

Sunday, May 21, 2023

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Randy Sohn, Organist

Sandy Perronne, Reader

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

Call to Worship:

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

Happy are those to whom God attributes no wrong,
those in whose heart there is no deceit.

When we seek your truth, O God, and acknowledge our sin, we experience your forgiveness.

Let all people reach out to you in prayer, O God,
and know your protection and strength.

Surrounded by your grace-filled presence and filled with your undeserved forgiveness, we sing your praise; we shout for joy.

Stubbornness melts away and tempers are controlled.

When we put our trust in God,

we are surrounded and filled with God's steadfast love.

Opening Prayer:

Blessed are those who find joy in the presence of the Lord. The One who overcomes our sins, who gathers us in, loves us and protects us – He is our Lord and Savior. Let us worship and rejoice in his name, in his presence and his grace.

Amen.

Doxology:

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

Hymn of Worship and Praise:

St. Mark's (#113)

St. James (#7) Vs 1-4

Rejoice, Ye Pure in 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.*

Young at Heart:



Hymn:

St. Mark's: (#96)

St. James: (#181)

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 32:8 ESV

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

John 11:38-44 ESV

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Message:

Signs: Signs of Life

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

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:

Walking With the Master

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Gracious God, you call us to let go of the things we cling to and step out in faith, trusting in your love and provision.

Give us courage to step out boldly, to plant our small seeds generously, and without fear. Use our gifts to accomplish more than we could possibly imagine, so that, through us, your kingdom might come, and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Hymn of Sending:

St. Mark's: (#508)

St. James: (#299)

Lead On, O King Eternal

Benediction:

The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." 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:

Sing and Rejoice Greatly



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 is on Summer Break*****

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



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

May 25th- Owen Schnelle

22nd- Samuel DeBlaey, Daniel Kleinhans

25th- Roxi Bernhardt

26th- Stacy Hermann

27th- Steven Schultz

ANNIVERSARIES:

May 21st- Randall & Karen Krause

TODAY: HS YOUTH MEETING - Sunday, May 21st, 5:30pm, St. James.

THE CHOSEN SEASON 3 STUDY GROUP – Mon., May 22nd 10am/5pm, St. Mark's

VISION OF HOPE – 6:30pm next week Monday, May 22nd

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES due Tuesday, May 23rd. Email them to Karen at:
stmstjoffice@gmail.com

NEXT WEEK SUNDAY, MAY 28th – PENTECOST WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE, Monday, May 29th, 8:15am at St. James Cemetery by
the Wagner-Eberle-Sukawoty American Legion Post in St Nazianz

BRAT FRY

**Location: Tietz's Piggly Wiggly
714 S. Wisconsin Drive
Howards Grove, Sheboygan**

**When: Saturday, June 3, 2023
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Also... BAKE SALE - Baked items will be available for good will offering

**St. James and St. Mark's UCC are raising funds for a youth mission trip.
Our destination - Cleveland, Ohio through Next Step Ministries.**

**We will be serving the community
by doing yard work, small construction projects,
working at the local food bank, and more.**

**Help us provide our youth the opportunity to
build new relationships, connect with the community, and
have an experience they will never forget.**

THERE'S ROOM FOR ONE MORE!

We have 16 youth and adults going to Cleveland OH for mission work through Next Step Ministries. The dates are July 16 to 21st. And we have one open spot we are trying to fill. Anyone may go who is 16 or older with written permission from a parent or if 18 and older, no permission form needed!

We're still doing fundraising, although the funds for 17 "missionaries" are covered - except for a \$50.00 payment you would need to make. If you are interested in joining us, or know of someone who is, let me know.

You can contact me via email or my phone: 608-352-9544.

Thank you!
Pastor Patrick

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

Signs are a wonderful thing. Sometimes they seem so obvious we wonder why they even need to be posted. For example:



I wonder if God sometimes has that same thought in mind? Yet as the Wisconsin UCC Conference reminds us, “God is still speaking.” God is still sending us signs, still talking to us, still active and present in our lives.

How do we know or recognize the signs of God? Here are four ways we recognize signs from God.

- 1) The sign resonates with real life today. It does not seek to divert us, misguide or mislead us.
- 2) The sign connects us more deeply with God. When pray we draw closer to God. We are then blessed with knowledge, wisdom, and meaning. And we are more open to recognizing and receiving God’s signs.
- 3) The signs provide clarity and not confusion. God can make you comprehend what he desires you to comprehend. If something strange occurs and you are unsure what it points to, it is simply because it is not God’s sign, for God is not the cause of the confusion.
- 4) The sign fulfills the Bible. If the sign, we receive leads us into areas the Bible tells us not to go, it’s not a sign from God. If it is supported in the Bible, then it is from God.

When we pray, we seek God for clarity, delve into His word, and have faith in his promise to bring us understanding and guidance. As declared in Isaiah, “And this shall be a sign unto thee from the Lord, that the Lord will do this thing that he hath spoken” (Isaiah 38:7).

Notes:

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."*