



Welcome Home

St. Mark's Episcopal Church: A Community of Grace

We spread God's word, love like Jesus, enjoy worshipping together, and help our neighbors.



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 7, 2025

Please be aware that no clergy, staff, or lay leader from St. Mark's will request gift cards or other monetary support through e-mail or text. All financial requests and special appeals go through the Good News or US Postal Service; special requests are made in person.

Welcome Home

We are glad you are here to join us for worship and to share in the inclusive, reckless, extravagant love of God. Please fill out a Connect Card; join us for refreshments after the service; and visit our website at stmarks-upland.org.

Children & Youth Have a Place Here

Sunday School for children ages 3-12 in the chapel next to the altar at 10AM. Youth Group ministry meets the first Sunday of each month at 11:30 AM in Room 18.

Good News

Men's Breakfast, Sept 13, 8AM.

Trunk or Treat, Oct 25, 4-7PM.

Tuesday Bible Study, 9-10:30AM, Room 16.

Centering Prayer Group, Wednesdays, 7-8PM, Chapel.

Foxberry Preschool, Enrollment open.

Today's Ministers

Music: St. Mark's Band, GiGi G

Readers: (8AM) Cheryl W, Larry S
(10AM) Carol M, Moli T, Kimberly C

Eucharistic Ministers:

(8AM) Canon Serena B

(10AM) Dr. Jim B, Brandon H, John F

Digital Ministry: (10AM) Kay A, Bob M

Altar Guild: Ann P, Sola O, John F

Sextons: (8AM) Larry & Bively S

(10AM) Ken & Lisa D

Hospitality: Syliva O, Moli T

Ablution Guild: Ginger R

Acknowledgements

Nicene Creed: Enriching our Worship; Lectionary: RCL, Track 2; Psalms: The

Psalter for the Christian People; Prayers of the People: Rites and Rituals;

Eucharistic Prayer: "Eucharistic Prayer with Creation II," The Season of

Creation; Lessons: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33.

Prelude and Welcome (10AM): Please remain seated.
Reckless Love

Entrance Hymn (10AM): Please stand as you are able.
The Heart of Worship

Opening Acclamation: Please stand as you are able.
Clergy: Glory to our loving, liberating, life-giving God.
Community: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Song of Praise (10AM)
Way Maker

Centering Prayer and the Collect of the Day: Please be seated.

God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Take a deep breath. Notice God's presence and action around and within.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Testament

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said to all Israel the words which the Lord commanded him, "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the

land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Let us say the psalm responsively by whole verse alternating between reader and community, beginning with the reader.

- ¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,*
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- ² Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and on this law they meditate day and night.
- ³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- ⁴ It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- ⁶ For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.

New Testament

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (10AM)

Be Thou My Vision

Gospel: Please stand as you are able

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

The Gospel of our Savior. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon: At the invitation of the preacher, please be seated.

The Rev. Can. Judy Heffron, Dean Emerita

The Nicene Creed: Please stand as you are able.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness

of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Clergy: Let us pray for the church and the world.

Reader: We remember in our prayers all the leaders of your Church. May they, by their love and witness, inspire your children to greater joy and encouragement. Christ, in your mercy, **Refresh our hearts.**

We remember in our prayers the leaders of the nations. May they choose ways of life and not paths of death. Deliver the nations of the world from violence and war. We pray for peace in the Holy Land and Haiti. Set our feet on the way of love and justice. Christ, in your mercy, **Refresh our hearts.**

We remember in our prayers all of your creation. May we protect the trees, the streams and the fruits of the earth. Forgive us when our choices cause death where you intend life. May we ever celebrate the life-giving aspects of your creation. Christ, in your mercy, **Refresh our hearts.**

We remember in our prayers this congregation. We ask you to bless our ministries. May we encourage each other to delight in you. Let us appeal to each other on the basis of love and always remember one another in prayer. Christ, in your mercy, **Refresh our hearts.**

We remember in our prayers all those who are in pain. Heal their bodies, their spirits, and their souls. Bless all with abundant life. Christ, in your mercy, **Refresh our hearts.**

We remember in our prayers all those who have died. May all who have carried the cross in the way of Jesus also be raised with Christ to new life. Christ, in your mercy, **Refresh our hearts.**

Let us offer our own prayers of thanksgiving and intercession.

