



www.stmarksaz.org
3809 E 3rd St.
Tucson, AZ 85716
(520) 325-1001

Find @StMarksAZ on social media!



WELCOME

St. Mark's is a community of believers and seekers committed to being queer-affirming and anti-racist, reflecting the love and justice of Jesus Christ. We are a place where people of all ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, and abilities are welcomed, celebrated for their gifts, and invited to share in God's embrace. As an expression of our faith, we strive to stand in solidarity with Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC).

OUR PURPOSE

Jesus Christ calls us to be a joyful community that celebrates God's love, transforms lives, and is a force for justice in the world.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9am–noon
Friday & Saturday: Closed

STAFF

Interim Pastor

Reverend Tracy Daub (she/her) tracy@stmarksaz.org

Organist, Director of the Handbell Choir

Dr. Jared Aragón (he/him) jared@stmarksaz.org

Director of Music

David Bracerros-Hamm (he/him) david@stmarksaz.org

Church Administrator

Gianina Scavone (she/her) gianina@stmarksaz.org

Director of Communications

Elaina Richards (she/her) elaina@stmarksaz.org

Facilities Coordinator

Michael Robinson (he/him) michael@stmarksaz.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT | MARCH 16, 2025 | 10:30 AM

^ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

PRELUDE

Prelude in B-flat Minor - Gaziza Zhubanova | J.I. Aragón, *piano/organ*

WELCOME

The Rev. Tracy Daub

CENTERING SONG no. 701 (sung twice)

Lord, Prepare Me

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

^ **CALL TO WORSHIP** by Rev. Sarah A. Speed/A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org | Art Almquist

One: Come as you are.

All: If you have deep faith or if your faith has run dry,

One: if you know every scripture or none at all,

All: if you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,

One: or if you kneel at God's feet, with a million hungry questions,

All: come as you are.

One: This is God's house.

All: None are turned away.

One: All are welcome here.

^ **GATHERING HYMN no. 696**

O God, You Are My God Alone

^ **GATHERING PRAYER**

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

by Rev. Sarah A. Speed/A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org

God of Grace, we long to do the "right" thing. We long to make the "right" choice. We long to stand on the "right" side of the dividing line. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love. Show us how to hold our heart's desire for perfection loosely. Show us how to lead with love and grace, over anything else. For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you. Show us the way. Amen.

(a moment follows for silent personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON adapted, Rev. Sarah A. Speed/A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org

One: God loves us extravagantly. God surrounds us with grace.

There is nothing we can do or leave undone that could separate us from the love of God.

All: This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God!

^PASSING THE PEACE

As a forgiven people, we extend the hand of peace and reconciliation to one another saying:

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

^HYMN OF PRAISE no. 437

You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 40:28-31 | *New Revised Standard Version*

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. God does not faint or grow weary; God's understanding is unsearchable. God gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42 | *New Revised Standard Version*

Now as they went on their way, [Jesus] entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Sometimes a Light Surprises - Craig Courtney | St. Mark's Choir

SERMON

"Between Faith and Works"

HYMN no. 692

Spirit, Open My Heart

INVITATION TO THE OFFERINGS

***If you'd like to donate to God's work through St. Mark's, ushers will now collect the offerings. You may also give electronically using the Vanco or Venmo QR codes found in the worship guide.*

***If you have a prayer request or an announcement to share during Opportunities, write it down on the sheet of paper included with your worship guide and place it in the offering baskets.*

venmo



VANCO



OFFERTORY

Allegretto - Eta Tyrmand

^ OFFERING HYMN no. 607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

^ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts to God.

We lift our hearts to God, and our thanks and praise, because it is right to do this.

We thank you, God, for breathing into us the breath of life and setting us in your world to love and serve you. When we rejected your love and ignored your wisdom, you did not reject us. You loved us still and called us to turn again to you in obedience and in love.

Out of your great love for the world, you sent Jesus among us to set us free from the tyranny of evil. He lived as one of us, sharing our joys and sorrows. By his dying and rising, he releases us from bondage to sin and frees us from the dominion of death.

