



**Sunday, January 23, 2022**

**St. James/St. Mark's United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Organist: Ann Rodewald

Meditative Music

Bells Ring Prelude

Gathering for Worship:

*And Can It Be?*

**Call to Worship: (responsively)**

**L:** We give you all thanks and praise, O God, for you have sent your Son as the Savior of the world and your Spirit to graft us into the vine of life.

**P:** You created the universe and everything in it and revealed your perfect love in your commitment to your people and your care for the poor and afflicted.

(continued on the inside)

L: Through your prophets you promised a righteous servant who would suffer humiliation and injustice and, like a sheep to the slaughter, have his life taken away.

**P: In your Son, Jesus Christ, we have seen your promises fulfilled, and through his resurrection, he has broken the power of death.**

L: In his perfect love, our fear is cast out, and now, like branches of a vine, we live in him and draw our life from him, that we might bear much fruit to your glory.

**P: Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.**

**Hymn of Praise:** (#461 Hymnal)

*Savior Like a Shepherd*

**Young At Heart:**



**Prayer of Confession:**

O God, the earth is full of your creations; in wisdom you have made us all, and you have delivered us into one another's care, asking only that we love one another as you first loved us. We freely admit that we at times foster discord rather than unity; contempt rather than respect; ignorance rather than love. Communities, peoples, creatures, lands, seas, they have been set apart, or torn apart, or driven apart by thoughtless ambitions. You know our works and our thoughts, Lord. So do this day as you have promised: Gather us together, all the tribes and tongues, and restore us to harmony. Reconcile us in your spirit of peace, and from new moon to new moon, from sabbath to sabbath, we - united in Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit - shall worship your name.

**Hymn of Assurance:** (#469 Hymnal)

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

**Scripture Reading:**

**1 John 4:20; 1 Peter 4:8-11; Colossians 3:13**

**Message:**

*What's Important to Us? Family.*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

**Offering**

Offering, tithes and gifts can be made before or after worship in the offering baskets/plates at the welcome area of the church. St. James is also set up to take on-line offerings through the website ([stmstjucc.org](http://stmstjucc.org)).

**Offertory Music:***God So Loved the World**~ The offering is brought to the altar ~***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)**

We give to tell the world your good news in Christ. As you have loved us, we give ourselves in love for all your people. May we glorify you through our discipleship and stewardship. *Amen.*

**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.*

**Hymn of Sending: (#476 Hymnal)***Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing***Closing Prayer: (all together)**

We come to your Word with faith and expectation, seeking to know what you want us to learn and do. Teach us your commandments and surround us with your love that we may know the joy of serving you. Grant us your transforming Spirit. *Amen.*

**Benediction:**

Yesterday we were enslaved to sin. Yesterday we dwelt in darkness. Yesterday we let our pride control us. Yesterday is no more! Today you have freed us from sin; let your Spirit unite us forever. The peace of God I leave with you; the peace of God I give unto you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. Go now to love and serve the Lord in all you. *Amen.*

**Postlude:***Festal Postlude*

*1 John 4:20 ESV* If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

*1 Peter 4:8-11 ESV* Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. *Amen.*

*Colossians 3:13 ESV* Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

## CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK:

### BIRTHDAYS:

January 23 – Ray Brickner, Jason Bramstedt  
24 - Henry Langenhahn, Jr.  
25 – Gavin Marcoe  
29 – Nancy Sixel, Allyson Wasmer

NO ANNIVERSARIES: None



## LOOKING AHEAD...NEXT SUNDAY, January 30<sup>th</sup> ...

St. James: 9:00am Worship  
9-10:00 Sunday School

St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship  
9-10:00 Sunday School

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## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE TOMORROW, Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Email them to Karen in the office at [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)

**CONFIRMATION CLASS**– Wednesday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, 6-7:30pm, at St. James

**GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR BIBLE STUDY GROUP**, Thursday, Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>, at St. Mark's.

## **Mark Your Calendars!**

Sunday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>, Dogs2DogTags, the group that spoke in October at St. James Mission Fest will be attending the 10:30am Worship Service at St. James and they are bringing Oliver! There will be a photo shoot after the service outside in front of the church sign with Oliver. Please plan on joining us to be part of this wonderful memory.



### **WELCOME!**

**To the parents of young children:**

**Relax!** God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.

- ❖ Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage.
- ❖ Quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastors, musicians and leaders.
- ❖ Sing the songs, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behaviors by mimicking you.
- ❖ If you have to leave the Worship Center with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."