

Easter Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
St. Mark's United Church of Christ  
St. James United Church of Christ  
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor  
Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organists

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship

St. Mark's - *The Resurrection Song*  
St. James - *Easter Fanfares*

**Call to Worship:**

L: Christ is Risen!

**P: Christ is risen, indeed!**

L: The light of this morning's dawn shines brightly!

**P: He has conquered death!**

L: Hope is alive!

**P: Hope is alive, indeed!**

L: Come, open your hearts and spirits to the joyous Good News!

**P: God's love is eternal! Hallelujah!**

**All: We give thanks for what God has done.**

**Opening Prayer (All together):** Lord, our Lenten journey has been filled with unexpected blessings. You showed us how you are 'On the Move' and you asked us to look deep within ourselves. We have heard your word of love and the challenge to transform through that love. Today, we ask that you open our hearts to receive your word of healing and hope. The cross of Good Friday looms in our future and we face it with fear. Bring us through this time with confidence and trust in your guiding love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. *Amen.*

**Apostle's 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 Baptism:**

Davie Lorraine Vogel (Ashley and Gabriel parents)

Young at Heart



**Hymn of Jubilation:**

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

**Prayer of Confession:**

Gracious God, you have walked patiently with us throughout our Lenten journey. You have celebrated our successes and our growing understanding of your love; and you have mourned our failures and rejections of your healing mercies. This day, as we gather to celebrate the joy of Easter, let us remember that we who were *the Hosanna People* are now become *the Easter People*, people of the Resurrection; people who know that what was thought to be impossible has been made possible. Forgive our stubbornness and fears. Fill us with your healing love and help us to become the disciples that you need to serve in this world. For we ask this in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Words of Assurance (All together):** God is merciful. God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Feel the healing, loving power of God in your lives, for it is given to you through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

**Song of Assurance:**

*Crown Him With Many Crowns*

**Scripture Reading:**

John 20:1-10

**Message:**

Neatness and Tidiness in the Maelstrom of Confusion  
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

**A Time of Prayer and Holy Communion** ~ All are invited to the table.

*(Following the Communion Liturgy, we will join in the Lord's Prayer)*

**Pastoral Prayer:**

Almighty and totally Awesome God,

Let us come to you with open hands seeking your touch;

Let us come to you with open hearts seeking to know you more deeply;

Let us come to you on bended knee giving thanks for your unending love.

Be with us this day as we celebrate the resurrection of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Let the light of your love flood into our lives and through us to all those who have been captured by darkness, that the light may give them healing, freedom and hope.

As we witness the surprise of the women at the tomb, the appearance of the Savior to Mary, and her good news brought to the disciples, let us remember that this good news *is for us today.*

Darkness does not win.

Death is not victorious.

Christ is Risen, for us, for you and for me.

We are raised with Christ to a new life of hope and service. Let the joy of this good news be received in our hearts. Let excitement for service and ministry burst forth from us. Let us truly be the *Easter People* you have called us to be. For we ask these things in the name of the Risen Lord, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Into Holy Communion:

L: Christ is Risen!

**P: Christ is risen indeed!**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them up to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit;

Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love:

We praise you for Jesus Christ,

who reminds us that even in fear-filled days,

cloaked with the powers of death,

your eternal love arises, and never leaves us.

For we rejoice with all your people and with the angels,  
because life is stronger than death!

We proclaim the glory of your name:

Holy is Jesus, God Incarnate, the Risen Christ,

whose mercy gathers us together in community,

whose grace meets us in our brokenness,

and whose loving faithfulness gives us renewed hope.

In this meal, we remember Jesus, his promises,  
and the price he paid for who he was, what he said,  
and what he did; for our benefit.

On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread,  
Gave thanks, broke it, and said,

*Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.*

*Do this, in remembrance of me.*

After supper, Jesus took the cup and poured, saying,

*This is the cup of the new covenant,*

*poured out for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins.*

*Do this in remembrance of me.*

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

**P: We remember Christ's life of love, and friendship, and teaching,**

**P: We remember Christ's dying, and rising to life again.**

Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape,  
the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower.

These simple elements are shared in community,

so that we may taste and see your goodness

and become one body in Christ.

