



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

<u>Director of Music</u>

David Braceros-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

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 | 10:30 AM__

A PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

PRELUDE VI. Mixture of Diapasons, Principals & Fifteenth from "Twelve Short Pieces" Samuel Wesley | J.I. Aragón, piano/organ

WELCOME Rev. Tracy Daub

CENTERING SONG no. 175

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia! Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

^CALL TO WORSHIP

Jan Prinz

One: Come! Come all who are seeking God!

All: Come all who feel lost, confused, or injured.
One: Come all who know they are broken and imperfect.

All: Come all who are filled with joy.

One: Come join together as seekers of the Holy Way.

All: We come as seekers to discover that we have been found by the God,

who never stops seeking us.

One: Let us worship the God of love and grace.

^GATHERING HYMN no. 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

*GATHERING PRAYER

from Prayerlit.com

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Merciful God, this week I have strayed from your holy way. By withholding kindness, ignoring need, clinging to the false securities of this world, or failing to pray or seek your presence, I have fallen short of who you created me to be. Anger, greed, selfishness all stand in the way of the new life you offer. Forgive me, God of grace! Open my heart to let in the healing and transforming power of your Spirit. I pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

(a moment follows for silent personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, there is good news. Through God's forgiving love, we are freed and

empowered to live holy, joyful lives.

All: 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. 598

Amen, We Praise Your Name

Amen, we praise your name, O God! Amen, we praise your name, O God! Amen, amen. Amen, amen. Amen, we praise your name, O God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

adapted from Caldwell Presbyterian Church

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

1 Timothy 1:12-17 | The Inclusive Bible

I thank Christ Jesus our Savior, who has strengthened me, given me this work, and judged me faithful. I used to be a blasphemer, a persecutor, a violent man; but because in my unbelief I didn't know what I was doing, I have been treated mercifully, and the grace of our God has been granted to me in overflowing measure, as was the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. Here's a saying that can be trusted and is worthy of your complete acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Of these I myself am the worst. But I was dealt with mercifully for this reason: so that in me—the worst case of all—Jesus Christ might demonstrate perfect patience; and so that I might become an example to those who would later have faith in Christ and gain everlasting life. To the Ruler of ages, the immortal, the invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever! Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-10 | New Revised Standard Version

Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

So he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance.

(continued on next page)

'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Call Me Yours by Bock/Curry/St. Mark's Choir

SERMON "Finding Ourselves in the Story"

HYMN no. 852When the Lord Redeems the Very Least

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

V. Cornet and Diapason Bass from "Twelve Short Pieces" - Samuel Wesley

^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

adapted from www.DavidSBell.org

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:

O Great Spirit, Our Father from above,

we honor your name as sacred and holy.

Bring your good road to us, where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world above is reflected in the earth below.

Provide for us day by day-the elk, the buffalo, and the salmon.

The corn, the squash, and the wild rice. All things we need for each day.

Release us from the things we have done wrong, in the same way we release others for the things done wrong to us.

Guide us away from the things that tempt us to stray from your good road, and set us free from the evil one and his worthless ways.

Aho! May it be so! Amen.

from First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament

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. 507

Come to the Table of Grace

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.

This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.

Come to the table of grace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***SENDING HYMN no. 382**

Heaven Is Singing for Joy

^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. Full Organ without the Trumpet from "Twelve Short Pieces" - Samuel Wesley

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PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: Martha Ortiz (health concerns), Diana Edeline (health issue), Mari Helen High (health concerns), Bill Dingeldein (health issues), Ann MacGregor (health issues), Lillian Deverberg (health concerns), Rob Selby (health issues) and the Selby Family.

OPPORTUNITIES

To view the live church calendar please visit: www.stmarksaz.org
To join the church email list please email gianina@stmarksaz.org or stmarksaz@gmail.com

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY: Liturgist: Jan Prinz; Usher: Terry Gilliland; Greeter: Lou Prinz; Communion Servers: Terry Gilliland, Jim Heller, Gail Kocourek, Ann Moynihan, and Robin Staples; Communion Set Up and Clean Up: Berry Roberts and Patty Berdine; Livestream: Lori Block, John Jewett, and Irvin Richards.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP: Our worship services in September will include versions of the Lord's Prayer from diverse sources---that we may discover fresh insights in this beloved prayer.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Today is Children's Church. Elder Cathy Lurvey will lead the children out during the first hymn to Calvin Hall for a Bible study and crafts. If you would like to know more or are interested in volunteering, contact Cathy Lurvey deaconsmindset@gmail.com.

SISTER JOSE KITS: Today, directly after worship, come join us in Knox Hall to make Sister Jose Hygiene kits. We plan on making 100 kits. Many hands make for light work so come on by and lend a hand.

TIHAN'S POZ CAFE: St. Mark's will be a co-sponsor of Poz Cafe, TIHAN's (Tucson Interfaith HIV/Aids Network) monthly luncheon on Thursday, September 18 held at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church. Thank you for all the donations for care package items and gift cards. Contact <u>Stephanie Mitchell</u> (520) 271-4990 for more information.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Faith Formation will be meeting on Monday, September 15 at 5:00 PM in the office conference room; Session will meet on Tuesday, September 16 at 7:00 PM in the office conference room; Congregational Care will meet on Tuesday, September 23 at 2:00 PM in the office conference room.