When the time is right, a concluding collect is added.

Confession and Absolution of Sin: Please kneel as you are able.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

<When the time is right...>

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*After an absolution the community responds: **Amen.***

Blessing of Life Hallmarks, Milestones: Please be seated.

At the invitation of the clergy, please stand for prayer 50 on page 830 in the red prayer book.

The Peace: Please stand as you are able.

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Everyone's space and sensitivities are respected. When someone offers their elbow, fist, or a peace sign, we respond appropriately.

Announcements: Please visit our website for the latest weekly newsletter The Good News (stmarks-upland.org)

Offertory: Your contributions make a difference. Thank you for your generosity.

The Offertory is an action and a lifestyle of giving thanks. It is based on the belief that we give out of blessing, not from duty or obligation.

Make an online contribution to St. Mark's by visiting:

<https://tinyurl.com/5dsw728s>



Offertory Music (10AM)

Instrumental reprise of Be Thou My Vision

Doxology & The Great Thanksgiving: Please stand as you are able.

All things come of thee, O Lord; **And of thine own have we given thee.**

God dwells in you. **And also in you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give our thanks to God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all....
...we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:

Sanctus: Said at 8AM; sung at 10AM (Bethancourt)

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might; Heaven and earth are full of your glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

Sing twice:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord
God of pow'r, of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

Sing twice:

**Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough....
...All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, now and forever. **AMEN.**

Lord's Prayer: Said at 8AM; sung at 10AM (Bethancourt)

**Our Father who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be thy Name,
thy king-dom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heav'n.
Give us this day our dai-ly bread.
And for-give us our tres-pas-ses as we for-give those who tres-pass
against us.
And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion... but de-li-ver us from e-vil.
For thine is the king-dom ... thine is the po-wer ...
thine is the glo-o-ry for ev-er and ev-er ... A-men.**

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

We ask the minister if we desire a gluten-free wafer. We receive the wine in a personal chalice. They are placed in the baskets by the pillars as we return to our seats. To receive a blessing, we cross our arms across our chest. It is the historic position of the church that communion is complete with just one of the elements. We let an usher know if we wish communion to be brought to us. The Bread and the Cup are given with these words: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.** The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Communion Hymn (10AM)

O God of Mercy, Hear Our Plea

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors: *After the prayer:* **Amen.**

The Prayer of St. Francis: Please stand as you are able.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Blessing: After the blessing the community responds: **Amen.**

Mission Hymn (10AM)

Ancient Words

Dismissal: After the dismissal the community responds: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude (10AM)

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)

Hillsong

Please join us in the parish hall for fellowship and light refreshment.

St. Mark's Episcopal Parish: A Community of Grace

Our Mission: To be a place where love and hope abound: we welcome everyone to our worship and communion, we help one another understand God and know Jesus, we nurture our community and the world, and we celebrate diversity and work for social justice.

Our Vision: We will be a faith community that spreads God's word, loves like Jesus, enjoys worshiping together, and helps our neighbors.

Vestry

Class of 2026: Gail Dean, Fellowship

Kathy Osterkamp, Outreach, Worship

Susan Mackall, Christian Education

Class of 2027: Paul Stapp, Senior Warden

Lisa Drew, Jr. Warden, Finance

Ed Muehlbacher, Outreach

Class of 2028: Dale Biggs, Buildings & Grounds

Ginger Rudisill, Membership

EB Stapp, Communications

Marcia Godwin, Treasurer

Carol Morgan, Clerk

Staff and Clergy

Tim Ruzon, Music Director

Rose Barraza, Office Administrator

The Rev. Sally Monastiere, Assisting Priest

The Very Rev. Keith Yamamoto, Rector

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