



YOU ARE
Looking
FOR JESUS

Resurrection of the Lord Worship Series

Easter, March 31, 2024
St. James/St. Mark's United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Randy Sohn/Ann Rodewald, Organist
Cindy Sohn/Kathy Jurk, Choir Director

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship: St. James:
St. Mark's:

Easter Fanfares
Low in the Grave

God is Good

All the Time

All the Time

God is Good!

Call To Worship:

Jesus Christ, in your triumph over the grave and your resurrection from death,
the heavens and earth rejoice!

We praise you, O God! For you have made us victorious over sin!

On the mountain of the Lord, all people will feast, and all wine shall be poured!

**We praise you, O God! For you have prepared a table before us and our
cups overflow!**

The Lord has swallowed up death forever; the Lord has wiped away the tears from all
faces!

We praise you, O God! For you have brought us from death to life!

The disgrace of God's people has been taken away from the earth because the Lord
has spoken!

We praise you, O God! For you have given us joy and gladness!

♪ Easter Hymn of Praise:

St. James #167; St. Mark's #288

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Young at Heart:



Prayers of the People:

Sing aloud, O mothers and sons!

Fathers and daughters, sisters, and brothers,
rejoice and exult with all your hearts!

Let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings with one voice,
calling out the good news —

The tomb stands empty!

We pray for all faithful people —

for every human soul that turns to God in longing and in love.

Today and every day, pull us out of our graves and into your life.

Jesus Christ is alive and among us today.

We pray for the nations of this world —

for those in authority, and for those under authority.

Come from the four winds, O Breath of Life,
and we shall live together in peace.

The grave could not hold Jesus!

We pray for our garden home —
for the rain and the snow, the seed and the sprout —
for the birthing room and the last place of rest —
for every new creation.

The heart of the gospel message – Jesus rose again!

We pray for those who are sick or suffering,
lonely and frightened, troubled and bearing great burdens —
Living Lord, renew them in Your love.

He is risen!

We pray for those who have died, and gone before us,
for those we know we will see again,
and for those whom we worry we might not,
Eternal One, bring them home and gather them in.

He is risen, indeed!

With great joy, hosannah and exultation,
we give thanks for the triumph of life over death,
We are amazed at what has happened.

And we will rise with him!

St. James Choral Anthem:
St. Mark's Choral Anthem:

Jesus Is Risen
He Is Risen

Scripture Reading:

John 20:1-8 ESV

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;

Message: *Looking For Jesus*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn of Response:

St. James: #168
St. Mark's: #302

Jesus Lives and So Shall I
He Lives

Sacrament of Communion:

Friends, let us come out of the darkness and join together in the light of God's love. You are invited to this table of life as we join with each other and seek communion with God.

God is with you!

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to our Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you our thanks and praise, O God!

You created the world by speaking life into being. You placed within us and within each plant and animal of your creation amazing abilities to form and nurture new life, so that your creation might be renewed, reborn, season by season, child by child.

You covenanted with your people and gave them Law that showed the way of Life— a path of peace, justice, mercy, reverence, love.

You provided wise men and women as judges for your people to show them the path to Life. You called forth prophets who dared to speak the truth of Life to worldly powers that promoted death.

You sent Jesus, your Son, to walk in the way of Life— that we might follow. He suffered and died because of his refusal to participate in the death-dealing violence of the world.

He rose again in victory because the powers of death cannot overcome the Divine power of Life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.

Hosanna in the highest.

We thank you, God, for the incredible gift of Jesus, the Word made flesh. Through his resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made us a new people. It is as the renewed, redeemed, enlivened people of God that we gather this morning and remember together that . . .

on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat. This my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying:

This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Longing to experience and share the fullness of Life that you offer,
we take these gifts that you have given us, this bread and this cup,
and celebrate with joy the eternal Life offered to us through Jesus Christ.