**P: For it is through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,**

**in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**that all glory is yours, God most holy,**

**now and forevermore. *Amen.***

**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:**

*My Lord, What a Morning*

**Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (All together)**

**God of love, we offer our gift of time, our spiritual and financial gifts as a**

**sign of our love for you and the world. We ask a special blessing on these**

**gifts where you meet us in our suffering, and raise us up, so that all may**

**come to know of your abiding love. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.**

***Amen.***

**A Sending Forth Song:**

*The Lord of Life is Risen*

## Benediction

May God's abiding love and hope give us new life.

May God's unmerited grace and mercy keep us hope-filled.

And may God's restorative justice bring to us all, perfect peace.

For Christ is risen!

**P: He is Risen Indeed!**

## Postlude

St. Mark's - *Glory to Our Risen Lord*

St. James - *Thine is the Glory*

## John 20:1-10

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.



HE IS RISEN.

## Loving gifts of Easter Lilies from Our Church Families, 2021



### St. Mark's Easter Lily Donations

*\*\*Shared by Dave & Cindy Call in memory of our parents*

*\*\*Shared by Pat & Noreen Flook in memory of our parents & Noreen's brother*

*\*\*Shared by Gerty Free in memory of my wonderful husband, Eddie*

*\*\*Shared by Gerty Free in memory of our son, Terry Free*

*\*\*Shared by Steve Gabsch in memory of Katherine & Allen Gabsch*

*\*\*Shared by JoAnn Grant in memory of my sister, Dorothy Dunham*

*\*\*Shared by Kathy & Mark Jurk in memory of Helen & Melvin Sommer*

*\*\*Shared by Gene & Kathy Kaestner for the joy of Easter!*

*\*\*Shared by Marlene Kammann in memory of Melvin*

*\*\*Shared by Mike & Janice Marcheske in memory of our parents*

*\*\*Shared by Chris & Family in memory of Joel Schnelle*

*\*Shared by Keith & Lynn Strysick in honor of our family*

*(over for St. James' lilies)*

Check out our Website [www.stmstjucc.org](http://www.stmstjucc.org) Like us on Facebook

Contact Karen in our Church office to join our prayer team: [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)

If you or a family member are in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Patrick at 920-693-8361 (it's the church number and there's also an answering machine)

## *St. James Easter Lily Donations*

*\*\*Shared by Anonymous in honor of my forefathers who had the foresight to give this land so that we can worship today. I am ever grateful.*

*\*\*Shared by Heidi & Clarence Belitz in memory of our parents.*

*\*\*Shared by Brian & Wendy Henschel in memory of Harvey, Norma & Kevin Henschel.*

*\*\*Shared by Charlie & Ruth Ann Kolb in memory of our parents and daughter, Kerri*

*\*\*Shared by the Kracht Family in memory of Alvin & Loretta Kracht*

*\*\*Shared by the Krause Family in memory of Dolores Krause*

*\*\*Shared by Karie Ladwig in memory of Roger Spindler*

*\*\*Shared by Val Jean Marcoe for the joy of Gavin & Colton Marcoe*

*\*\*Shared by Dorothy Mueller in memory of my twin Don Bohne*

*\*\*Shared by Jackie & Dave Mueller in memory of Jackie's parents, Ilene & Leroy Stock*

*\*\*Shared by Geraldine Scheffler in memory of Ron Scheffler and*

*Walter & Orvilla Stoeckigt*

*\*\*Shared by Tammy Serketich in memory of Wayne Vogel and for the joy of family.*

*\*\*Shared by Carlene Sohn & Family in memory of Leona & Elmer Sohn and*

*Elmyra & Carl Ohlrogge*

*\*\*Shared by Carlene Sohn & Family in memory of Myron Sohn*

*\*\*Shared by Randy & Cindy Sohn, Katie & Daniel, Danny & Rachel in memory of*

*Ken & Virginia Kuether*

*\*\*Shared by Randy & Cindy Sohn, Katie & Daniel, Danny & Rachel in memory of*

*Myron Sohn*

*\*\*Shared by Ellen Mae Surfus in memory of Bill Surfus, Arthur & Hertha Lorfeld*

*\*\*Shared by his loving family in memory of Wayne Vogel, a special husband, dad & papa*

*\*\*Shared by Mary Ann Vogel & Geraldine Scheffler in memory of our parents,*

*Walter & Orvilla Stoeckigt*

