



November 27, 2022, 9:30 a.m.
First Sunday of Advent

Welcome Home

*Whether this is your first time stepping into this sanctuary or the thousandth,
we celebrate this opportunity to be together with you today.*

*Though no longer mandated in worship, masking is recommended, and we ask generous grace
be extended to those who continue to seek physical distance and mask on campus to protect
against illness for themselves or others.*

*Kids Church for children ages 4 – 11 is now offered during worship.
Children are invited to meet their teachers in the Narthex following Children's Time to walk
together to the Social Hall, where they may be picked up by a parent following the service.
Nursery care is available for infants and toddlers in Room 1.*

Words of meditation: "It is not possible to keep it from coming, because it will. That's just how Advent works. What is possible is to not see it, to miss it, to turn just as it brushes past you.... There will be enough time for running. For rushing. For worrying. For pushing. For now, stay. Wait. Something is on the horizon." Jan Richardson

Prelude *Sleepers Wake, a Voice is Calling* J.S. Bach

Welcome and Greetings Rev. Darin Arntson

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

You are invited to turn to your neighbors and exchange greetings, share your name, or simply say, 'the peace of Christ be with you.'

***Introit** *Christmas Fanfare* Joseph Martin

***Opening Hymn**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

*UMH 213, vv. 1-3

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.

***Opening Prayer**

Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.
By your merciful protection
save us from temptation
and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation,
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

... O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord. Amen.

Sung Response

Light One Candle

Natalie Sleeth

Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope,
He brings hope to every heart, He comes, He comes!

Children's Time

Ryan Silvia

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Catherine Elmer

**FWS indicates the Faith We Sing (black book), and UMH indicates the
United Methodist Hymnal found in the pews.*

Anthem

Breath of Heaven

Lloyd Larson
Soloist: Latifah Smith

I have traveled many moonless nights
Cold and weary with a babe inside
And I wonder what I've done
Holy father you have come
And chosen me now to carry your son
I am waiting in a silent prayer
I am frightened by the load I bear
In a world as cold as stone
Must I walk this path alone?
Be with me now
Be with me now

Breath of heaven
Hold me together
Be forever near me
Breath of heaven
Breath of heaven
Lighten my darkness
Pour over me your holiness
For you are holy
Breath of heaven

Do you wonder as you watch my face
If a wiser one should have had my place
But I offer all I am
For the mercy of your plan
Help me be strong
Help me be
Help me

Breath of heaven
Hold me together
Be forever near me
Breath of heaven
Breath of heaven
Lighten my darkness
Pour over me your holiness
For you are holy
Breath of heaven

Gospel Reading

Matthew 24:36-44

Rev. Darin Arntson

Sermon

Look Up

Rev. Darin Arntson

Call to Prayer

Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!
Repeat Twice

The Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis

Time of Silence

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 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 forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Christian Stewardship

Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis

Offertory

Blessed Be Your Name

arr. Larry Dalton

***Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis

Giver of every good thing,
we set before you the gifts that you have already given
to sustain our lives and to share with others.
Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it,
and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast
you prepare for all who hunger. Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

UMH 203

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.

***Benediction**

Rev. Darin Arntson

***Benediction Response**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

UMH 211, v.1

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Postlude

Le Christ-Roi

Dom Paul Benoit

Those seated in the socially distanced section who wish to may exit the sanctuary through the rear doors during the postlude. Those who are seated in the non-distanced section are invited to remain seated until the conclusion of the service.

St. Mark's Calendar At-a-Glance - November 27 – December 11, 2022

Sunday, November 27

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service – Sanctuary & Online
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Courtyard
- 12:00 p.m. Tongan Fellowship
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group – Room 10

Wednesday, November 30

- 1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Jeri – Zoom
- 3:00 p.m. Laity Bible Study – New Room
- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal – Social Hall
- 6:30 p.m. GriefShare Class – Zoom

Thursday, December 1

- 4:30 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room (*until 9:00 p.m.*)

Friday, December 2

- 10:00 a.m. First Friday Book Club – Winnie Hoy's House

Sunday, December 4 – CCSA Monthly Food Drive

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service – Sanctuary & Online
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Courtyard
- 12:00 p.m. Tongan Fellowship
- 4:00 p.m. "Christmas at St. Mark's" Concert – Sanctuary & Online

Wednesday, December 7

- 1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Pastor Jeri – Zoom
- 3:00 p.m. Laity Bible Study – New Room
- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal – Social Hall
- 6:30 p.m. GriefShare Class – Zoom

Thursday, December 8

- 12:00 p.m. UWF Faith Circle – Joy Lewis's House
- 4:30 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room
- 6:30 p.m. UWF Friendship Circle – Church Library
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Choir Room

Saturday, December 10

- 8:30 a.m. Drive-Thru Pancake Breakfast (*ends at 10:30 a.m.*)

Sunday, December 11

- 9:30 a.m. New Member Reception & Baptism during Sunday Worship Service – Sanctuary & Online
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour – Courtyard
- 12:00 p.m. Tongan Fellowship
- 3:30 p.m. Charge Conference – Social Hall & Online
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party – Room 10

Announcements, November 27 – December 11, 2022

St. Mark's First Friday Book Club will meet on Friday, December 2, at Winnie Hoy's house at 10:00 a.m. – We'll be discussing *Aging Successfully* by Daniel Levitin. Join us for a little holiday fellowship and receive our next book, a compilation of Treasured Short Stories of Christmas. Call Joy Lewis with questions at 858-735-0691.

