

Traditional Service

May 28, 2017

St. Mark's  
United Methodist Church

*Changing the world through Christ,  
by caring for all people.*



*Good News for Today's World*  
**“From a Distance”**

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

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[www.umcstmarks.org](http://www.umcstmarks.org)



# Stories with Meaning

May 28, 2017

8:15 and 9:45 AM Traditional Worship

*Please remember to silence your cell phone.*

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable.*

## PREPARATION

*O God of wholeness, when I consider the lack of balance and wholeness in my life, the one-sided spiritualities with which I attempt to appease you, to appear good in the eyes of others and to please myself, I come face to face with the need for a holistic spiritual life. Help me, I pray, to hunger and thirst for the wholeness you have for me in Christ. Help me to be willing to surrender to you whatever stands in the way of such wholeness.*

M. Robert Mulholland Jr.

## 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

“Imbue Me with Thy Loving Kindness”

Simone

## CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

*United Methodist Hymnal, No. 371*

“I Stand Amazed in the Presence”

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP -

Leader: Humbly we come...

**People: from our busy, chaotic, joyful, broken, and, sometimes, lonely lives. We humbly come “home.”**

Leader: “Home” to this sacred space...

**People: to share our faith, to fellowship together, to praise our Creator.**

Leader: We humbly come before you, Lord...

**People: for you know and love us best.**

Leader: Help us, Lord...

**People:** to be real, to tear down our walls of pride, and relax in the warmth of your Spirit.

**All:** We humbly come to find strength, that we might truly experience your unconditional love and be open to your blessings and hope. Amen.

**OPENING HYMN**

“Have Thine Own Way”

*UMH*, No. 382

**OPENING PRAYER<sup>†</sup>**

Lord our God, you yourself remind us through your holy people that all our religious practices are not worth anything if we use them to bend you our way. God, may we come to you in humility and repentance, ready to encounter you in love and to turn your way. Accept us as your sons and daughters, together with Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord forever.

**TIME FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN**

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

**INTRODUCTION TO TODAY’S SCRIPTURE**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 18:9-14 *NIV*

New Testament, p. 81

**OFFERING OF MUSIC**

Espinosa & Kilpatrick; arr. Wilson

“Change My Heart and Lord, Be Glorified” Medley

**Summer Choir**

**MESSAGE**

“From a Distance”

**Rev. Tammy Hallam**

*(Sixth in the series, Stories with Meaning)*

**CALL TO PRAYER**

“Just As I Am, Without One Plea”

*UMH*, No. 357

*(stanzas 1, 3, 4 & 5)*

**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"

Jacques Berthier

## OFFERING

Offertory "Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated" Havergal; arr. M. Hayes  
**Celeste Pardee, soloist**

\*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" *UMH, No. 94*  
**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!**

\*Prayer of Dedication

\***CLOSING HYMN** "Humble Thyself in the Sight of the Lord" *TFWS, No. 2131*

\***SUNG BENEDICTION** "Shalom to You" *UMH, No. 666*

\***BENEDICTION**

\***POSTLUDE** "Go Forth with Knowledge" Koury

†Opening Prayer from the Order of Carmelites