Gracious God, pour out your Spirit upon us and upon your gifts of bread and wine, that we may be united with the living Christ and with one another through your love and grace.

Through the power of your Spirit, lead us to live as members of your household: doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with you, our God.

With the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD, POURING THE CUP

COMMUNION

Communion at St. Mark's is open to all individuals of all ages. Worshippers may come down the center aisle and receive the bread or gluten-free option and the non-alcoholic grape juice in either the pre-filled cups or by dipping the bread in the chalice.

COMMUNION HYMN no. 695 (refrain)

Change My Heart, O God

(refrain) Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
You are the Potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. *(repeat refrain)*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

^ SENDING HYMN no. 644

Give Thanks O Christian People

^ CHARGE

from 1 Cor. 16:13; 2 Tim. 2:1; Eph. 6:10; 1 Thess. 5:13-22; 1 Peter 2:17

Go out into the world in peace. Have courage. Hold fast to what is good.
Return no one evil for evil. Strengthen the faint-hearted.
Support the weak. Help the suffering. Honor everyone.
Love and serve Christ, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

^ BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Kui - Gaziza Zhubanova

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PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: Amara Sims, granddaughter of Facilities Coordinator Michael Robinson (health issue), the family and friends of Linda Ryan (died February 20, 2025), Marilyn Simmons (health issues), Bill Dingeldein (health issues), Sylvia Thorson-Smith (health issues), Ann MacGregor (health issues), Paul Miller (health issues), Lillian Deyerberg (health concerns), Rob Selby (health issues) and the Selby Family, Mari Helen High (health concerns), Monica Lopez (health concerns),

OPPORTUNITIES

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY: Liturgist: Art Almquist; Usher: Art Lurvey; Greeter: JP Berdine; Communion Servers: Steve Hankel, Gail Kocourek, Barb Mann, Nancy Martignetti, and Greer Parrish; Communion Set Up and Clean Up: Berry Roberts; Livestream: Lori Block, John Jewett, Dexter Mitchell, and Irvin Richards.

ARE YOU ENJOYING THE HYMNS THIS MONTH? We give thanks for the gifts of women during Women's History Month. The hymns we sing in worship throughout March will be either written or arranged by women.

ST. MARK'S LENTEN THEME: "Everything [in] between: meeting God in the midst of extremes," focuses on the many polarities that often shape our lives and thinking. In place of these binaries, we will explore the greater nuance and complexities of these concepts and how God is often discovered in "the messy middle." The theme and many of the prayers used in worship are supplied by the liturgical arts collective, A Sanctified Art. Lenten devotional booklets for personal use can be found on the back table in the narthex.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Session will be meeting on Tuesday, March 18 at 7:00 PM in Calvin; Congregational Care will be meeting on Tuesday, March 25 at 5:30 PM in the office conference room.

ISKASHITAA REFUGEE NETWORK: St. Mark's Community and Global Engagement is leading a drive to collect specific staple foods, though the end of March, for refugees in need of basic food and household supplies. Requesting: flour, sugar, salt, rice, cooking oil, dish soap, toilet paper, diapers, female hygiene protection. See Christina Early at the Opportunities Table to drop off your donations.

PAUL THE PHARISEE: 5-week Online Class on Paul: All are invited to join Dr. John Dominic ("Dom") Crossan for a 5-week course on Paul that is FREE and ONLINE thanks to Session Faith Formation Committee. Classes will be livestreamed at 11:00AM Arizona Time every Thursday, beginning March 13. They will be available for viewing anytime after their initial showing. If you are interested in reading the book the course is based on, "*Paul the Pharisee: A Vision Beyond the Violence of Civilization*" by John Dominic Crossan, there will be two copies available from the library cart, or you can purchase online. Please see Sylvia Thorson-Smith at the Opportunities Table after worship for questions and interest in participation, or call 520-820-1544 or email sylviats@cox.net to be added to our list.

