



www.stmarksaz.org
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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 Bracerós-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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | JULY 20, 2025 | 10:30 AM

^ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

PRELUDE XI. A' Tardinha from 12 Peças Características - Leopoldo Miguez | J.I. Aragón, *piano/organ*

WELCOME

Rev. Tracy Daub

CENTERING SONG no. 288

Spirit of the Living God

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

^CALL TO WORSHIP

Jan Prinz

One: Friends, you have come to the right place.

All: **Here in God's presence, we find rest and renewal of our spirits.**

One: Be still and feel the healing presence of God.

All: **Trusting in the steadfast love of God, we proclaim God's goodness.**

^GATHERING HYMN no. 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

^GATHERING PRAYER

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Holy One, we confess that our world is a mess! We are overcome by the scope of the suffering, divisions, injustice, and damage. We can point fingers of blame, but we must admit that we too have contributed to the problems, both consciously and unconsciously. On behalf of the human family, we seek your forgiveness and your healing. God of redeeming and transforming love, fix what we are not capable of fixing and heal us from our destructive ways. In Christ we pray. Amen.

(a moment follows for silent personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The Spirit of love, grace, and mercy are poured out upon us!

All: We rejoice in the forgiving and empowering gifts of the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit! 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. 586

Alleluia (sung twice)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Stephanie Sorge, *Presbyterian Outlook* 2025

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 8:1-12 | *New Revised Standard Version*

This is what the Lord God showed me—a basket of summer fruit. God said, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘A basket of summer fruit.’ Then the Lord said to me, ‘The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings on that day,’ says the Lord God; ‘the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!’

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, ‘When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.’

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:

Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?

On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day.

The time is surely coming, says the Lord God,

when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 52 | *New Revised Standard Version*

To the leader. A Maskil of David, when Doeg the Edomite came to Saul and said to him, ‘David has come to the house of Ahimelech.’

Why do you boast, O mighty one,
of mischief done against the godly?

All day long you are plotting destruction.

Your tongue is like a sharp razor,
you worker of treachery.

You love evil more than good,
and lying more than speaking the truth.

(continued on next page)

O You love all words that devour,
O deceitful tongue.

But God will break you down for ever;
God will snatch and tear you from your tent;
God will uproot you from the land of the living.

The righteous will see, and fear,
and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,
'See the one who would not take
refuge in God,
but trusted in abundant riches,
and sought refuge in wealth!'

But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.
I trust in the steadfast love of God
for ever and ever.
I will thank you for ever,
because of what you have done.
In the presence of the faithful
I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Ave Varum by W.A. Mozart | Chris & Nicole Person-Rennell, duet

SERMON

"Big Shots and Broken Societies"

HYMN no. 786

Why Stand So Far Away, My God?

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

Prière - Rheinhold Glière

^OFFERING HYMN no. 708

We Give Thee But Thine Own

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

^PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Stephanie Sorge, *Presbyterian Outlook* 2025

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 the bread and the cup, 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

Let Us Be Bread

**Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, broken and shared, life for the world.
Let us be wine, love freely poured. Let us be one in the Lord.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

^SENDING HYMN no. 372

O For a World

^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

VII. Pierrot from 12 Peças Características - Leopoldo Miguez

OPPORTUNITIES

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY: Liturgist: Jan Prinz; Usher: Richard Gray; Greeter: Lou Prinz; Communion Servers: Charles Ambrose, Becky Cook, Terry Gilliland, Gail Kocourek, and Tim Wadkins; Communion Set Up and Clean Up: Berry Roberts and Patty Berdine; Livestream: Lori Block, John Jewett, Dexter Mitchell, and Irvin Richards.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Community and Global Engagement will be meeting on Monday, July 21 in the office conference room at 3:00 PM; Worship Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, July 23 in the office conference room at 4:30 PM; Personnel Committee will be meeting on Monday, July 28 in the office conference room at 5:00 PM; and Congregational Care will be meeting on Tuesday, July 29 in the office conference room at 2:00 PM. All are welcome.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA SENIOR PRIDE: So AZ Senior Pride will be having their monthly luncheon on Saturday, July 26 in Geneva Hall from 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. All are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE: Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 2, 2025. Congregational Care will be hosting an ice cream social from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM in Geneva Hall. There will be ice cream (including non-dairy ice cream), snacks, games, and toppings. Come and join the fun!

