



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Sunday, March 19, 2023**

**Building Fund Sunday**

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist

Choir Director: Cindy Sohn

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

St. Mark's: *At Calvary*

St. James: *Make Me A Channel of Your Peace*

**Call To Worship:**

Children of the Living God!

**God loves us beyond all understanding.**

Children of the Living God!

**Despite our failings, God continues to save us.**

Children of the Living God!

**We are here to worship the God of love, justice, and grace.**

**Prayer:**

We seek and find you in Creation, O God, in the world you have made and the people you have called. Your vulnerable, powerful Lamb is our shepherd and guide, leading us to share the shelter of your abundant life. Let us recognize you here in the beauty of this morning and in its challenge; may the Risen One, your Shepherd-Lamb, lead us to act for your justice and peace: so that all may drink from your springs of the waters of life, and find their tears of sorrow and pain wiped away. In the name of the Risen One we pray: *Amen.*

**Hymn of Praise:**

St. Mark's: (#50)  
St. James: (#287)

*Great Is The Lord  
God of Grace and God of Glory*



**Young at Heart:**

**UCC Statement of Faith:**

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, and to his deeds we testify:

He calls the worlds into being, creates man in his own image and sets before him the ways of life and death.

He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

He judges men and nations by his righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, he has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to himself.

He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

He calls us into his church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of men, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him.

Amen.

**Prayer of Confession:**

Forgiving and gracious God, you have called us to be the church, to live out our Resurrection faith. You have asked us to place our trust in you and to bring to all the good news of your saving love. But we have not always done so.

Our faith will often take a back seat to the troubles of the world and to the stresses in our own life. Forgive us when we, like the disciples, are of little faith. You who have raised Christ from the dead, have promised to raise our spirits and bring us to new life. So, clear our spirits of the clutter of everyday living. Help us to be open always to your word and your love. Challenge us to move in directions of peace and hope for all people. These things we pray in the name of our risen Lord. *Amen.*

*Brief period of silence*

**Words of Assurance:**

**Forgiveness and love have been poured out upon us, that we might offer the same to those around us. We are called to bring hope to the hopeless. We are called and blessed to be messengers of God's good news to all people. *Amen.***

**St. Mark's: (#480)**

**St. James Choral Anthem:**

*Open My Eyes That I May See*

*He Suffered and Died*

Clarinet: Emma Russart

God of extravagant grace, may your Spirit refresh our hearts through the reading of the scriptures that we may perceive all the good we can do for Christ and so grow in our faith toward our Lord Jesus. *Amen.*

**Scripture Reading:**

Luke 11:1-2

**Message:**

TEACH US TO *Pray*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

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

**St. James: (#256)**

*Have Thine Own Way Lord*

*Lord, Speak to Me*

**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: *Down at the Cross*

St. James: *Sweet Hour Prayer*

*~ The offering is brought to the altar ~*

**Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

God of all generations, as we worship today, we offer our whole selves to you, all that we have and all that we are. Like your saints who have gone before us, we pray that you will help us be bold in our mission and in our witness. May we who have been given so much give freely, ministering in your compassion to the multitudes near to us and far from us; so that one day we may stand amidst the multitude that gathers at your heavenly throne. We pray this in the name of our Savior and Redeemer, Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Prayer of the People and the 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 and ever. *Amen.*

**Hymn of Sending:**

St. Mark's: (#712)

St. James: (#271)

*Sent Forth By God's Blessing  
O Jesus, I Have Promised*

**Benediction:**

... Go to love and swerve the Lord in all that you do, in all that you are, and in all that you will be.

**Postlude:**

St. Mark's: *Nothing But the Blood*

St. James: *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

Luke 11:1-2

*Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." And he said to them, "When you pray, say:*

*"Father, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come.*

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:  
St. Mark's & St. James UCC

If you or a family member are in need of pastoral care,  
please contact Pastor Patrick at 920-693-2858 or leave a message on the church's  
answering machine at: 920-693-8361

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)