



NEVER ONCE

DID WE EVER
WALK ALONE

DID YOU LEAVE
US ON OUR OWN

YOU ARE
FAITHFUL
GOD YOU ARE FAITHFUL

Sunday, January 15, 2023

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz Pastor

Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist

Lori Roelse, Reader

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

St. Mark's: *The Gentle Savior*

St. James: *Immortal, Invisible*

L: I waited patiently for GOD; who turned to me and heard my cry, who lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; and set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. Behold the Lord, the Ruler over all things, has come among us.

P: We sing a new song! Our mouths are full of the praise of God.

L: Blessed are we when we make the Lord our trust; when we do not turn aside to false gods.

P: We sing of all your many wonders, O God, too many to declare them all.

L: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but our ears you have pierced and a body you have prepared for us.

P: We sing, "Here I am, I have come—I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is in my heart."

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise father, son, and holy ghost

Hymn of Praise:
(561 *Worship & Rejoice*; 373 *The Hymnal*)

Christ for the World We Sing

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, please watch over our precious children and keep them safe. Nurture their inquisitiveness and sense of awe in you. May they grow in wisdom and strength, and may they always know your love and guidance. Please give us, the church, the courage and fortitude to care for our children and help them to grow in their faith. *Amen.*

Young at Heart:



[St. Mark's]
Baptism for Blair Alyssa Sheldon

Hymn of Baptism: (677 *Worship & Rejoice*)

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

[St. James]

Prayer of Confession:

Faithful God, you call us to be saints, but we are more comfortable with the role of sinner; you call us to be your servants, but we worry that we lack the skills to do your work; you put a new song of praise in our mouths, but we stumble on unfamiliar words; you show us the work to be tackled, but we turn away defiant, insisting we have more important things to do.

Put your song on our lips and in our hearts, and remind us of the joy that awaits us when we put our trust in you. Guide us into the light of your unwavering, never-ending, and grace-filled love.

Words of Assurance:

God is faithful and ever-present. The God who knew us before our birth loves us still and strengthens us, that we will one day be blameless. Through the gift of Jesus Christ, God offers forgiveness, grace, and mercy. Enter into the light!

Scripture Reading:

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

ESV version: Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Message: *You Have Everything You Need*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

(St. James) Hymn of Response: (318 hymnal)

Nearer My God to Thee

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:

St. Mark's: *Brightest and Best*
St. James: *Abiding Love*

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Good and generous God, we bring our gifts to you this day and pray you might dedicate them to your work. We confess that we have too often missed being the church you wanted and needed, and we have placed the blame on “not having enough” money, members, talent, time, or power. We needed to be reminded by the apostle Paul that we have all that we need, whatever our circumstances. Renew us, loving God, and give us a new day and another chance. In Christ’s holy name, we pray. *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. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending:

St. Mark’s (#437 *Worship & Rejoice*)
St. James (#206)

Jesus Loves Me
Draw Thou my Soul, O Christ

Benediction:

Let us go from here today secure in the knowledge that we are not lacking in any spiritual gift. We go into our world surrounded by the blessing of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the equipping of the Spirit, to live and work as disciples who make disciples for the transformation of the world. Go now to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all that you will be. *Amen.*

Postlude:

St. Mark’s: *March Jubilant*
St. James: *Joyful Jig*

