



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: A COMMUNITY OF GRACE

THE GOOD NEWS

Lent IV March 14, 2021

Join us for Easter Day on Sunday, April 4

Worship this Sunday 10AM on our Website: [In-Spirit Worship \(stmarks-upland.org\)](https://www.stmarks-upland.org)

or

<https://www.facebook.com/saintmarksepisopalparishupland/posts/3879267915473864>

Your feedback is welcome. Please know that we are learning from our mistakes. And there is plenty of room for growth. Please send your comments and suggestions to: parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org

Easter and Holy Week Services March 29 to April 2 at 7PM

Services in Holy Week + Easter

We will be observing each day of Holy Week with an abbreviated worship service. Please see below information about start times and location. Any services held on Zoom will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube if you are unable to attend in the Zoom space.

- 3/29 - **Monday in Holy Week** - 7:00 pm on Zoom, <https://zoom.us/j/94904345753>
- 3/30 - **Tuesday in Holy Week** - 7:00 pm on Zoom, <https://zoom.us/j/94904345753>
- 3/31 - **Tenebrae**, Taizé-style worship - 7:00 pm on Zoom, <https://zoom.us/j/94904345753>
- 4/1 - **Maundy Thursday** - 7:00 pm on Zoom, <https://zoom.us/j/94904345753>
- 4/2 - **Good Friday** - Stations of the Cross presented by the Daughters of the King at Noon on Facebook and YouTube 7:00 pm service live streamed on Facebook and YouTube
- 4/3 - **The Great Vigil of Easter** – Hosted by bishops for the whole diocese. For more info, see the diocesan website.
- 4/4 - **Easter Sunday** - 10:00 am service live streamed on Facebook and YouTube

Outside Stations of the Cross: A Mobile Experience

Many thanks to Andrew Kilkenny designer of the Stations of the Cross 2021 app which enables you to experience the Stations of the Cross visiting 10 different locations around Upland and Claremont from the safety of your mobile app: www.lastations.org.

Many thanks to the St. Mark's team led by Canon Serena Beeks who made the St. Mark's stations (12 and 13) incorporating the cross in front of the church.

Palms for Palm Sunday

Palm fronds will be available for pick up on Saturday, March 27.

Easter Flowers/Memorial Donations

In lieu of Easter Flower donations, St. Mark's will be collecting tributes in thanksgiving for, in memory of and in honor of loved ones. Donations will be used to provide drive-through Stations of the Cross banners as well as enhance our in-spirit worship abilities. Please use the link below to make your tribute. [Easter Dedications \(stmarks-upland.org\)](https://www.stmarks-upland.org)

Easter Sunrise Service for Sunday, April 4 at 6AM

St. Mark's is offering an in-person, outdoor service, Sunday, April 4th at 6AM. Every precaution is being taken to prepare the campus for this event. Registration is required. To make your reservation, email parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org with your name and number of guests. You may also call the office (909) 920-5565 and leave your information. Please also note if you will need handicap access

or special accommodations. **Helpers are needed for setup and cleanup if you can help please email juniorwarden@stmarks-upland.org.**

Bishop's Visitation: April 25

The Bishop will join us for confirmations and official admission to the Episcopal denomination on Sunday, April 25, St. Mark's Day. See more details below.

In-Spirit Worship Readers

Our schedule has moved to our website, www.stmarks-upland.org. Please check the schedule and use the readings and psalms on the lectionary pages found [here](#).

Watch Last Sunday's Service on YouTube

Please subscribe to the St. Mark's YouTube page so that we can have access to more editing tools from YouTube. Many thanks to Landon Abernathy.

Check-In, Bible Study & Prayer

Join us Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 9:40AM am for Prayer and Bible Study - prayer sheets available on the website: <https://www.stmarks-upland.org/morning-prayer/> Meeting ID: 937 8054 5256 <https://zoom.us/j/93780545256>

Wednesday Evening Taizé Service

Worship, Wednesday, at 7:30 pm on Zoom - join via computer, tablet, or smartphone with this link: <https://zoom.us/j/98723305020?pwd=U1NFY0JlOFJmL2pMenVheUdtQlBaQT09>

Meeting ID: 987 2330 5020. Password: taize

Lent Meditation on Dirt: Week 4 "Rejoice"

The fourth Sunday in the season of Lent is traditionally known as Laetare Sunday. The name from the Latin entrance Introit - "Laetare Jerusalem" ("Rejoice, O Jerusalem") from Isaiah 66:10. This mid-Lent Sunday has been a day of celebration and/or reprieve from the solemn tone of Lent. This Sunday is also known as Mothering Sunday, Refreshment Sunday, and Rose Sunday. This is an echo of the pink candle in the Advent wreath.

In the spirit of Laetare Sunday, reflect on those things that bring joy. Where would you like to go? What plot of dirt would you like to visit? Remember the blessings of mothers. Enjoy flowers. Eat some cookies. Sleep in.

Again, you are invited to engage as you are able. What is being revealed?