THE PROMISE OF AMERICA: On March 23rd, we will gather in Calvin Hall after worship to share what we are doing to support migrants and refugees who have been denied the support that was promised to them. Tom Miller will lead a short interactive discussion of the Trump Administration's policies and actions, including the ceasing of funding for refugees and asylum seekers. Please see Tom Miller after worship or email him at tpm@arizona.edu with any questions.

AN EVENING WITH NADIA BOLZ-WEBER: Join us on Friday, May 9 at 7:00 PM at North Scottsdale United Methodist to hear Nadia Bolz-Weber as she states, "I want to gather with you, laugh with you, and sing with you. I want to be revived from despair *and* from self-righteousness. I want us to remind each other of what's most important and least popular right now. Namely: humility, curiosity, mercy and hope. In other words, I do not want to be afraid and I do not want to be alone. So let's gather in the flesh and revive our weary hearts." Tickets will go fast and can be purchased here [An Evening with Nadia Bolz-Weber in Scottsdale - Tixtree](#)

CHURCH WORK DAY: The Administration Committee is planning a Church Work Day for Saturday, March 22 from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Come and help beautify our campus by helping in the kitchen, cleaning windows, tending to the playground, and much more! Contact [Charlie Ambrose](#) with any questions.

MONTLURE:

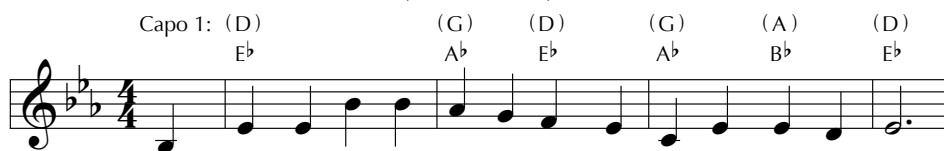
GASLIGHT THEATRE TICKETS FUNDRAISER: We invite you to purchase tickets to the Gaslight Theatre's production "*Beach Blanket Bee-Bop*" for a 3:00 PM matinee on Sunday, April 6, 2025. Proceeds from the ticket sales will benefit Montlure Presbyterian Church Camp (www.montlure.org) . We are partnering with Christ Presbyterian Church, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, and St. John's on the Desert Presbyterian Church to help send kids to camp. And the campers are back in Greer! Tickets are \$33.00 each. Please see [Robin Staples](#) at the Opportunities Table after worship.

SUMMER JOBS AT MONTLURE: Do you know a college-age person who is great with kids, who is looking for a fun and meaningful experience, and who is in need of a summer job? Encourage them to apply for program staff which involves being camp counselors, recreation staff, or support staff. We hire summer staff for both our Overnight and our Traveling Day Camp programs. Our staff help make summer camp a success, and make a lasting impact on the life of a child. We are still hiring for a handful of positions! Please direct anyone interested to <http://www.montlure.org/employment> where they can complete an employment application, or have them email Montlure at camp@montlure.org or call (520) 369-2199 for more information.

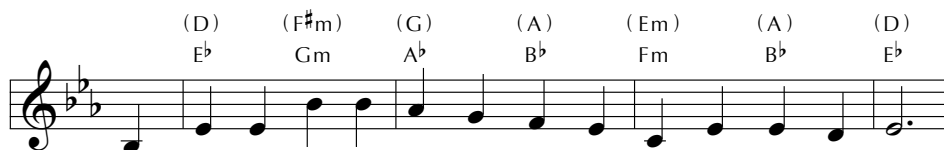
CONSTRUCTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Join Montlure and Presbytery de Cristo to assemble 3 shower stalls to replace the shower house lost during the 2011 Wallow fire. Construction will begin here at St. Mark's Saturday, March 22 at 8:00AM.