BOOK CLUB: The Book Club will be meeting on Thursday, September 18 at 11:00 AM in Calvin Hall. The book this month is *The Widows of Malabar Hill*, by Sujata Massey. If you would like to suggest a book, attend, or have any questions, contact Pat Williams purpleidahocat@yahoo.com.

LITURGISTS CLASS: Directly after worship on Sunday, September 21 all liturgists will gather for a training class in Calvin Hall. If you would like to become a liturgist, please plan to attend.

FOOD & HYGIENE PANTRY: Our food pantry helps many people in our community, especially this last month. Many thanks to everyone who brought much needed items for the food pantry. We are currently in very short supply of pastas, saltine crackers, energy/granola bars, cereal (no family size bags please), and cans of vegetables with pop tabs. The Hygiene Pantry is in need of body soap, toothpaste, shampoo, and men's deodorant. 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.

KALEIDOSCOPE COMMUNITY SALE: Stop by the north courtyard on Saturday, September 20 from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM for Kaleidoscope's Community Sale. There will be many things available to purchase at low, low prices such as, shirts, shoes, men's clothing, women's clothing, household items, accessories, toys, etc. All proceeds benefit Kaleidoscope Humanitarian Aid. www.khaid.org

Dear Faith Community:

Iskashitaa Refugee Network, faith partners, and refugee service providers of Tucson are coming together to invite lawyers of any speciality area to spread the word about a course to be delivered by the State Bar of Arizona and the State Bar of Arizona's Immigration Section offering CLE in immigration law. If you know a lawyer, let them know.

Knowledge of immigration law and policy has become critical for so many in our communities. Lawyers are wanting to assist refugees and other immigrants. Therefore, the State Bar of Arizona and the State Bar of Arizona's Immigration Section are excited to offer the following CLE to educate lawyers who want to assist refugees and learn how to process applications for permanent residency (green cards). This CLE will be priced lower with the hope that you will take on, at least, one pro bono case (either an individual or family).

During the program, you'll learn how to connect with organizations that actively match lawyers with refugees and families seeking legal support. By volunteering, you can step in at a critical moment to guide individuals through complex processes and provide the reassurance that comes from having an advocate by their side until their matter is resolved. This is especially critical as the U.S. government will be eliminating access to SNAP and Medicaid for refugees. You can make a difference!!

This course will provide the following:

- Refugees and the green card process (an overview);
- The anatomy of the green card (Form I-485) application;
- Issue spotting and red flags to be aware of;
- What documents and other forms need to be filed with the I-485:
- Preparing the applicant(s) for the green card interview;
- What to expect at the interview when you attend with the applicant(s); and
- How to get support from colleagues, if necessary.

Faculty

Maurice "Mo" Goldman, Goldman Immigration PC Katelyn Leese, International Rescue Committee

https://azbar.ce21.com/item/helping-refugees-obtain-permanent-residence-green-cards-729109

ABOUT THE MODEST MEANS PROJECT

The Modest Means Project provides low-cost legal assistance to people who cannot afford attorneys' standard rates but don't qualify for free legal services. For more information about the program, and to volunteer visit: https://azbar.org/for-legal-professionals/access-to-iustice/modest-means/.

Current Modest Means Project Volunteers: Contact Fabiola Perez at Fabiola.Perez@staff.azbar.org to receive your coupon code for 50% off registration. Legal Aid Attorneys: Contact Chris Groninger at chris.groninger@azflse.org for your coupon code.



*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22–23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.



852 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least



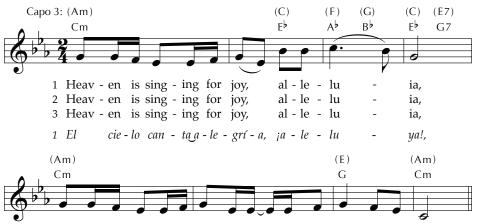
What does it mean to pray "thy kingdom come"? This text (loosely modeled on Psalm 126) sketches out some of the features that help us to know when God's reign has truly come. The energy of the gospel song tune adds to the sense of rejoicing repeatedly promised in this text.



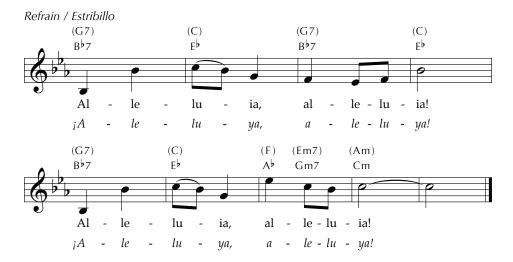
Heaven Is Singing for Joy

382

El cielo canta alegría



for in your life and in mine is shin-ing the glo-ry of God. for your life and mine u-nite in the love of our God. for your life and mine will al - ways bear wit-ness to God. por-que en tu vi-day la mí - a bri - lla la glo-ria de Dios.



- 2 El cielo canta alegría, ¡aleluya!, porque a tu vida y la mía las une el amor de Dios. Estribillo
- 3 El cielo canta alegría, ¡aleluya!, porque tu vida y la mía proclamarán al Señor. Estribillo

Written in 1958 for a picnic of theological students in Argentina, this piece represents the first Christian hymn in the 20th century to use Latin American folk music. The text is based on Jesus' saying that heaven rejoices at the repentance of each sinner (Luke 15:7).