

Saint Mark Presbyterian Church

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 11, 2025

11:00 AM



Gathering in the Presence

PRELUDE

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are placed with life among other lives.

People: God bless the trees, bees and butterflies.

Leader: We pray as one with creation.

People: God bless the seas, the mountains and deserts.

Leader: As it was in the beginning, so it remains now.

People: We are blessed to thrive and called good.

All: We remember our place in these blue green hills of earth.

***HYMN #7**

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

INVITATION TO CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

Merciful God, we have followed the desires of our own hearts and neglected the needs of our neighbors. Forgive our hard and selfish ways. Turn us to Christ and Christ's righteous path. Guide our steps in mission and ministry. Amen.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***HYMN #590**

Hallelujah

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Hearing the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: Listen for what the Spirit is saying to the church.

People: Our hearts are open.

FIRST READING

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;^[a]

³ he restores my soul.^[b]

He leads me in right paths^[c]

for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,^[d]

I fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely^[e] goodness and mercy^[f] shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.^[g]

Reader: The word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN #456**

Listen, God Is Calling

SECOND READING

John 10:22-30

SERMON

"Sheep Unite"

Rev. Dr. Jay Moses

Responding to the Word

***HYMN #802**

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
(stanza 3 upper voices, 4 lower voices)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: The LORD be with you.

People: And also with you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

A Home of Grace
Chancel Choir

O, thank you, Lord, for family, how precious your design. That through the gift of parents we know your love divine. They lead us and they teach us, they help us find our place. And working all together, we build a home of grace.

O, thank you, Lord, for family, no two of them the same, for all who care for children though never share their name. O, teach us, Lord, compassion and help us grow our faith, 'til ev'ry home is cherished and built upon your grace.

O, thank you, Lord, for family. This is our earnest prayer for mothers and for fathers, for the hearts of all who care. And though sometimes imperfect and though we lose our way, today we pledge and promise to build a home of grace.

***DOXOLOGY**

HYMN 608 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all
people here below; praise Holy Spirit ever -
more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

TEXT: Neil Weatherhogg, 1988
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 2008
Text © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg
Music © 2008 Hal H. Hopson

PRAISE GOD (Hopson)
LM

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

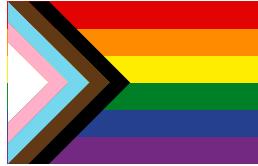
***HYMN #340 This Is My Song**

CHARGE & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

***Please stand if you are able**

Welcome to Saint Mark Presbyterian Church. We are grateful that you are joining us today. We welcome everyone to our community regardless of race, class, marital status, sexual orientation, ability or disability. Saint Mark welcomes children and adults with disabilities and their families. We strive to ensure our programs and facilities are accessible to all and to accommodate any special needs. For those of you attending Saint Mark for the first time, we ask that you introduce yourself to an usher, so that we can greet you and answer any questions you may have.



Offering Made Easy

If you would prefer to make an offering online, please go to the below QR code. We thank you for your generosity.



Announcements

Upcoming Christian Education Dates -- Mark your calendar!

5/31 - last day of Sunday School for Children / Youth and Adults

Adult Sunday School Class

We are called to care for neighbors and creation with all our hearts, with particular care for society's least powerful members who are disproportionately impacted by unjust systems. In this class we are asked to explore and to act, responding to an issue that impacts all life on God's earth. We will learn about ecological systems, the challenges we face in this time of accelerated climate change, and the possibilities

available to address or counter the impact of human-made stress on our environment. We will explore theological questions that point us to act and engage, in large and small ways. The class, led by Alison Bennett, meets for 5 weeks, ending on May 25th. Class meets in rooms 105/106 at 9:30 AM.

Book Lovers - May Meeting, Wednesday, May 21 at 7:00 PM.

Click [here](#) to join on Zoom.

Great Expectations: A Novel by Vinson Cunningham

When David first hears the Senator from Illinois speak, he feels deep ambivalence. Intrigued by the Senator's idealistic rhetoric, David also wonders how he'll balance the fervent belief and inevitable compromises it will take to become the United States' first Black president.

Great Expectations is about David's eighteen months working for the Senator's presidential campaign. Along the way David meets a myriad of people who raise a set of questions—questions of history, art, race, religion, and fatherhood—that force David to look at his own life anew and come to terms with his identity as a young Black man and father in America.

2025 Per Capita

Per capita is a designated dollar amount that is asked of each member of the Presbyterian Church (USA) as a yearly voluntary contribution. The amount is based on a church's membership and it helps support the operations and mission of the National Capital Presbytery, the General Assembly and the Synod of the Mid Atlantic. For 2025, the per capita amount is \$50.15. This is the amount that Saint Mark is required to pay for each member of our church. We are asking Saint Mark members to pay their per capita if they are able. You may mail your check directly to the church or put it in the offering plate. Be sure to note on the memo line that it is your 2025 per capita payment. You may also pay using the QR code below.



Resources for Federal Workers

We have provided a link below for resources providing guidance to Federal workers, families and friends. If you have any suggestions of other resources that can be added to this list, please send them to [**phylnorrie@gmail.com**](mailto:phylnorrie@gmail.com) or [**office@saintmarkpresby.org**](mailto:office@saintmarkpresby.org).

Resources during layoffs

Cover Art

Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. Twenty-Third Psalm, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59161> [retrieved May 5, 2025]. Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley, http://www.frankwesleyart.com/main_page.htm.

Please include the following persons in your prayers this week:

- ~ Mary Pullen, undergoing treatment for breast cancer
- ~ Betty Seidell, recovering from hip surgery
- ~ Margery and Chuck Elliott, mother and brother of Elizabeth Elliott
- ~ Alice and Stan Miller
- ~ Les Henig
- ~ Betty and Jerry Lowrie
- ~ Mary Jo and Ray Mountain
- ~ Ingrid Persaud

Saint Mark Community

Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jay Moses
jay@saintmarkpresby.org

Elders

Battakok Bityeki
Nathan Brown
Walla Dempsey
Teddy Ferguson

Vinod George
Kristin Gilchrist
John Johnson
Patti Kurtz

Mike Welsh
Diane Wirono

Deacons

Mimi Beall
Ginny Blum
Barbara Caskey
Sara Coe

Tom Freeman
Rebecca Gambler
Zione Kansinde
Jennifer Milne

Hailey Parry
Nancy Rhyne
Erik Turkman

Director of Christian Education

Briana Stewart
christianeducation@
saintmarkpresby.org

Music Ministry

Jeffrey J. Doenges
JeffDMusic@gmail.com

Office Administrator

Rhonda Ricci
office@saintmarkpresby.org
301-530-8142

Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. James Macdonell

Saint Mark Presbyterian Church

10701 Old Georgetown Rd
North Bethesda, MD 20852
www.saintmarkpresby.org
301-530-0600

