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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).

**October 18, 2026 | 10:30 AM**

**^ PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE**

**PRELUDE**     *Day By Day* | arr. Courtney | 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**     Tim Tully | Liturgist

One: Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, and queens who govern our world, God is Sovereign over all.

**All: In God we live and move and have our being.**

One: Come, let us worship the One whose image we are made to reflect.

**All: We will worship God, giving to God all that belongs to God.**

**^GATHERING HYMN no. 696**     *O God, You Are My God Alone*

**^GATHERING PRAYER**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**Generous God, you have made us in your image, but we acknowledge that we have not always reflected you by the ways we live, or in what we say, or in the attitudes of our hearts. We have turned to idols which receive our devotion and energy in place of you. We have withheld love and resisted generosity. Forgive us and heal us we pray. Reorient our lives toward you and your realm. 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. 447     *We Are Forgiven (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     1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 | The Inclusive Bible

From Paul, Silas and Timothy, to people of the church in Thessalonica, who belong to Abba God and our Savior Jesus Christ: May grace and peace be yours.

We always thank God for all of you and remember you in our prayers. We call to mind before our God and Creator how you are proving your faith by your actions, laboring in love, and showing constancy of hope in our Savior Jesus Christ.

We know, sisters and brothers beloved of God, that you have been chosen. Our preaching of the Gospel was not a mere matter of words. It was done in the power of the Holy Spirit and with complete conviction. You know very well the sort of life we led when we were with you, which was for your sake.

You, in turn, followed the example set by us and by Jesus—receiving the word, despite great trials, with the joy that comes from the Holy Spirit. In this way, you’ve become a model for all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

The word of Christ has been resounding from you—and not only in Macedonia and Achaia: the news of your faith in God is celebrated everywhere, which makes it unnecessary for us to say anything more. They themselves report to us what kind of reception we had among you, how you turned from idols to God, to be faithful witnesses of the living and true God, and to await the appearance from heaven of Jesus, the Only Begotten, whom God raised from the dead and who will deliver us from the wrath to come.

### SECOND SCRIPTURE READING     Matthew 22:15-22 | NRSV

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

One: Holy wisdom, holy word.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## MUSICAL OFFERING     *We Walk By Faith* | Larson | St Mark’s Choir

## SERMON     “Bearing the Image”     Rev. Tracy Daub

## HYMN no. 698     *Take, O Take Me As I Am* (sung twice)

## 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** *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* | arr. Shackley | 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. 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. 716** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

^ **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 *The Light of the World* | arr. Hayes | David Bracerros-Hamm

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**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).

**SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY:** Liturgist: Tim Tully; Greeter: Gwyn Roske; Usher: Art Lurvey; Communion Servers: Ann Moynihan, Connie Gilliland, and Terry Gilliland; Communion Setup/Cleanup: Berry Roberts and Robin Staples; Livestream: Lori Block, John Jewett, and Irvin Richards.

## STAFF

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

**Church Administrator** - [churchadmin@stmarksaz.org](mailto:churchadmin@stmarksaz.org)  
Abby Ellis (she/her)

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

**Parish Associate**  
Rev. Stephanie Stahl Hamilton (she/her)

## 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

October 18th, 2026

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)

**THE SESSION:** is meeting Tuesday, October 20 at 7pm in the Office Conference Room.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** will be on Sunday, October 25 during worship in Room 2.

## **"WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT" ADULT EDUCATION CLASS TODAY**

After worship on October 18th in Geneva Hall, Becky Cook and Audrey Harding will share a League of Women Voters presentation about the matters and positions on the November ballot.

## **"WATER WOES OR HYPE FOR TUCSON?" NEXT SUNDAY**

On October 25th after church, you can learn about the water situation in Tucson and the impacts from the Colorado River drought and federal mandated reductions. The interactive discussion will be with retired water resources manager, Mike Block, a member of St. Mark's and possibly some other local water experts. Mike and others will answer your questions on the sources of your drinking water, how it is delivered to you, whether the supplies are sustainable, and for how long.

## **ALL SAINTS DAY NOVEMBER 1ST**

On Sunday, November 1, St. Mark's will celebrate All Saints Day, where we will give thanks for loved ones who have died. Before the service, worshippers may place photos of loved ones upon the Ofrenda (the temporary altar used in the Mexican Dia de los Muertos celebration). During the service, the names of those in our church community who have died in the past year will be read, and worshippers will be invited to light candles in memory of loved ones. A special All Saints Potluck follows the service, where worshippers are invited to bring a loved one's favorite food to share with the congregation.

## **WORLD COMPASSION CUP CHALLENGE**

This Fall Southern AZ Presbyterian congregations are collecting donations during a month of their choice. **St. Mark's month is October** when more donations than your usual generous giving will boost our team. During the challenge, Iskashitaa will weigh and distribute donations, and, at the end of the challenge, Iskashitaa will recognize the congregation that donates the greatest amount of food with a basket of delicious jams from fruit harvested by Iskashitaa to serve at a church get-together.

