

Sunday, February 25, 2024 St. James and St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Ann Rodewald, Organist Jacob Grunwald, Reader Kathy Jurk, Choir Director

Meditative Music Bells Ring Prelude Gathering for Worship:

Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Call to Worship:

(Psalm 30:1-5) ESV

Today we step up a little higher on our Lenten Journey We are moving from contemplation to action.

Are you ready to take the next step?

Yes, we are ready. The cross is before us.

Come, walk together on this journey to the Cross.

Lord, prepare our hearts and our spirits for this next step. AMEN.

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.

Prayer:

Lord of presence and power, be with us on this second step of our Lenten journey to the Cross. Help us to make a commitment of our lives, our spirits, our hearts to ministry in your name. *Amen.*

Hymn:

St. James (#4 Binder) **St. Mark's** (#502)

Young at Heart:

Be Thou My Vision

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 guick 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.*

Scripture Reading:

Mark 8:31-38 ESV

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Message: Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn:

St. James (# 191)

St. Mark's (#118)

Breathe on me Breath of God Lord of the Dance

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:

Oh, How He Loves You and Me

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

God of Boundless Goodness: We come to this Holy Place to worship you with our songs, with our words, with our gifts, and with our whole hearts. We are reminded that our discipleship involves more than what we bring to this altar; our discipleship means to bear a cross that is ours alone and must be picked up and carried. This, more than anything else, is why we need the community of your church. Strengthen us, we pray, not just to carry our own cross, but to help sisters and brothers carry their crosses as well. In the name of the one who bore his cross for us. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending:

St. James (#466) **St. Mark's** (#257)

He Leadeth Me What Wondrous Love Is This

Benediction:

Place your trust in God's guidance. Go into this world where the need of hope and healing with the love of Christ is in great demand. Though the journey is long, God will sustain you. Go in peace and may God's peace always go with you. Go now in mercy and love, to serve the Lord:

In all that you do; and all that you are; and all you will be. Amen.

Postlude: Marche Sombre





Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

February 25th - Myron Hickman, Jason Riesterer, Bill Roelse

26th - Rieck Beiersdorf, Amy Summers

27th - Karie Ladwig

28th - Poppy Binversie

29th - Eunice Stolzmann, Walter Taylor

March 1st - Eric Grotegut, Katy Grunwald

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:

February 26th - Bill & Laurie Heckmann March 2nd - Dave & Cindy Call

ST. JAMES VISION OF HOPE COMMITTEE MEETING - Monday, Feb. 26th, 6:30pm

ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL - Tuesday, Feb. 27th, 6:30pm

LENTEN WORSHIP - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28th, 7PM AT ST. MARK'S

ST. MARK'S CHOIR REHEARSAL - following the Wednesday Worship service

EASTER LILY ORDER DEADLINES - St. Mark's, TODAY!

St. James, next week Sunday, March 3rd

TODAY!



TOURNAMENT!

ST. JAMES UCC SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024 1:00 PM

OPEN TO MEN & WOMEN OF ST. JAMES & ST. MARK'S

Soup Cookoff, sponsored by Rural Churches Mission, 11-2 on Sunday, Feb. 25th at Laack's Tayern & Ballroom.

Enter your favorite soup for tasting; Come to taste the soups!

\$10 adults/\$5 children 12 and under.

There's a sign posted with specifics.

Support our church Mission Team!



St. James united Church of Christ 13312 Pioneer Road, Spring Valley Newton, WI 53063 nili Dinner Drive-Theu Hosted by St. Mark's / St. James' Youth Fellowship Sunday, March 3rd, 11:00 am-1:00 pm Carry Out Only!! Quart of Chili: \$7.00 Gallon of Chili: \$22.00 All carry outs will include chili, crackers, fresh bread, cheese, and a dessert!

COME & JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS!

St. James UCC

~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.

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

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."