

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.

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost, October 25, 2026

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 Children's Chapel for children ages 3-12 featuring Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and Godly Play takes place in the chapel next to the south side of the altar at 9:50AM on Sundays. Youth for Christ for young people in grades 6-12, 11:30AM on fourth Sundays.

Good News: Blessing of Pledges, All Saints Sunday, & Daylight Savings, Nov 1; Climate Change Summit, Nov 7; Blessing of Thanksgiving Baskets, Nov 8; Diocesan Convention Nov 13-14; Outback Fundraiser, Nov 16; TOUCH Thanksgiving Luncheon, Book Club, Nov 21; St. Nicholas Dinner, Dec 6; Bible Study (9AM) Tuesdays; Men's Coffee, 10:30AM, & Centering Prayer, 7PM, Wednesdays

Acknowledgements

Proper 25: Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46

Today's Ministers

Music: Choir, Hazel R
Readers: (8AM) Ralph M, Cheri C
(10AM) Paul T, Barbara N, Derek M
Eucharistic Ministers:(8AM) Cheryl W
(10AM) Dr. Jim B
Digital Ministry: Bob M, Craig G
Altar Guild: Kathy W, Kate F, Cheryl W, Alma Z
Sextons: (8AM) Larry & Bively S
(10AM) Alma Z
Hospitality: Betty F, Kathy B
Ablution Guild: Nancy K

Prelude and Welcome (10AM): *Please remain seated.*
Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott Luther, arr. Bach

Entrance Hymn (10AM): *Please rise in body or spirit*
Hymnal 688 *A mighty fortress is our God* Ein Feste Burg

Opening Acclamation: Blessed be God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Gloria (10AM): *"S" (Service) numbers are found in the front of the hymnal.*
Where is God's glory showing up in your life?
Hymnal S-278 *Glory to God in the highest* William Matthias
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, Amen.

Prayer of Preparation
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.

Centering Prayer and the Opening Prayer: *Please be seated.*
God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.
Breathe. Notice God's presence. When the time is right, a prayer is offered.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

First Testament
A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.
You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.
You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

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

The Psalm

(8AM) Let us say the psalm responsively by half verse, up to the asterisk, alternating between the reader, first, and then the community.
(10AM)



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 / seäts / of the / **scornful!**
2 Their delight is in the law / of the / **LORD, ***
and on this law they meditate / däy / and / **night.**
3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that / do not / **wither; ***
every- / thing they / do shall / **prosper.**
4 It is not so / with the / **wicked; ***
they are like chaff which the / wind / blows a- / **way.**
5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when / judg-ment / **comes, ***
nor the sinner in the / coun-cil / of the / **righteous.**
6 For the LORD knows the way / of the / **righteous, ***
but the way of the / wick-ed / is / **doomed.**

New Testament
A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

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

Sequence Hymn (10AM)

Hymnal 590	*O Jesus Christ, may grateful hymns be rising*	Charterhouse

Gospel: *Please rise in body or spirit*
The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"
He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."
Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?"
They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my

right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

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

The Nicene Creed: *Please rise in body or spirit*
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 for the world. (Silence)

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.
Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.
We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.
We pray for peace and justice for the people of Iran, Haiti, and the Holy Land; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.
Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.
Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.
Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.
We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.
When the time is right, the clergy offers a closing prayer.

Confession and Absolution of Sin: *Please kneel as you are able.*
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.
Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace: *Please rise in body or spirit.*
The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

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

Offertory: Your contributions make a difference.
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Offertory Interlude (10AM)
For the Beauty of the Earth John Joubert

Doxology & The Great Thanksgiving: *Please rise in body or spirit.*
For full text, please see page 361 in the red prayer book.

All things come of thee, O God; **And of thine own have we given thee.**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where…
Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus: Said at 8AM; sung at 10AM (Hymnal S-128)
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.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself…
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God…
By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Fraction Hymn: *Spoken at 8AM; sung at 10AM*
(8AM) Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

(10AM) Hymnal S-165 *Jesus, Lamb of God* Matthias
Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

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.

Communion Hymn (10AM)
Hymnal 307, v. 1, 4, 5 *Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor* Bryn Calfaria

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors (10AM)
In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many share one bread, one cup, because we are one body in Christ Jesus. **Amen**.

The Prayer of St. Francis: *Please rise in body or spirit.*
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)
Hymnal 551 *Rise up, ye saints of God!* Festal Song

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

Postlude (10AM)
Shepherd's Sunday Song Conradin Kreutzer (1780-1849)