Accept our praise and thanksgiving,
accept our lives as holy offerings to you,
that in losing our life we might find true Life
and proclaim the Resurrected Christ who offers life to all.
Great is the mystery of faith:

**Dying you destroyed our death,
rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Gracious God,
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and cup.
By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who seek to follow in his life-
giving way, that we may further your reign of peace and justice in every place.
We invite your Spirit to lead us ever more faithfully to be the body of Christ in the
world. All glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever. **Amen.**

As we prepare to eat the meal, let us share together the proclamation of our faith:
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

St. James Choral Anthem:

Table of Plenty

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

**Holy, gracious, God, here at this table your promise of life is made real for us.
We have rested in the depth of your love;
We have tasted of your nourishing, nurturing presence;
We accept you into our bodies, into our lives, and into our hearts.
Together, at this table, you have offered us life.
Together, with your grace, we accept the life you offer.
And we give you thanks, always. *Amen.***

Offering:

For the offerings, gifts, and tithes given both before and after the service; for the offerings made on-line and through Tithe.ly; for the gifts of your time, talents, prayers, support and encouragement in furtherment of this church's ministry and mission – we thank you.

Offertory Music: St. James:
St. Mark's:

*My Lord, What a Morning
I Know That My Redeemer Liveth*

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Offertory Prayer: (Matthew 28:1-10)

Mighty God of Resurrection and Redemption, we offer our gifts alongside our alleluias! We long for Easter to fill us and soak into our bones like those who were confronted in a graveyard by angels announcing, “He is not here, he is risen!” May we run from here, not walk, because we and every corner of the world so desperately need to hear the news the angels share! Before we speak a word, may others see in our faces that the world has been turned upside down. You win; death loses. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn of Sending:

Crown Him With Many Crowns

St. James: #176

St. Mark's: #317

Benediction:

Dance, celebrate, sing, and shout for joy! Christ is Risen and He goes before us, into this world. He has called us to bring the Good News of healing and hope, of redemption and resurrection – the Good News of New Life to those whom we meet. Go now in love and peace, to serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all you will be, now and forever. *Amen.*

Postlude: St. James:
St. Mark's:

*Fanfares on a Easter Hymn
On Wings of Living Light*

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:
St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: www.stmstjucc.org

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: stmstjoffice@gmail.com

COME & JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS!

St. James UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.

~Sunday School meets 9-10am at both churches~

St. Mark's UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.

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."



Loving Gifts of Easter Lilies from Our St. James Families, 2024

- *Shared by Heidi & Clarence Belitz for the joy of Easter*
- *Shared by Wyatt & Hailey Henschel in memory of Kathleen Henschel*
- *Shared by Charlie & Ruth Ann Kolb in memory of our parents and daughter, Kerri Lee*
- *Shared by Julianne Luebke; Keith, Michelle & Bradley Mauk; Rowan, Katelynn and Theo Sibley in honor of David Luebke*
- *Shared by Bill & Dorothy Mueller for the joy of our grandchildren*
- *Shared by Dorothy Mueller in memory of my parents and my siblings*
- *Shared by Jackie, Dave, Cody, Lexi, Cheyenne & Ben in memory of my parents Ilene & Leroy Stock*
- *Shared by Tammy Serketich for the joy of Ella, Ezra & Cole.*
- *Shared by Carlene Sohn in memory of Myron Sohn.*
- *Shared by Carlene Sohn & Family in memory of Elmyra & Carl Ohlrogge and Elmer & Leona Sohn*
- *Shared by Sandy, Cindy, Sue in memory of Mom & Dad Alvin & Loretta Kracht*
- *Shared by Randy & Cindy; Katie & Daniel; Dan & Rachel in memory of Dad & Mom; Grandpa & Grandma Kenneth & Virginia Kuether*
- *Shared by Randy & Cindy; Katie & Daniel; Dan & Rachel in memory of Dad & Grandpa Myron Sohn*
- *Shared by Allen Stolzmann Family in memory of Clarence & Verona Stolzmann*
- *Shared by Ellen Mae Surfus in memory of Bill Surfus & Arthur & Hertha Lorfeld*
- *Shared by Mary Ann Vogel in memory of my husband Wayne Vogel and parents Walter & Orvilla Stoeckigt*

