






Traditional Service
April 29, 2018

BE JOYFUL
Always;
PRAY
continually;
GIVE thanks 
EVERY  
circumstance.
 — 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18 — 

Connecting to God and One Another

Rev. Sharon Ragland, Senior Pastor † Rev. Tammy Hallam, Associate Pastor

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www.umcstmarks.org



Connecting to Our Past

April 29, 2018

8:15 and 9:45 AM Traditional Worship

Please remember to silence your cell phone.

**Please stand as you are comfortable.*

PREPARATION

Brothers and sisters, we urge you to warn those who are disorderly. Comfort the discouraged. Help the weak. Be patient with everyone. Make sure no one repays a wrong with a wrong, but always pursue the good for each other and everyone else. Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

I Thessalonians 5:14-18 (*Common English Bible*)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please fill out your prayer request cards during this time. Pass only prayer requests that you wish to have read aloud to the center aisles at this time.

PRELUDE

"And the Song Was of the Morning"

G. Martin

INTROIT

"Christ Loves the Church"
Chancel Choir

Marshall and Wren

*CALL TO WORSHIP †

Leader: Eternal God, the refuge and help of all your children, we praise you for all you have given us, for all you have done for us, for all that you are to us.

People: In our weakness, you are strength, in our darkness, you are light, in our sorrow, you are comfort and peace.

Leader: We cannot number your blessings, we cannot declare your love: For all your blessings we bless you.

People: May we live as in your presence, and love the things that you love, and serve you in our daily lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***OPENING HYMN**

“The Church’s One Foundation”
(*stanzas 1, 2, 5*)

United Methodist Hymnal
No. 546

OPENING PRAYER

We thank you for all your gifts of creation. Teach us to share with others our time, our energy, our resources and our love. Make us sensitive and responsive to the wounds in the human family and creation. May we be faithful to our calling and live a long life on earth. May we give our whole life to Christ, for we belong to him and in him all things are united on earth and in heaven. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY’S SCRIPTURE

TIME FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

(Sing first stanza of Jesus Loves Me, #191, as children gather.)

OFFERING OF MUSIC

“Praise the Lord Our God Forever”

Mozart/Ehret

SCRIPTURE READING

I Thessalonians 5:12-28

New Testament, p. 205

MESSAGE

“How the Early Church Began”
(Fourth in the series, Connecting to Our Past)

Rev. Sharon Ragland

CALL TO PRAYER

“I Will Call upon the Lord”

The Faith We Sing, No. 2002

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

“Alleluia, Amen”

Carl Wiltse

OFFERING

Offertory

“Ave Maria”
Lillian Porter, flute

Bach/Gounod

*Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!**
**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

UMH, No. 94

*Prayer of Dedication

***CLOSING HYMN**

“We Are the Church”
(stanzas 1 & 2)

UMH, No. 558

***SUNG BENEDICTION**

“Shalom to You”

UMH, No. 666

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

“Allegro Risoluto” from “Water Music Suite”

Handel/arr. Ritter

† Call to Worship written by St. Boniface (ca. 672-754)