Two Online Diocesan Services Planned for Eastertide

Bishop John Harvey Taylor invites the diocesan community to two online services in Eastertide. The first will be The Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday, April 3 at 8 p.m., coordinated by the Rev. Canon Susan Russell with participation by Taylor, Bishop Suffragan Diane M. Jardine Bruce and Canon to the Ordinary Melissa McCarthy and people from all over the diocese. The second service, on the second Sunday of Easter, April 11, will be a simple celebration of Holy Eucharist conducted by Taylor and Canon Kathy O'Connor. Both services will be livestreamed and available for viewing on demand on the diocese's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

An Open-Door Seder Hosted by Keeping It Sacred, Sunday, March 28 at 1pm

Rabbi Heather Miller of Keeping It Sacred is hosting an Open-Door Passover Seder with Grammy Nominated Artist Joanie Leeds. It's going to be a music-filled all-inclusive seder. For more info please click here for details: bitly.com/KITSRSVP

We are Praying for You

Please send your prayer requests to prayer@stmarks-upland.org. Or contact the clergy or a member of the Daughters of the King who pray both daily individually and together every Sunday before the morning service.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP

An Invitation to Further Reflection: A Sermon Appraisal

"An effective sermon offers one clear message of good news authentic to the preacher relevant to the audience holding attention and inviting transformation." from Backstory Preaching Please consider completing a sermon appraisal here:

<https://www.surveymoz.com/s3/5820275/Mentorship2-0-2020>

Lent Resources Online

- Episcopal Migration Ministries <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/episcopal-migration-ministries/lenten-devotion-series-2021/>
- Devotionals 365 days a year <https://d365.org/>
- Lent Madness <https://www.lentmadness.org/about/>
- Episcopal Relief and Development <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>
- Way of Love Calendar (all the way at the bottom) <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/life-transformed-the-way-of-love-in-lent/>

My Way of Love offers personalized suggestions for spiritual growth

[Sign up now](http://iam.ec/3pa2021MyWayofLove). The Episcopal Church, in partnership with RenewalWorks, a ministry of Forward Movement, is offering My Way of Love, a free, eight-week email series that provides personalized suggestions for spiritual growth based on the seven practices of the Way of Love. Read more:

<http://iam.ec/3pa2021MyWayofLove>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Need an Appointment for the COVID-19 Vaccine?

For those of you who do not have a computer or are having trouble trying to get information about the vaccine on the computer, please let the church office know we have church members willing to help you navigate the web and phones to help make a reservation for you.

Readers Needed

The Lectors Guild is in need of readers for the Sunday services. We have returned to livestreaming on Facebook and that means readers are recording their assignments and uploading them to Google Drive to be included in the worship service. Readings are assigned in advance by Chris Watson and training on recording and uploading is available. If you would like to participate in this vital ministry, please contact Chris at lectors@stmarks-upland.org

Hymnals Available

Do you miss having a hymnal to hold during services? Saint Mark's is allowing parishioners to sign out a hymnal for home use. Hymnals and the sign out sheet will be available at our outreach events,

Alternative Easter Egg "Hunt"

In lieu of St. Mark's Traditional Easter Egg Hunt, St. Mark's Fellowship Ministry will be giving out a Decorative Easter Bag filled with Easter items to anyone who requests one. To request an Easter Bag please email the Fellowship Committee: fellowship@stmarks-upland.org by March 23rd. These bags can be given to your children, grandchildren, and adults. If you would like to help the Fellowship Ministry with this project, you can do so by donating pre-filled plastic Easter Eggs. Please drop off your donated items Monday through Thursday between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm at St. Mark's Office.

The decorative Easter Bags will be filled with pre-filled nut-free Easter candy and other small Easter items. Please pick up your Easter bags at St. Mark's on March 31st. between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.

Celebrating Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Life Hallmarks due by the 25th

Are you celebrating a birthday or anniversary next month? Please let us know and send a photo by the 25th of the month before your celebration month. The visual celebration will be on the first Sunday of the month. Send to [blessings@stmarks-upland.org](mailto: blessings@stmarks-upland.org)

St. Mark's Book Club meets Third Saturdays from 10 to 12 noon

The St. Mark's Book Club will be gathering on the third Saturday of the month from 10-12 noon. Please contact any member or Sue Andrews, Coordinator, at [BookClub@stmarks-upland.org](mailto: BookClub@stmarks-upland.org) for more information.

Women's Prayer Breakfast Meets Fridays at 11 am

The women's prayer breakfast meets every Friday at 11 am via Zoom. All women are invited to join us. Please contact Kathryn Barbour at [womensprayerbreakfast@stmarks-upland.org](mailto: womensprayerbreakfast@stmarks-upland.org)

Pinochle Group meeting Wednesdays 9am to 12noon

Want to know how to play cards via zoom? Join the Pinochle group. They now play on Wednesdays from 9am to 12 noon. For more information, please contact Chris Watson at [stpeter@stmarks-upland.org](mailto: stpeter@stmarks-upland.org).

Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows with the Bishop on April 25 - In Person

The Bishop will join us for confirmations, reception, and reaffirmation of baptismal vows on and official admission to the Episcopal denomination on Sunday, April 25, St. Mark's Day. Confirmation is the mature affirmation of baptismal vows especially appropriate when a person was baptized as an infant and parents and godparents took vows on the person's behalf. Reception is the official admission into the Episcopal denomination especially appropriate when a person was raised/registered/active/identifies as a person coming from another denomination or faith. If you are interested in one of these rites, please contact the rector.

STEWARDSHIP

Your Contributions Make a Difference, Thank You!

Please send pledges or donations to St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 330 E. 16th Street, Upland, CA 91784. You may wish to set up automatic "bill pay" or "online banking" through your financial institution. Or you may make your donation through [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com). Donations are being accepted through our email address, [contributions@stmarks-upland.org](mailto: contributions@stmarks-upland.org).

Donate through Amazon Smile®

Support St. Mark's every time you shop on Amazon. Sign up here: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-2074628>. Each time you shop you will automatically designate a portion of your total will go to Saint Mark's to assist with our programs.

OUTREACH

The St. Mark's Commission for Racial Justice and Equity

VOICES FOR RECONCILIATION - Page Turners – New book study group

In response to the racial unrest that occurred in 2020, St. Mark's began work last Fall for the formation of the above-mentioned Commission. To date, the Planning Committee has established Vision and Mission Statements, and soon we will complete our Objectives and Activities. However, to get a jump start on our proposed Activities, a new Zoom-format book study group will begin soon. Our first book will be *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson. We will meet every two weeks beginning Tuesday, March 9 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm and will continue through until May 25 (will skip Apr 6). Discussion leaders for this book will be John and Andrea Flasher. If this time is inconvenient for you, it is our hope that you will purchase *Caste* and study with us at your leisure. There are no experts here, so we will all be reading,

learning and hopefully growing together. We will need your email address to send Zoom ID information. For more information regarding Page Turners or the new Commission, please contact Andrea Flasher at racialjustice@stmarks-upland.org.

TOUCH Collection

The next TOUCH collection will be held on Saturday, March 13th, from 9AM to 11AM. Nonperishable foods, toiletries, and warm clothing are welcome items as well as fast food gift cards. Thank you for your donations. They are appreciated! Information, call Dave Nalbach.

Breakfast Bagging 2.0

Over the years, St Mark's Breakfast Bags Ministry has provided more than 7400 breakfast bags to area homeless people. Because of the pandemic we are not able meet in person to assemble bags but are currently gathering food and personal items for the Foothill Family Shelter on a monthly basis with the help of The Daughters of the King and the Girls Friendly Society. All are encouraged to support this ministry. You can supply items for the bags or donate to the fund mailing a check to St Mark's marked Breakfast Bags in the memo line. For further information on what items are requested each month, please contact Rosalyn Foster at breakfastbaggers@stmarks-upland.org

One Body & One Spirit Emergency Appeal

Join us in giving generously to the One Body & One Spirit Emergency Appeal to help our congregations and ministries most at risk during this crisis. The mailing address for checks made payable to "Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles" is: Bishop John Harvey Taylor; 840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

With Hearts and Hands: Dementia Caregiver Conversations

The Church Pension Group is offering a series of 3 one-hour webinars "With Hearts and Hands: Dementia Caregiver Conversations" to support dementia caregivers. It's free and open to anyone who registers. Below is the link that includes access to a recording of the first (from February 25 "You are not alone") as well as a way to register for the next two: March 25 "A peculiar kind of grief," and April 22 "What is our hope?" May these efforts help someone who is loving a person with ruthless brain disease! <https://www.cpg.org/active-clergy/learning/conferences/resilience-webinar/>

YOUTH

GFS Resumes Meetings on Zoom

Girls Friendly Society is an organization for girls between 5 and 21. Meetings are scheduled for 4PM every other Monday. Topics include women of the church and relevant topics of interest to young women. The meetings will be brief, about 40 minutes, and include fellowship, a reading, an activity, and prayer.

I look forward to seeing the girls. For further information please contact Rosalyn Foster at gfs@stmarks-upland.org

Choristers Rehearse Tuesdays at 4 PM

Children in grades 3-6, are invited to join Choristers on Tuesday afternoons at 4PM via Zoom for a half hour. If you have a young singer who would like to participate, please email me at music@stmarks-upland.org for the link. God bless everyone,
Blane Abernathy, Organist and Director of Music

Youth Group News

During our time away, we have been meeting online using Zoom and in messages. We are currently meeting via Zoom, please check your messages for dates and times. If you would like to be added to the group, please message Rob Garretson at youth@stmarks-upland.org. Also, please note that all our in-person activities with other groups are on hold until further notice. Thanks, and stay safe and healthy,

Rob Garretson  Director of Youth Ministries

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

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We embrace Christ at the center of our lives, sharing the Gospel with all people and loving ourselves and each other as Christ loves us

E-mail: parishadmin@stmarks-upland.org

Web: www.stmarks-upland.org

Facebook: Saint Mark's Episcopal Parish Upland, CA

Instagram: @stmarksupland

YouTube: Saint Mark's Episcopal Church Upland, CA

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