### **Items Needed:**

|                               |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Bags of onions and apples     | Sugar         |
| Any Pasta like spaghetti      | Corn Oil      |
| Peanuts, shelled or unshelled | Ground Coffee |

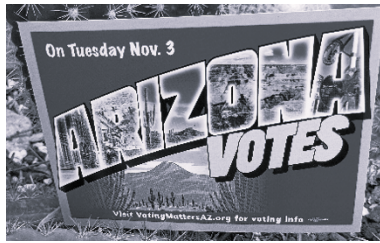
You can bring donations to the St. Mark's red wagon or order from the Amazon Wish List for direct delivery to Iskashitaa.



## VOTER POSTCARDS

THANK YOU to all who joined to write postcards together and to those who opted to write postcards at home. This project will send more than 17 million postcards!

**If you took your cards, please mail them on OCTOBER 21<sup>st</sup>.**



### **“EUREKA DAY” RUNNING NOVEMBER 1ST - 22ND**

Come see member (and liturgist) Art Almquist in EUREKA DAY at the Invisible Theatre!

This is an extraordinary, multiple award-winning comedy having its Tucson premiere. Eureka Day is a progressive, exclusive private school in Berkley, and its five member board prides itself on making decisions only by consensus to ensure that everyone has a voice. But when a mumps outbreak threatens the school, facts become subjective and every solution divisive, well-intentioned people suddenly find themselves grappling with the central question of our time: how do you build consensus when no one can agree on the truth?

The show is directed by Amy Almquist, Art's wife, and runs November 1 - 22 for sixteen performances. It's right up St Mark's' alley!

Tickets can be purchased at [www.invisibletheatre.com](http://www.invisibletheatre.com) or by calling (520) 882-9721. Gather some friends and treat yourself to an afternoon or evening of some terrific theatre!

### **FOOD & HYGIENE PANTRY:**

#### **Food Pantry Requests:**

- Pasta
- Green vegetables
- Fruit
- Granola bars
- Peanut butter

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

- Razors
- Deodorant
- Toothbrushes

# 696 O God, You Are My God Alone

(Psalm 63)

Capo 1: (D) E<sup>b</sup> (G) A<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup> (G) A<sup>b</sup> (A) B<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup>



1 O God, you are my God a-lone, whom ea-ger - ly I seek,  
 2 Your faith - ful love sur-pass-es life, e - vok-ing all my praise.  
 3 Through-out the night I lie in bed and call you, Lord, to mind;

(D) E<sup>b</sup> (F<sup>#</sup>m) Gm (G) A<sup>b</sup> (A) B<sup>b</sup> (Em) Fm (A) B<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup>



though long-ing fills my soul with thirst and leaves my bod - y weak.  
 Through ev - ery day, to bless your name, my hands in joy I'll raise.  
 in dark-est hours I med - i - tate how God, my strength, is kind.

(G) A<sup>b</sup> (D) E<sup>b</sup> (Em) Fm (A) B<sup>b</sup>



Just as a dry and bar-ren land a-waits a fresh-ening shower,  
 My deep-est needs you sat - is - fy as with a sump-tuous feast.  
 Be - neath the shad - ow of your wing, I live and feel se - cure;

(D) E<sup>b</sup> (Em) Fm (D) E<sup>b</sup> (G) A<sup>b</sup> (A7) B<sup>b</sup>7 (D) E<sup>b</sup>



I long with-in your house to see your glo - ry and your power.  
 So, on my lips and in my heart, your praise has nev - er ceased.  
 and dai - ly as I fol-low close, your right hand keeps me sure.

Given its wide range of references, scholars have proposed many occasions and uses for Psalm 63. Because of the imagery that opens stanza three in this paraphrase, for example, the great Reformed theologian and scholar Theodore Beza regularly recited this psalm at night.

# 698 Take, O Take Me as I Am

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication evident in older hymns such as "Just as I Am" (see no. 442).

# God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$



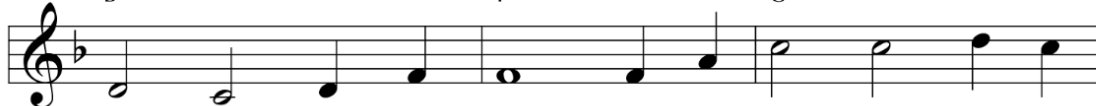
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and  
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of  
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your

(D) F (Bm) Dm



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly  
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es  
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to

(G) B $\flat$  (D) F (A) C



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn  
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly  
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in

(Bm) Dm (F#m) Am (Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$  (A) C (D) F



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall  
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,  
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,

(Bm) Dm (G) B $\flat$  (D) F



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.  
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.  
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.