696 O God, You Are My God Alone

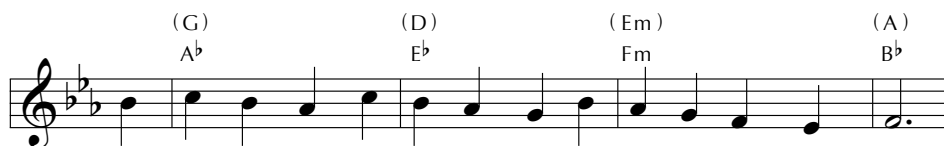
(Psalm 63)



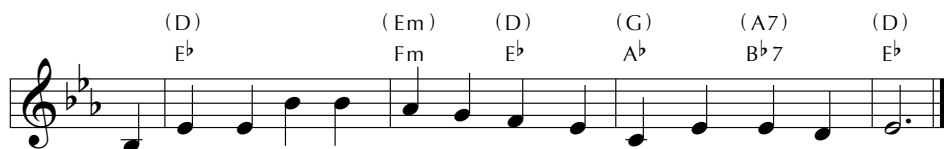
1 O God, you are my God a-lone, whom ea-ger - ly I seek,
 2 Your faith - ful love sur-pass-es life, e - vok-ing all my praise.
 3 Through-out the night I lie in bed and call you, Lord, to mind;



though long-ing fills my soul with thirst and leaves my bod - y weak.
 Through ev - ery day, to bless your name, my hands in joy I'll raise.
 in dark-est hours I med - i - tate how God, my strength, is kind.



Just as a dry and bar-ren land a-waits a fresh-ening shower,
 My deep-est needs you sat - is - fy as with a sump-tuous feast.
 Be - neath the shad-ow of your wing, I live and feel se - cure;



I long with-in your house to see your glo - ry and your power.
 So, on my lips and in my heart, your praise has nev - er ceased.
 and dai - ly as I fol-low close, your right hand keeps me sure.

Given its wide range of references, scholars have proposed many occasions and uses for Psalm 63. Because of the imagery that opens stanza three in this paraphrase, for example, the great Reformed theologian and scholar Theodore Beza regularly recited this psalm at night.

692 Spirit, Open My Heart

Capo 3: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A7)
F B \flat F B \flat C7

Refrain

Spir - it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of

(Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7) (Bm) (D/A) (Em)
Dm F/C B \flat C7 Dm F/C Gm

liv - ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing

(D) (G) (Em7) (D) (G) (D)
F B \flat Gm7 F B \flat F *Fine*

and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.

(D) (G) (D) (G)
F B \flat F B \flat

1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of

(A7) (Bm) (D/A) (G) (A7)
C7 Dm F/C B \flat C7

kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
sis - ter, broth - er. In the wel - come of

(Bm) (Em7) (D) (G2) (G)
Dm Gm7 F B \flat 2 B \flat *to Refrain*

fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
Christ, may we wel - come one an - oth - er.

The pace and diversity of modern life often hinder us from remaining vulnerable to our emotions and to the humanness of other people. This prayerful text to be open to such joys and pains draws on Ezekiel 11:19 and 36:26 in stanza one and echoes Jeremiah 31:33 in stanza two.

Give Thanks, O Christian People 644

1 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for work-ers of our day
 2 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for lead - ers of our years
 3 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for all who love the Lord,
 4 Give thanks, O Chris-tian peo - ple, for life in fel - low - ship

who heed the call to ser - vice and make it their life's way
 who live to share with oth - ers our joy when Christ ap-pears,
 who live each day be - liev - ing in God's e - ter - nal Word:
 with all who trust our Sav - ior their serv - ing to e - quip:

to go to feed the hun - gry, to tend to those in need,
 to teach the ones who seek light, to guide the fal - tering feet,
 to share Christ's love in liv - ing, to wit - ness with each deed,
 to ease an - oth - er's bur - dens, to cope in joy and stress,

to work for e - qual jus - tice, till all God's folk are freed.
 to lead the fol - lowers for - ward our liv - ing Lord to meet.
 to use the tal - ents giv - en to plant the gos - pel seed.
 to mag - ni - fy God's mes - sage and Christ's great love con - fess.

This text was written by a Presbyterian director of Christian education in Washington, DC, to honor the ministry of a colleague who was leaving the area. It is an effective reminder that God's people serve in many vocations and ministries. The tune adapts a secular German song.