Loving Gifts of Easter Lilies from Our St. Mark's Families, 2024



- *Shared by Dave & Ann Adams in memory of Ken & Joann Wolff and Leonard & Ruth Adams*
- *Shared by Mike & Roxi Bernhardt in memory of our parents*
- *Shared by Dave and Cindy Call in memory of our parents*
- *Shared by Pat and Noreen Flook in memory of our parents and Noreen's brother*
- *Shared by Gerty Free in memory of my husband Eddie and our son Terry*
- *Shared by Jon, Julie, Abby and Cole Herrmann in memory of our mom and grandma, Mary Ellen*
- *Shared by Marlene Kammann in memory of my loved ones*
- *Shared by Kevin and Betty (Bosman) Kellner in memory of Myron and Beatrice Bosman*
- *Shared by Family in honor of Kathryn Jaehnig*
- *Shared by Margene Reyer for the joy of Easter*
- *Shared by Chris Schnelle and Family in memory of Joel Schnelle*
- *Shared by Lee and Nancy Sixel in memory of Ralph and Betty Sixel*
- *Shared by Lee and Nancy Sixel in memory of Keith Sixel*
- *Shared by Keith and Lynn Strysick in honor of Pastor Patrick and the congregations of St. Mark's and St. James for their loving friendship and support*



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

*April 1st – Carol Weiland
2nd – Glenn Grunwald
3rd – Dale Dirks, Chris Schnelle
5th – Karen Binversie*

ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK:

*March 31st – Myron & Kathleen Hickman
April 2nd – Rev. Patrick & Brenda Schultz
6th – Jason & Jenny Riesterer*

QUILTING/SEWING GROUP – meets Tuesday, April 2nd from 9-noon at St. Mark's

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY – meets Tuesday, April 2nd at 6:30pm
(there's no meeting on the 9th)

ST. JAMES BRAT FRY PLANNING MEETING – Wed., April 3rd, 6pm

ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL – Wed., April 3rd, 6:30pm

ST. MARK'S CHOIR REHEARSAL – Wed., April 3rd, 7pm

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY – meets Thursday, April 4th at 6pm

ST. JAMES STEWARDSHIP MEETING – Thurs., April 4th, 6pm



St. James and St. Mark's

Ladies join us for

BUNCO NIGHT

Thursday, April 18th

6pm at St. James.

A \$5 participation fee is optional

Please join us and RSVP to

Jackie Mueller or Tammy Serketich

or email tserketich@yahoo.com

Sunday!

If you've been seeking out and praying for a way for God to use you to make a difference in someone's life....

HERE'S YOUR ANSWER!

St. James is in need of multiple Sunday School teachers starting in September!

Previous teaching experience is not necessary. The curriculum is easy to follow and you will get help to get started. Being involved with Sunday School is a great way to answer God's call and make a positive difference (and it's fun!).

If you're a busy person, remember it's only one day a week!

Contact Christine Gumm for more information.

Upcoming Church Events:

(mark your calendar)

May 5th, 1:00pm, Sheepshead at St. James

May 8th, 4-7pm, St. James Brat Fry Carry-Outs only



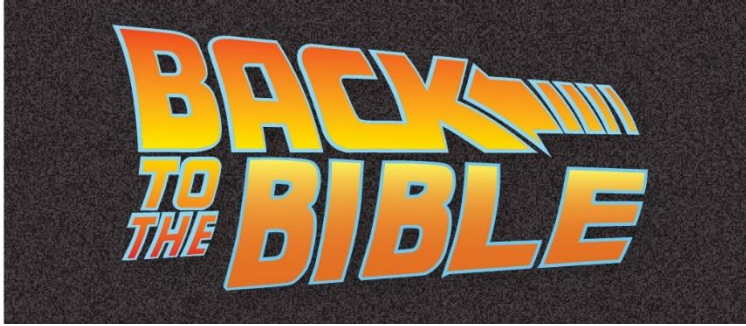
WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the Northeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ will be held Sat., April 20, from 9:00am - 2:00pm. at the Daycholah Center in Ripon.

New this year: A Youth Day Camp is offered to children/grandchildren of meeting attendees. Daycholah staff will lead a camp experience for youth in second through seventh grades.

Interested in attending as a delegate? Contact Pastor Patrick for registration.



4-Week Sermon Series:

April 14, 21, 28, May 5th

- Week 1: The Bible is Historically Accurate
- Week 2: The Bible is Prophetically Accurate
- Week 3: The Bible is Scientifically Accurate
- Week 4: You Can Build Your Life On It

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock."

Matt 7:24