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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).

August 9, 2026 | 10:30 AM

^ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

PRELUDE *Lead Us From Death to Life* | Haugen/Kumar | David Bracerros-Hamm

WELCOME Rev. John Cheek

CENTERING SONG no. 466 *Come and Fill Our Hearts* (sung twice)

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!**

^CALL TO WORSHIP Audrey Harding | Liturgist

One: We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.

All: Surely, God is in this place!

One: God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.

**All: May our encounter here with the God of love renew us and prepare us
for our encounter with the Holy One beyond this sacred space.**

^GATHERING HYMN no. 403 *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*

^GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

**Holy One, we confess to you that we have wandered. Our attention has wandered from you.
Our minds have withdrawn from you. Our actions have departed from your holy way. And we
cease to seek your sacred presence in our daily lives. Forgive us, O God. Set our feet upon
your path. Open our hearts to your steadfast presence. And lead us in the everlasting way.
Amen.**

(a moment follows for silent personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the Good News! While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Know you are forgiven and be at peace.

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. 659 *Know That God is Good* (sung twice)

**Know that God is good. Know that God is good.
Know that God is good. God is good. God is good.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 105:1-6 | The Inclusive Bible

Alleluia!

Give thanks to YHWH, and call on God's name;

proclaim God's deeds among the peoples!

Sing to God; sing praise, and tell of all God's marvels!

Glory in God's holy Name;

Let the hearts that seek YHWH rejoice!

Turn to YHWH—to God's strength—and seek God's presence constantly.

Remember the marvels God has done—the wonders performed and the judgments pronounced—you descendants of Sarah and Abraham, God's faithful ones,

you offspring of Leah, Rachel and Jacob, who are God's chosen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 28:10-19 | NRSV

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING *Poor Man Lazrus* | Jester Hairston | Treble-Women's Chorus

SERMON Rev. John Cheek

HYMN no. 775 *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

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 *Like a Healing Stream* | Bruce Harding | David Bracerros-Hamm

^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 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 HYMN no. 544 *Bless the Lord*

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.**

^ SENDING HYMN no. 43 *You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord*

^ 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 *You Are Exalted* | Twila Paris | David Bracerros-Hamm

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR: Jeanette Jones (health concerns), Martha Ortiz (health concerns), Rob Selby (health concerns) and the Selby Family, Janet Daub (health concerns), and Cynthia Henry (health concerns).

STAFF
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Pastor - tracy@stmarksaz.org
Rev. Tracy Daub (she/her)

Church Administrator - churchadmin@stmarksaz.org
Abby Ellis (she/her)

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

OFFICE HOURS
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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

August 9, 2026

To view the live church calendar please visit www.stmarksaz.org
To join the church email list please email churchadmin@stmarksaz.org

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY: Liturgist: Audrey Harding; Greeter: JP Berdine; Usher: Carol Dieckmann; Communion Servers: Terry and Connie Gilliland and Jan Prinz; Communion Setup/Cleanup: Berry Roberts and Sue Thorne; Livestream: Lori Block, John Jewett, and Irvin Richards.

BIG COFFEE: is TODAY after worship in the South Courtyard

ADMINISTRATION TEAM: will meet on August 10 at 10am in the Office Conference Room

COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM: will meet on August 11 at 3pm in the Office Conference Room

THE SESSION AND GOOD FUTURES RETREAT: will take place on August 15 at 9:30am in Geneva Hall

SYLVIA THORSON-SMITH'S MEMORIAL SERVICE: will take place on August 22 at 3pm in the Sanctuary followed by a reception in Geneva Hall

Montlure 100 Year Celebration Weekend in Greer

Come and experience the magic of Montlure! Our Centennial Weekend invites all who have been touched by Montlure - alumni campers and staff, volunteers, donors, and friends - to reconnect with the camp that holds so many memories. Sing familiar songs around the campfire at Twilight Chapel, head out on scenic hikes, enjoy quiet moments of worship and reflection, and engage in a variety of games, activities, and service projects.

