of us all,**

**We thank you for the gift of life, and for the way this gift of love is revealed in all humans.**

**In love You have made all peoples, and breathed in us eternal life by Your divine breath, calling all you have made good.**

**We celebrate this inherent good that is in all of us, and its expressions when lived out authentically each day.**

**We know not everyone recognizes your divine image in each other. We know there are persons who refuse to affirm the divine worth of everyone.**

**We know, however, that we are all your children, bearing your divine image, and made in your likeness. We know that we do not need to hide our authentic selves because we are fearfully and wonderfully made.**

**When the world tries to tell us otherwise remind us of the truth. When the world tries to tell us we are less than remind us of your love. For You are our Creator, and you have made all things beautiful and complete.**

**It's in the name of Christ, our Lord, we pray. 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.

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.**

The Scripture Lesson

**Psalm 98**

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

**All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

**Sing to the Lord**

# 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, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You took the dust of the earth and breathed your life into it, making all of humanity in your image. ALL of humanity. Because of your act of creation and your breath that lives on in our spirits, everyone is welcome at your table. Since the Ethiopian eunuch's journey from Jerusalem to Gaza until this very day, we have encountered time and again the hurtful stories of persons, eagerly and earnestly seeking after you, who have been excluded from full participation in the ministry and ministries of our church. Yet, you continued to be faithful in loving us. Faithful in sending your prophets throughout the ages to call us to repentance. Faithful in sending leaders to Saint Mark – lay and clergy alike – who have challenged the church to more faithfully reflect your radically inclusive love.

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 (Father), 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.**

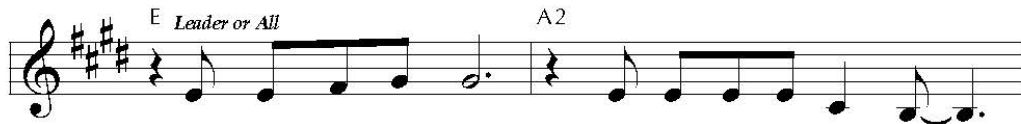
## The Communion of the People

*When coming forward to receive communion, feel free to bring your folded paper containing any prayers of hope and/or remembrances of harm. No one but God will see or read these. They will be burned in a supervised outdoor committal ceremony in June prior to Annual Conference in Athens.*

*This month's Communion Offering will go to the Wesley Woods Mother's Day Offering. The Wesley Woods Mother's Day Offering provides charitable financial assistance, pastoral care, and wellness programming to older adults living in Wesley Woods communities. Thank you for helping to ensure seniors living at Wesley Woods continue to thrive.*

# Hymn During Communion

## Insert | For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,  
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,  
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,  
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,  
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,  
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,  
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,  
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,  
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,  
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,  
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,  
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,  
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,  
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,  
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,  
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God's hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and that we who have been created in God's image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator's values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 1998  
 MUSIC: Brian Mann, 2006  
 Text © 1998 Hope Publishing Company  
 Music © 2006 Brian Mann (admin. General Board of Global Ministries t/a GBGMusik)

FOR EVERYONE BORN  
 11.10.11.10 with refrain

*Refrain*

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and  
 joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,  
 God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,  
 jus-tice and joy!

## Sending Forth

\*Hymn of Dedication

Insert Next Two Pages | Draw the Circle Wide

Mark Miller



Draw the cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the



cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. No one



stands a - lone, we'll stand side by side. Draw the



cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the



wide. Draw the cir - cle wide, draw it



wid - er still. Let this be our song: no one



stands a - lone. Stand - ing side by side, draw the



cir - cle, draw the cir - cle wide. Draw the

Words: Gordon Light

Music: Mark A. Miller

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wide. Draw the cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide. Draw the

cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide. No one

stands a-lone, we'll stand side by side. Draw the

cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide. Draw the

cir-cle wide, draw it wid-er still. Let this

be our song: no one stands a-lone. Stand-ing

side by side, draw the cir-cle, draw the cir-cle

*Repeat as desired* *Final ending*

wide. Draw the Draw the cir-cle, draw the cir-cle

wide. Draw the cir-cle, draw the cir-cle wide.

\*Benediction

Postlude

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## Worship Team

<b>Preaching:</b>	Rev. Dr. Carolyn Stephens, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
<b>Liturgists:</b>	Rev. Andy Peabody, <i>Associate Pastor</i>
<b>Music:</b>	Justin Bowen, <i>Interim Director of Fine Arts and Organist</i>
<b>Communion Steward:</b>	J.W. Mozley
<b>Usher:</b>	Robert Giacomini
<b>Greeter:</b>	Greg Brown

## 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

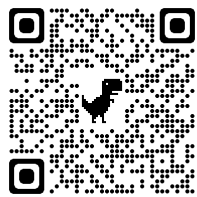
If you are sick, please stay home. If you have come into contact with someone positive for COVID-19, follow the precautions recommended by the CDC. In order to care for our collective well-being, we strongly recommend that anyone who is eligible to be vaccinated do so, especially before participating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



YouTube

@StMarkUMCATL

## We Invite You to Stay Connected with Saint Mark

Visit [www.stmarkumc.org](http://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](mailto:RJGilleo@stmarkumc.org) no later than Noon Wednesday. Dinner begins at 5:30 PM. Program begins at 6:00 PM.

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

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

## Habitat for Humanity

It's May and the Habitat for Humanity Build starts this month! The first volunteer workday, Saturday, May 11, is already filled up to waitlist status - which is GREAT! We would like to see as many Saint Mark volunteers SIGN UP to SERVE on SATURDAY, MAY 18 as possible. There are a number of dedicated Saint Mark spots and there are others that are 'first come, first served' - and we want folks to SIGN UP EARLY to obtain those spots! Let's start off the summer months lending a hand to a neighbor in need!

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



**SAINT MARK**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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