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# 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).

**2nd SUNDAY after EPIPHANY | JANUARY 18, 2026 | 10:30 AM**

^ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

**PRELUDE**

David Braceross-Hamm, piano

**WELCOME**

The Rev. Tracy Daub

**CENTERING SONG no. 155** *Raise a Song of Gladness*

**Raise a song of gladness, people of the earth.  
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart.  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart.**

**^CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jan Prinz

One: Companions on this journey of faith, welcome!

**All: We come remembering Christ's life and ministry,  
and the journey he invites us to undertake with him.**

One: We come as pilgrim people, seeking strength from God to carry on our journey.

**All: We worship the God of steadfast love and constant faithfulness!**

**^GATHERING HYMN no. 65** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

**^GATHERING PRAYER**

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**Loving God, we confess that we have not always lived as those set free and united in Christ. We humbly confess the mistakes we have made, the good we have neglected, and the promises and duties we have refused. Overcome by the darkness of our world, we have failed to seek your light and presence. Forgive us, merciful God. Set our feet upon your holy way and illuminate our lives with your love. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**  
*(a moment follows for silent personal confession)*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Hear the good news: anyone in Christ is a new creation.  
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Friends, believe the good news:

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

## ^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. 137 *He Came Down* (sung twice)

**He came down that we may have love;**

**He came down that we may have love;**

**He came down that we may have love;**

**Hallelujah forevermore.**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 49:1-7 | *New Revised Standard Version*

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength—he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

### SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 1:29-42 | *New Revised Standard Version*

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God." The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!"

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first

found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## MUSICAL OFFERING

St. Mark's Choir

## SERMON

"Four O'Clock Witnessing"

**HYMN no. 294** *Within Our Darkest Night* (sung 3 times)

## 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 a sheet of paper included in the pad on your row and place it in the offering baskets.*

**venmo**



**VANCO**



## OFFERTORY

**^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

## 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. (Continues)

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. 507** *Come to the Table of Grace (Peace, Love, Hope, Joy)*

**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. 726** *Will You Come and Follow Me*

**^ 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**

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**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:** The family and friends of Vic Daub (died January 9, 2026), Mike Smith (health concerns), Jeanette Jones (health concerns), Martha Ortiz (health concerns), Rob Selby (health issues) and the Selby Family.

## **STAFF**

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**Interim Pastor**  
Rev. Tracy Daub (she/her) - [tracy@stmarksaz.org](mailto:tracy@stmarksaz.org)

**Director of Music**  
David Braceres-Hamm (he/him) [david@stmarksaz.org](mailto:david@stmarksaz.org)

**Director of Communications**  
Elaina Richards (she/her) - [elaina@stmarksaz.org](mailto:elaina@stmarksaz.org)

**Church Administration** - [churchadmin@stmarksaz.org](mailto:churchadmin@stmarksaz.org)

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday: 9AM-Noon

## **OUR PURPOSE**

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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.

# OPPORTUNITIES

To view the live church calendar please visit [www.stmarksaz.org](http://www.stmarksaz.org)  
To join the church email list please email [churchadmin@stmarksaz.org](mailto:churchadmin@stmarksaz.org)

**SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY:** Liturgist: Jan Prinz; Usher: Art Lurvey; Greeter: Lou Prinz; Communion Servers: Sue Hunter, Caroline Rondeau, Robin Staples, Connie and Terry Gilliland. Communion Set Up and Clean Up: Barry Roberts and Robin Staples. Livestream: Lori Block, John Jewett, and Irvin Richards.

**WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION FOR VIC DAUB:** There will be a memorial service for Vic Daub on Saturday, January 24th at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary. We will have a reception in Geneva Hall following the service.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH MEETS JANUARY 25th:** Children's Church is a biweekly opportunity for children to have an interactive Bible lesson with arts and crafts, goodies, and hopefully playground time. Children will be invited to follow Children's Church leader Cathy Lurvey to Calvin Hall after the first hymn of worship.

**BOOK CLUB:** The Book Club meets biweekly on Thursdays at 11:00AM in Calvin Hall. The book we are currently reading is *The Book of Lost Friends*, by Lisa Wingate. The purpose for our book club is to foster community, share ideas, broaden horizons, consider generously others' viewpoints, and others to be added. For questions please contact Pat Williams or Ellen Kuyper.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Session meets Tuesday January 20th at 7:00PM. All meetings are held in the office conference room.

**OFFICE CLOSED:** The church office will be closed Monday January 19th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr's birthday.

**ANNUAL MEETING DATE CHANGED TO FEBRUARY 1st:** Please plan to attend our annual meeting after worship on February 1st. Stay tuned for more information. All are welcome to attend.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Faith Formation is sponsoring 4 new small groups that will start in January 2026. These 4 groups are:

- Young adults under 45 led by Martha & Paul Osbourne
- Week day meeting at Cascades led by Sylvia Thorson-Smith & Mike Smith
- Friday at lunch time led by Cathy & Art Lurvey
- Saturday evening led by Rachael Eggebeen



Use the QR code to the right to sign up, or see Rachael Eggebeen or any member of Faith Formation for more information.

**FOOD & HYGIENE PANTRY:** Our food pantry helps many in our community, especially during these troubled times. Many thanks to everyone who brought much needed items for the food & hygiene pantry. 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. We were very busy last week and are in need of:

- Canned fruit and individual cups
- Canned chicken and Vienna sausages
- Granola bars
- Pasta and canned pasta sauce
- Peanut Butter
- Crackers such as Saltines

**ISKASHITAA REFUGEE NETWORK NEEDS:** bags of onions, garlic potatoes, apples; cans of tuna and tomatoes; sugar, flour, beans (dry and lentil), cooking oil, white corn flour, and pasta.