



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 24, 2022

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Rev. Kim Henning, Guest Pastor

Organist: Ann Rodewald

Choir Directors: Kathy Jurk

Meditative Music

Bells Ring Prelude

Gathering for Worship:

Rejoice, The Lord is King

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: Our gathering is in the name of God, the Holy One who is from everlasting to everlasting. Amen. Christ is risen!

P: Christ is risen, indeed!

L: Come forth, all you people of faith. Come and celebrate. Come and listen. Come and enjoy the presence of the living Jesus Christ.

P: We are the thirsty. We thirst for the love and mercy of God. We are the hungry. We hunger for the reign of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L: Come, all you who hope in God.

P: Feed us, O God, as we anticipate the time when Christ will be all in all.

L: Come, join me as we praise our Lord Jesus Christ, the first-born from the dead.

Please pray with me,

P: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, you have broken the power of death. Grant that we who have been raised with him may triumph over temptation, hatred, and despair. Bless us with your Spirit, we pray, that is both bold and humble. Enrich our lives with the good news of Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. Amen.

Easter Proclamation:

L: We believe that Easter is more than a meal; Easter is more than the arrival of spring; Easter is more than the budding of trees; Easter is more than the arrival of daffodils.

P: We believe in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L: Our faith in Jesus' Resurrection began with some women who witnessed an empty tomb, Then they saw angels, and then Jesus himself.

P: We too believe in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L: Our faith in Jesus' Resurrection expanded when Jesus appeared to some disciples in a closed room. Our faith expanded further as Jesus appeared as a stranger to two disciples along the road to Emmaus. Our faith expanded further as Jesus appeared to more than 500, and then to the Apostle Paul. They passed their testimony on to us.

P: Christ died for our sins; he was buried, and he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scripture.

L: In the words of Paul, If Christ has not been raised,

P: Nothing matters! Our preaching is useless. Our faith is useless. We are even misrepresenting God.

L: If Christ has not been raised,

P: We are still in our sins. And those who have died are as dead as ever. And those who had hoped in Jesus Christ are pitiable human beings.

L: But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead. As death came through a human being

P: The resurrection has come through one who was human among us, Jesus Christ.

L: As all die after the manner of Adam and Eve,

P: All will be made alive in Christ.

L: Christ will destroy every ruler, every authority and power. And Christ promises that nothing, nothing whatsoever will separate us from the love of God, Not death, not life, not angels, not rulers, not things present, not things to come, Not powers, not height, not depth, and not anything in all creation. Christ our Lord is risen.

P: Christ our Lord is risen indeed.

Young at Heart:



A Locked Door

Gloria Patri:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Psalm 150

L: Praise the Lord!

P: Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

L: Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

P: Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

L: Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

P: Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

L: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

First Scripture Reading:

Acts 5:27-32

St. Mark's Choir Anthem:

The Sweet Story of Old

St. James Hymn: (#191 *The Hymnal*)

Breathe on me, Breath of God

Second Scripture Reading:

John 20:19-31

Sermon:

Thomas' Confession

Rev. Kim Henning

Pastoral Prayer and 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.

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).

Offertory Music:

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Doxology:

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

Prayer of Dedication:

L: Please pray with me.....

P: Eternal and ever-blessed God, Lord of heaven and earth: we praise you for your glorious majesty. In the world around, we observe signs of nature coming back to life as they do each spring. In the church, we observe signs of your power, your glory, and your presence as they do whenever two or three come together in your name. Praise be to you in Christ. Amen.

Hymn: (#184 The Hymnal)

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Commission and Benediction:

Postlude:

The Lord of Life is Risen

John 20:19-31 ESV

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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