



Find us on social media @StMarksAZ



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).

September 6, 2026 | 10:30 AM

^ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE

PRELUDE *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* | arr. Shackley | David Bracerros-Hamm

WELCOME Rev. Tracy Daub

CENTERING SONG no. 48 *Rain Down (sung twice)*

**Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people.
Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.**

^CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 103, adapted) | Kay Orzech | Liturgist

One: With all that is within us, let us bless God.

All: Who forgives all our sins.

One: Who lifts us up from rock bottom.

All: Who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

One: With all that is within us, let us give thanks and praise to God.

^GATHERING HYMN no. 619 *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven*

^GATHERING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

God of unending mercy, you invite us into the ever-expanding dance of grace. We confess, however, that forgiveness does not come readily to us. When we close our hearts to your love and mercy, forgive us. When we hold on to anger and bitterness toward one another, forgive us. Grant us the gift of generous hearts, we pray. For it is only through your power that we are able to walk the way of Jesus. Amen.

(a moment follows for silent personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, there is a wideness in God's mercy. Let us rejoice in the good news:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and raised to new life!

^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. 447 *Lead Us From Death to Life (sung twice)*

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 103:8-14 | The Inclusive Bible

You are tender and compassionate, YHWH—slow to anger, and always loving; your indignation doesn't endure forever, and your anger lasts only for a short time. You never treat us as our sins deserve; you don't repay us in kind for the injustices we do. For as high as heaven is above the earth, so great is the love for those who revere you. As far away as the east is from the west, that's how far you remove our sins from us! As tenderly as parents treat their children, that's how tenderly you treat your worshipers, YHWH! For you know what we are made of—you remember that we're nothing but dust.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:21-35 | NRSV

Then Peter came and said to [Jesus], 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.'

But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

Great is Thy Faithfulness | Ivan Owens | solo

SERMON

"New Math"

Rev. Tracy Daub

HYMN no.445 *God, How Can We Forgive?*

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 *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* | arr.Tornquist | 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

A LITANY FOR REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF ICE

O God, you hear the cries of all who suffer. You heard the cries of Moses and his people enduring cruelty and injustice. You heard the cries of the mothers whose infants were killed because of Herod's jealousy. Hear now the cries of the victims of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's violence in America's streets, homes, and places of work.

We pray for migrants who have been deported to unfamiliar or hostile lands.

We pray for migrants confined in detention centers and those who have died in custody.

We pray for children separated from their parents.

We pray for the 2,171 individuals arrested by immigration officials in Arizona this past July—each of whom is not a faceless number to you, but is your precious child.

Holy One, hear their cries. Holy One, hear our cries.

And we pray for the day when ICE raids are unfathomable.

We pray for governing authorities to have the courage to safeguard due process, fairness, and human dignity.

We pray for the day when justice is carried out in the halls of power and when the desperate and the needy find security.

We pray for the reign of your expansive love, a love so expansive as to incorporate even our enemies and oppressors;

a love that transforms what is distorted within the human heart;

a love that overcomes evil with good.

Give us the strength to stand with and for your inclusive, expansive love, and the faith to believe that another world is necessary and possible.

Let it begin with us. Amen.

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. 520 *Taste and See (refrain only)*

**Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

^ SENDING HYMN no. 547 *Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

^ CHARGE from Rom 12:9, 17; 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 *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* | arr. Larson | David Bracerros-Hamm

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

OPPORTUNITIES

September 6, 2026

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

STAFF

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)

Parish Associate
Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (she/her)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9AM-Noon

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.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY: Liturgist: Kay Orzech; Greeter: Terry Gilliland; Usher: Margaret Wilkie; Communion Servers: Charles Ambrose and Terry and Connie Gilliland; Communion Setup/Cleanup: Berry Roberts and Sue Thorne; Livestream: Lori Block, John Jewett, and Irvin Richards.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: this Monday, September 7th, in observance of Labor Day

COMMUNITY AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM: is meeting on Tuesday, September 8th at 3pm in the Office Conference Room

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: will be in the Chapel on Sunday, September 13 during worship

HONORING ICE VICTIMS TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Join us after worship today in the Knox Room to make paper flowers to honor ICE victims.

The flowers will go to this month's 2nd Saturday Good Neighbor Interfaith Coalition Vigil for neighbors targeted by ICE. Everyone attending the vigil receives a flower to add to a curbside memorial.



INSTALLATION SERVICE

The Session and Congregation of St. Mark's Presbyterian Church warmly invite you to join us for a Celebration of Shared Ministry and the Installation Service of Tracy Daub as Pastor of St. Mark's Presbyterian Church.

Sunday, September 13

10:30 a.m.

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church

3809 E. Third Street

Tucson, AZ 85716

Refreshments and fellowship will follow the service in the courtyard.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Attention men of St. Marks: We are organizing a once a month, First Saturday men's breakfast. Please join us for our first gathering to be held at 8am on Saturday, October 3, at *Prep and Pastry* on Campbell Ave. There is no agenda other than good food and conversation. For more information, please contact either Terry Gilliland at grand2@usa.net, or Tim Wadkins at Twad51@outlook.com. 716 348 2615 and check out <https://www.prepandpastry.com/>



BREAD FOR THE WORLD OFFERING OF LETTERS

Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization equipping people to advocate for policies and programs that help end hunger in the U.S. and around the world. Our Offering of Letters on **Sept. 20th** is aimed at urging Congress to restore, protect, and strengthen nutrition programs like SNAP that help families put food on the table and to pass the bipartisan Farm Bill which reauthorizes the SNAP program.



Emailing a letter to your member of Congress takes about 1 minute from your phone. Church members will be on hand following worship on Sept. 20th to assist in that process.

You can use this QR code to learn more about Bread for the World and submit your letters anytime by **Oct 1st** if you are not able to join us on Sept. 20.

MONTLURE 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

For 100 years, Montlure has been a place where people have found faith, friendship, and a place to belong. This fall, we invite you to celebrate the people and stories that have shaped Montlure across generations.

Presbytery de Cristo Celebration

September 19 from 2:00–5:00 p.m.

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church

The Knox Room

Whether Montlure has been part of your life for decades or you are just beginning to know us, we hope you will come celebrate with us.

100 years. Then. Now. Always.



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!

We are Most in Need of:

- Pasta sauce, in cans
- Ready-to-eat meals, such as chili or stews
- Beans, both plain and prepared, such as refried beans or baked beans.

Also Needed in the Food Pantry:

- Pasta
- Canned chicken
- Vegetables
- Soup
- Canned fruit
- Saltine crackers
- Ramen, all kinds
- Chewy granola bars or Lara bars

Pet Pantry Requests:

- Canned dog food, any size

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

- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Toilet paper, individually wrapped

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

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven 619

(Psalm 103)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your
 2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears
 3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our
 4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,
 fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,
 face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
 slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
 still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!
 dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

445 God, How Can We Forgive

1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
 2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,
 3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,

How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
 how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
 when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?

When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
 The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
 No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.

your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
 A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
 As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

This text reflects both the struggle to deal with a deep personal hurt and a keen awareness of biblical language and content. The opening line of stanza two, for example, draws on the root meaning of the Greek word for sin, and the beginning of stanza three alludes to John 8:3–8.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.

Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.

In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort

ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22-27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.