



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

# *Whoever Serves*

DEPTHS OF LOVE WORSHIP SERIES

**Sunday, March 17, 2024**

***Building Fund Sunday***

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist

Lori Roelse, Reader

Cindy Sohn, Choir Director

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

St. Mark's:

St. James:

*Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

*I Lay My Sins on Jesus*

## **Call to Worship:**

Lenten travelers, how long have you traveled this road as you gaze downward at the dust and gravel and asphalt as you walk or limp or roll down the path?

**Sometimes it is easier to look down at the road than up at the people and places of this journey.**

Lift your heads! Look, listen, reach out a hand. Who are your neighbors on this road?

**We lift our heads and look to our Savior who journeys with us and helps us to notice our neighbors all around us.**

This is the Lenten journey—to learn to love God and love our neighbors even as Jesus does.

**Let this journey teach us to lose our lives to God as we find and follow Christ in service to others.**

Come, let us worship God who travels with us on this road to the cross.

**Come, let us worship! Amen.**

## **Doxology:**

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **Prayer:**

**Lord, we know Easter is coming soon and we wait with great anticipation your triumphant victory over sin and death. We readily acknowledge there is nothing perfect about us, yet you beckon us with hands that soon will be scarred by betrayal, greed, pride, and apathy. You see our imperfections with compassionate eyes as we struggle to rid ourselves of the worldly things that draw us away from you. As the cross looms ahead, our eyes and our focus are on you and you alone for our redemption and salvation. *Amen.***

## **Hymn:**

**St. Mark's (#438)**

**St. James (#373)**

*On Eagle's Wings  
Christ For the World We Sing*

## **Young at Heart:**



## **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.**

**St. James Choral Anthem**

*God So Loved*

**Scripture Reading:**

John 12:20-33 ESV

*Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.*

*"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.*

**Message:**

*Whoever Serves*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

**Hymn:**

**St. Mark's (#486)**

*Have Thine Own Way, Lord!*

**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:**

St. Mark's:

*Where He Leads Me I Will Follow*

St. James:

*Now the Green Blade Riseth*

*~ The offering is brought to the altar ~*

**Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

God of ages, we share our tithes and offerings this day with you.

Multiply these gifts that they may be used to help bring about unity, peace and mercy. Bless these offerings to help those who suffer, hunger, and thirst for a deeper relationship with you. In our redeemer's name, we pray. *Amen.*

**Hymn of Sending:**

St. Mark's (#561)

*Christ for the World! We Sing*

St. James (#253)

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

**Benediction:**

Beautiful children of God, go from this place to seek and find the glory of Christ wherever you go. Go now to love and serve the Lord, in all that you do and all that you are and all that you will be. *Amen.*

**Postlude:**

St. Mark's:

*Nothing But The Blood*

St. James:

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

**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.*

Lenten Services:

*March 20th, 7pm, at St. James UCC*

*March 28th, Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion, 7pm,  
at St. James UCC*

*March 29th, Good Friday Worship with Communion, 7pm, at  
St. Mark's UCC*