This weekend honors the rhythms that have shaped generations—then and now—and celebrates the community that continues to gather here. Come remember, reconnect, and experience Montlure Camp ... Then. Now. Always.

Labor Day Weekend, September 4 - 7, 2026

Options to stay on-site or to stay nearby. Registration is \$75 per person which will support the Centennial weekend and the mission of Montlure.

REGISTER TO HOLD YOUR SPOT:



**Adult Education Class: Understanding What Took Place at the
PC(USA) General Assembly
August 23, following worship
Calvin Hall**

In follow up to the July 26 General Assembly-themed worship, Dexter Mitchell and Rachael Eggebeen invite you to attend two further conversations about this summer's General Assembly. The first Adult Education session took place on August 2, where the focus was on reviewing the business discussed at the General Assembly.

The second session, August 23 after worship, will focus on three important topics: General Assembly approaches to mission coworker decisions, Presbyterians for the Kingdom, and the role of the church as an institution. Many have wondered about what was decided at GA about mission coworkers going forward as well as what the conversations reveal about who we are as the Presbyterian Church (USA). When the question, "What values are most important to the PC(USA)?" is asked, there are a variety of responses. At this assembly, there was a group, Presbyterians for the Kingdom, that offered a vision for the PC(USA) that runs contrary to what many at St. Mark's might argue is who we are as the PC(USA) and why this matters to ourselves as members and friends of the PC(USA) and what we as the PC(USA) can offer to the wider world.

If you have questions, see Rachael Eggebeen or Dexter Mitchell.

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 continue to be very busy.

To keep the bags light and easy to carry, we request no family-size boxes, cans or bottles, and no glass jars. Please know that we can only use shelf-stable and non-perishable items. Thanks!

Food Pantry Requests:

- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Spam
- Vegetables
- Beans
- Saltines
- Fruit
- Cereal

Hygiene Closet Requests: (all small or travel size items please)

- Toothpaste
- Shampoo (travel size only)
- Chapstick

To see the complete list of items we use in the pantry and print a shopping list, check out https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PO3poQ7h5dhJ1udUTisrntkoPvuVjMm4BBtnzjeXf3U/edit?usp=s_haring (link also included in Esta Semana)

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

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty 403

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so
 3 Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be

en - ter there, where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
 un - to me; where we find thee and a - dore thee,
 done in - deed; may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee,

waits for God who an - swers prayer; O how bless - ed
 there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O
 while thou dost thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace.
 en - ter thou; let it be thy tem - ple now.
 foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

In the first stanza "Zion" is not a general synonym for Jerusalem but a reference to the part of the city where the Temple stood. It prepares the way for the interior temple of the heart in stanza two. The pre-existing tune is by a prominent German Reformed hymnwriter.

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me 775

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

The two equal phrases in each line suggest that this African American spiritual shares some characteristics of work or field songs that were used to coordinate the efforts of slaves involved in tasks (road clearing, ditch digging, etc.) that needed combined rhythmic strokes.

43 You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord

On Eagle's Wings (Psalm 91)

Leader or All G D/F#

1 You who dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, who a -

G D/F# F

bide in his shad - ow for life, say to the Lord, "My

Dm F Gm Asus A

ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain All D Em

And he will raise you up on ea - gles' wings, bear you on the

A7 D D7/F# G

breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun,

A Bm F#m Em7 A Dsus D *Fine*

and hold you in the palm of his hand.

Leader or All G D/F#

2 The snare of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and

G D/F# F

fam - ine will bring you no fear: un - der his wings, your

Although the body of this text is a paraphrase of Psalm 91, the refrain combines allusions to Exodus 19:4, Psalm 139:9, and Isaiah 40:31; 49:16. Written in response to the death of a friend's father, this piece has been a source of consolation to many people.

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

