

January 24, 2021
St. James United Church of Christ
St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz
Pastor

Randy Sohn
Organist

Prelude Music
Gathering in Readiness for Worship *I Was Glad, When They Said Unto Me*

Opening Prayer of Worship ~ It is the cry of my heart:

It is the cry of my heart to follow you;
It is the cry of my heart to be close to you.
It is the cry of my heart to follow you;
All of the days of my life.

P: The cry of my heart to you O Lord

Teach me your holy ways O Lord;
So I can walk in your truth.
Teach me your holy ways O Lord;
And make me wholly devoted to you.

P: The cry of my heart to you O Lord

Open my eyes so I can see;
The wonderful things that you do.
You *do wonderful things*, God.
Open my heart more and more;
And make it wholly devoted to you.

P: The cry of my heart to you O Lord

Prayer:

Teach me your holy ways, O Lord, so I can walk in your truth.
Open my eyes so I can see the wonderful things that you do.
It is the cry of my heart to follow you all of the days of my life. *Amen.*

Affirmation of Faith ~ Apostles Creed

(on page two)

Song of Assurance:

Blessed Assurance

**Scripture Reading:
Message:**

John 3:1-10
[Beginnings] Is This All There Is?
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Praising God in Music:

Joys Are Flowing Like a River
Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

A Time of Prayer and Silent Reflection

Offering

Offering, Tithes and Gifts can be made on-line through our website (St. James Only), or by mailing your offering to:
St. James UCC, 13312 Pioneer Road, Newton, WI 53063 **OR**
St. Mark's UCC, W1307 Orchard Road, Cleveland, WI 53015

Offertory Music

Take My Gifts

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (all together)

For this wondrous gift of life, we are thankful, O God. Your generous outpouring of grace reminds us of the fruitful life we are called to live out. May these gifts of time and labor, our offerings and tithes, our daily prayers for the church and community therefore embody our desire to share and contribute to your coming reign among us. *Amen.*

A Sending Forth Song

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Benediction

As the disciples walked with Christ so long ago, let us, from this day on, walk with Christ in our hearts and spirits. Feel the power of the Holy Spirit guiding your path. Know the love of God which is poured out for you and rejoice. Go in peace to love and serve our Lord; and may God's peace accompany you always. *Amen.*

Postlude

This Week We Celebrate:

Birthdays: January 24th - Henry Langenhahn, Jr.
25th - Gavin Marcoe
27th - Maureen Athorp
29th - Nancy Sixel, Allyson Wasmer

No Anniversaries This Week

Scripture from today printed on the next page of the bulletin.....

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.*

John 3:1-10 (NRSV)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