Upcoming Concert: Christmas at St. Mark's on Sunday, December 4 at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary & Online with reception to follow – Celebrate music of the season as St. Mark's handbells and voice choirs prepare our hearts for Advent and the birth of Jesus. Read more at www.stmarksumcsd.org/concert-series. *Youth group will not meet in Room 10 this day; instead we will sit together at the concert!

Realm Privacy Settings – As there have been concerns regarding privacy settings within Realm, we want to reassure you that giving information in Realm is confidential and is not shared within the church directory. When signed into your online account you will only have access to your own personal givings and not others in the congregation. If you have any questions or concerns contact the church administrator at admin@stmarksumcsd.org.

Charge Conference on Sunday, December 11 at 3:30 p.m. – This year, our church will hold its annual Charge Conference on Sunday, December 11 at 3:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in person in the Social Hall and viewable by Zoom. All are welcome to come celebrate St. Mark's ministries in 2022, and prepare for the faithful work to come in the year ahead.

MXR Christmas Party & White Elephant Gift Exchange on December 18, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Bring a holiday beverage or side dish to share and a \$15 or under wrapped gift to exchange. Email darin@stmarksumcsd.org to RSVP and for directions.

Longest Night Service on Wednesday, December 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary & Online – Whether you are grieving the loss of a loved one, the laying aside of plans or dreams for now, or you just want a quiet place to meet with God, come, o come. This service will be in-person and live-streamed.

Save the Date for Christmas Services! We hope you'll join us in this most special season.

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022

- 4:00 p.m. – Interactive Family Service – Social Hall
- 5:30 p.m. – Traditional Lessons & Carols Service – Sanctuary & Online
- 8:00 p.m. – Traditional Lessons & Carols Service – Sanctuary Only

Christmas Day, December 25, 2022

- 9:30 a.m. – Informal Sunday Worship Service – Sanctuary & Online

CCSA Holiday Gift Baskets and Gift Bags Program from November 28 to December 16, 2022 – CCSA has over 100 families who are still in need of being "adopted" and receiving a Christmas food basket. Hygiene items are also needed to complete filling the gift bags for those who are homeless. Please consider helping these families enjoy a delicious and festive holiday meal.

- Holiday Gift Bags can be dropped off at the Social Hall until Friday, December 16.
- The Holiday Baskets can be dropped off at the Social hall on Wednesday, December 14 and Thursday, December 15 from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Cold Weather Help - With the arrival of cold weather, many in our community who are unhoused are in need of warm clothing and better shelter. In partnership with Streets of Hope, St. Mark's is collecting gently used or new blankets, sweaters, jackets, sweatshirts/sweatpants, gloves, knit hats, sleeping bags and tents. If you, or any family members and friends, have items to donate, they may be placed in containers marked "Streets of Hope" located in the narthex and church office. For more info, please speak with Kristen Vasquez or Diana Starnes.

Staff Gifts – The Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) invites members of the congregation to contribute to a special fund for gifts for our wonderful staff this holiday season! If you would like to participate in showing your appreciation, please send your check or online contribution to the church made out to St. Mark's with the designation "Staff Gift" in the description. Please submit all contributions before Christmas.

If you would like to order a Christmas poinsettia, which will be placed at the altar Christmas Eve services, please submit your order no later than Dec. 8. Cost is \$8/each . Order forms can be placed in the offering plate or can be ordered in the church office.

You can sign up to donate altar flowers for Sunday Service in the binder located in the Narthex or call the church office.

To make a donation to St. Mark's visit:
<https://secure.myvanco.com/YNGP/home>



Today's Worship:

Organist - Craig McIlwain
Director of Choral Ministries - Zlatoslav Sokolov
Sound and Video - Andy Guevara, Bob Hout, Robin & Elias Nuspl

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Rev. Darin Arntson, Lead Pastor	darin@stmarksumcsd.org
Rev. Jeri Newell-Davis, Associate Pastor	jeri@stmarksumcsd.org
Ryan Silvia, Director of Young People's Ministries	ryan@stmarksumcsd.org
Diane Moreno, Minister of Visitation	diane@stmarksumcsd.org
Michelle Solomon Gertes, Church Administrator	admin@stmarksumcsd.org
Mariana Jones, Office Assistant	assistant@stmarksumcsd.org

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www.stmarksumcsd.org

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