FOOD PANTRY: Our food pantry helps many people in our community. Thank you for your generous contributions. Right now we are in need of pasta sauce in cans (no glass jars please), rice and pasta dishes (the ones that you typically add water), cereal, shelf stable milk, ramen (cups and packets), and saltine crackers. **Iskashitaa Refugee Network** is in need of cooking oil, cornmeal, dish soap, laundry soap and shampoo. We have plenty of sugar and ramen packets. Please place your donations in the red wagon in the narthex on Sundays or bring them to the office during business hours. Thank you to all who have donated.

MT. LEMMON CABIN: Our cabin is open for the season. Check your calendars and schedule a time to get away from the heat during the summer to our lovely cabin. This year, we are going to try a port-a-potty that is much more accessible for everyone. Also, the rates have increased slightly - Monday - Thursday is \$30.00/day and Friday - Sunday is \$40.00/day. Currently, there can be **NO OPEN FLAMES**. An electric grill will be available instead. Call Gianina to schedule your stay at the cabin.

SUMMER IS HERE: Be sure to stay hydrated and stay indoors during these scorching hot days. If you do go out, put on sunscreen, bring a hat, and lots of water. Stay safe.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: The family and friends of JoAnn Geisert (died July 10, 2025), Diana Edeline (health issue), Mari Helen High (health concerns), Bill Dingeldein (health issues), Ann MacGregor (health issues), Lillian Deyerberg (health concerns), Rob Selby (health issues) and the Selby Family.

645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief
 4 Thus all my toil-some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

THANKSGIVING

mur-mur stilled:
all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
cho - sen band:
take your part:

The image shows a musical score for a Thanksgiving song. It consists of two staves, a treble staff on top and a bass staff on the bottom. Both staves are in the key of D major, indicated by two sharps (F# and C#). The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of two sharps. The lyrics are written between the two staves. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. The accompaniment consists of chords and single notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Why Stand So Far Away, My God? 786

(Psalm 10)

1 Why stand so far a - way, my God? Why
 2 Why do you hide when, full of lies, they
 3 The weak are crushed and fall to earth; the
 4 In a - ges past you heard the voice of
 5 A - rise, O God, and lift your hand; bring

hide in times of need? The proud, un - bri - dled,
 mur - der and be - tray? They wait to pounce up -
 wick - ed strut and preen. Why in these cruel, cha -
 those the proud op - press. Re - mem - ber those who
 jus - tice to the poor. Come, help us stop the

chase the poor, and curse you in their greed.
 on the weak as li - ons stalk their prey.
 ot - ic times can - not your face be seen?
 suf - fer now, who cry in deep dis - tress.
 flow of blood! Let ter - ror reign no more!

This paraphrase of Psalm 10 is striking in its timeless questions and its keen sense of being abandoned by God. The injustice, oppression, and fear it describes resonate with the state of the world in our own day. Like the ancient psalmist, we pray for God to end the reign of terror.

O for a World

372

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re-spects each oth - er's ways,
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re-lieved,
 3 We wel-come one world fam - i - ly and strug-gle with each choice
 4 The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the fool - ish ones are wise.
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo-rious reign of peace,

where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
 where truth is spo - ken, chil-dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 that o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
 Tell all who mourn: out-casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
 where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Everything longed for in this text is a reminder of how far our present world is from what God wants. Yet this is not just wishful thinking; it is a call to action, a summons to participate in the fulfillment of God's desire for all earth's people to live in radical *shalom*.

TEXT: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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