



**April 28, 2024**  
**St. James/St. Mark's United Church of Christ**  
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor  
Ann Rodewald, Organist   Kathy Jurk, Choir Director  
Jacob Grunwald, Reader

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

*Trumpet Voluntary on "St. Thomas"*

**Call to Worship:**

Bless us as we meet together,  
**dear Lord we pray.**

Bless the singing of your praise,  
**the reading of your Word,**

the sharing of our fellowship,  
**the prayers that will be heard.**

Bless us as we meet together,  
**dear Lord we pray.**

**Prayer:**

As we gather, let us remember that we worship the God who created this world, the God who spoke through his prophets from generation to generation, led his people from captivity to liberty, healed the sick, fed the hungry and was faithful even when faced with rejection. The same God who wants all people to be drawn to his love and grace, to know his forgiveness and the joy of his Salvation. Let us put aside all that hinders and join together in worship and praise. *Amen.*

**Hymn:**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

St. James (#10 - Binder)

St. Mark's (#72)

**Affirmation of Faith: (Apostles Creed)**

I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord:

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead and buried:

He descended into hell: The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead:

I believe in the Holy Spirit: The One Holy Universal Christian Church: the communion of saints: The forgiveness of sins: The resurrection of the body: And the life everlasting. *Amen.*



**Young at Heart:**

**St. James Hymn: (#341)**

*Here, O My Lord*

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

*But This I Surely Know*

**Scripture Reading:**

Genesis 6-8 ESV

(see insert)

**Message:**

*Back to the Bible: Noah and the Great Flood*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

## 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](http://stmstjucc.org)).

## Offertory Music:

*Amazing Grace*

*~ The offering is brought to the altar ~*

## Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Holy God, we bring our tithes and offerings to your altar. Bless our gifts for your unfinished kingdom work. Remind us, as we worship here, that through your Son Jesus Christ and the salvation offered to us through your grace alone, we are part of your kingdom. We are your Kingdom Children. Fill us with grace and compassion in our encounters with others. In Christ's name, we pray. *Amen.*

## Hymn:

St. James (#464)  
St. Mark's (#442)

*Dwell In Me, O Blessed Spirit  
'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

## Benediction:

Beautiful children of God, God proclaims the good news all around us. Go, now, in the blessed company of the Triune God to discover the good news wherever you may go and share it, with great love, with those you meet. Go now to love and serve the Lord...

## Postlude:

*Close of Worship*



## 5 Week Sermon Series: April 21, 28, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>



- Week 1: Is the Bible is Historically Accurate? -part 1
- Week 2: Is the Bible is Historically Accurate? -part 2
- **Week 3: Is the Bible is Prophetically Accurate?**
- **Week 4: Is the Bible is Scientifically Accurate**
- **Week 5: 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*

**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.**



**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.



**It's VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**Planning Time!**

Summer is just around the corner-- and the time has come to start planning VBS!

Would your children attend?  
Would you be interested in helping with the planning and/or sessions?  
Contact Pastor Patrick!

# Staying Close, Staying Connected

## Our Church Celebrations!

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:**

*April 28<sup>th</sup> – Abby Herrmann*

*30<sup>th</sup> – Ryan Binversie*

*May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Luke Grunwald, Timothy Heckmann,  
Brian Henschel, Layla Schultz*

*May 4<sup>th</sup> – William Heckmann*

### **ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:**

*April 28<sup>th</sup> – Jack & Wendy Schnelle*

*29<sup>th</sup> – Ron & Sue Vandoske*

*30<sup>th</sup> – Gene & Kathy Kaestner  
Thad & Crissy Athorp*

*May 1<sup>st</sup> – Steven & Mary Jo Gabsch*

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**ST. JAMES CHOIR PRACTICE** – Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30pm

**QUILTING/SEWING GROUP** – Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9am to noon, at St. Mark's

**ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY** – Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6pm

**MISSION/VISION COMMITTEE** – meets on Sat., May 4<sup>th</sup>, at 8am at St. Mark's

**HS YOUTH GROUP** meets at St. Mark's next week Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30pm



Collection boxes, along with "Wish Lists" for Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota are located at each church. Donations will be accepted through the end of June. You may also give a cash donation.

If you have any questions, contact St. Mark's members, Pat & Noreen Flook.

**COME JOIN US FOR:**



**at ST. JAMES UCC, 1:00pm  
SUNDAY, MAY 5th, 2024**

**OPEN TO MEN & WOMEN OF ST. JAMES & ST. MARK'S**  
*Feel free to bring a friend!*

**St. James U.C.C.**

# **Brat Fry**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**

**4 - 7 PM**

**13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton  
Spring Valley**

- \*brats
- \*hamburgers
- \*chicken
- \*dessert

**Carry Outs  
Only!**



**All women are invited  
to wear a hat to St. James church  
on Mothers Day, May 12th**

**\*Everyone is invited to a social time and refreshments  
following the church service.**

# GPS

**Grow** – deeper in our faith and relationship with God.

**Pray** – pray daily for family, neighbors, and others.

**Study** – read the Bible, pray over what we read, ask questions.

Most, if not all, growing up in the church have heard the story of the Great Flood. It's one of the first stories to be told to young children – and especially impactful if it's been raining out and all the children are led outside to look at the rainbow!

Many cultures have flood legends in which their “world” has been cleansed of the people presenting an opportunity to start over. However, many do not. Africa is entirely lacking as is most of Europe and many parts of Asia in any “flood” story. These stories *are* widespread in America, Australia, and the islands of the Pacific. Additionally, many of the known flood legends differ significantly from the biblical story and stand independent of it and of one another.

For many of these cultures a worldwide flood did not happen, but rather a local flooding and not all relate the rescue of a man or family who “found favor in the eyes of the Lord.” Oftentimes the heroes rescue themselves by escaping in a boat or climbing a mountain without any intervention of the gods. More so, many of these stories say nothing about the characteristics of the flood or the means of its origins nor does it give the wickedness of humanity as the cause of the flood. The duration of the flood, if given, varies from a few days to years.

The most important significance of all these stories is that they provide a contrast against the biblical narrative. Perhaps most importantly, is that the picture of God offered in the genesis narrative shows him to be distressed over injustice and violence and while he is sitting in judgment his grace and mercy are evident.

**Prayer:** Holy God, may you always judge us with grace and mercy. May we feel your love even as we know your justice. *Amen.*

# NOTES

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](http://www.stmstjucc.org)

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)