

# God Works Through Our Mess

Genesis 29:1-30

**Sunday, October 23, 2022**

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Ann Rodewald, Organist

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

*I Love You, Lord*

## **Call to Worship:**

L: We come to you, O God, to know the warmth of love,

**P: To have the assurance that someone cares,**

L: We come to you, O God, to be confident of our worth,

**P: To be bold to love in return,**

L: We come to you, O God, to be washed over with grace,

**P: To be accepted as we are:**

L: We come to you, O God, to grow deeper with you,

**P: Then let us worship our God.**

**Unison Prayer:**

Compassionate God, whose heart breaks at the sight of human suffering: By the power of your Holy Spirit, break our hearts too, that we may not ignore but lift before you the need in front of our eyes; through Jesus Christ who is in our midst. Amen.

**Hymn of Praise:**

St. James (#404 Hymnal)

*O God of Love*

St. Mark's (#368 Worship & Rejoice)

*O Happy Day*

**Young at Heart:**



**The 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.*

**Scripture Reading:**

Genesis 29:1-30

**Message:**

The Working Man Person!

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

**Hymn of Response:**

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

St. James (#16 Binder)

St. Mark's (#48 Worship & Rejoice)

**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:**

*O How He Loves You and Me*

~ *The offering is brought to the altar* ~

**Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to share the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives ~ *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. James (#2 Binder)

*Amazing Grace*  
St. Mark's (#422 Worship & Rejoice)

**Benediction:**

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Go to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all you will be. *Amen.*

**Postlude:**

*Lord, Be Glorified*

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*Genesis 29:1-30 ESV*

*Then Jacob went on his journey and came to the land of the people of the east. As he looked, he saw a well in the field, and behold, three flocks of sheep lying beside it, for out of that well the flocks were watered. The stone on the well's mouth was large, and when all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the sheep, and put the stone back in its place over the mouth of the well.*

*Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where do you come from?" They said, "We are from Haran." He said to them, "Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?" They said, "We know him." He said to them, "Is it well with him?" They said, "It is well; and see, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep!" He said, "Behold, it is still high day; it is not time for the livestock to be gathered together. Water the sheep and go,*

*pasture them.” But they said, “We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together and the stone is rolled from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep.”*

*While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she was a shepherdess. Now as soon as Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob came near and rolled the stone from the well's mouth and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother. Then Jacob kissed Rachel and wept aloud. And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, and that he was Rebekah's son, and she ran and told her father.*

*As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he ran to meet him and embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Jacob told Laban all these things, and Laban said to him, “Surely you are my bone and my flesh!” And he stayed with him a month.*

*Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful in form and appearance. Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.*

*Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. (Laban gave his female servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her servant.) And in the morning, behold, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?” Laban said, “It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.” Jacob did so, and completed her week. Then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. (Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.) So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years.*