



November 21, 2021, Memorial Sunday
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Organists: Kathy Jurk, Randy Sohn

Reader: Lori Roelse, St. Mark's

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

St. Mark's: *Shall We Gather at the River*

St. James: *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

P: the source of all mercy and the God of all consolation,

L: who comforts us in all our sorrows,

P: so that we can comfort others in their sorrows with the consolation we ourselves have received from God,

L: and of the Holy Spirit

P: who empowers us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. Amen.

Opening Prayer: (all together)

O God who calls us forth, with the power of the resurrection, and the promise of eternal life to all who trust in you, we give you thanks for the faithful who have followed the light of your Word into our time and place.

As we remember our loved ones today, we give you thanks for the knowing and loving of them.

Strengthen us to follow Christ through this world, until we are carried into the harvest of eternal life, where suffering and death will be no more. Hear our prayer in the name of the good and gracious Shepherd, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *Amen.*

Hymn of Praise: (#1 Hymnal)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Young At Heart:



Prayer of Confession:

There are many ways in which we have turned from our commitment and covenant made through baptism and made in pledge to be of the church. We offer God now our prayers of repentance.

We confess to you, living God, our failure to live as brothers and sisters, and as your children.

We confess to you, loving God, that we have not loved you as you have loved us.

We confess to you, gracious God, that we have doubted your word and failed to obey its teaching.

We confess to you, merciful God, our desire to own you and contain you within our doctrines and theologies.

We confess to you, almighty God, that we do not acknowledge you as Lord of all the earth.

Forgive us and redeem us for we have not allowed your presence to shine among us.

Words of Assurance: (all together)

O God of Shalom, break down for us the walls we have put in place to protect ourselves, not fully understanding those same walls shut us off from receiving your love. Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with ourselves and our enemies. Bless us O Lord, that we may come to grow in love for ourselves, for each other and for you, through Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

St. Mark's Hymn of Assurance: (#464 hymnal)
St. James Choir:

*Dwell In Me, O Blessed Spirit
Treasure Each Moment*

Memorial Reading of Names and Lighting of Candles

St. Mark's
Betty Faith Sixel

St. James
Dawn Angela Marcoe
Jacqueline C. Henschel
Jill S. Schuette

Scripture Reading:

Message: *That I Would Pray For You*

1st Chronicles 29:10b-13

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn of Faith: (#480 Hymnal)

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

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.*

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: *The Heart of God*

St. James: *I Love to Tell the Story*

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

We know that you are the source of every good thing, light and love come from you. You have created us, and you continue to breathe life into us through the power of your Holy Spirit. You have given us so much, and it is because we recognize the gifts you have given to us that we now dedicate this offering to the work of your kingdom here on earth. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending: (377 Pilgrims People)

Leaning on The Everlasting Arms

Benediction:

... To love and serve the Lord. *Amen.*

Postlude

St. Mark's: *Faith Leads Us Onward*
St. James: *Praise Him with Trumpets*

1 Chronicles 29:10-13 ESV

And David said: "Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name."



**THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE with communion,
Wednesday, Nov. 24th, 7:00pm at St. James**

**POINSETTIA ORDERS
DUE NEXT WEEK SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 28th.**



Website: www.stmstjucc.org email: stmstjoffice@gmail.com phone: 920.693.8361

Send an email to be added to our prayer chain.

Messages are uploaded to YouTube: St. Mark's & St. James UCC



LOOKING AHEAD... NEXT SUNDAY, Nov. 28th ...

St. James: 9:00am Worship
9:00-10:00am Sunday School Program Practice
10:00-11:00am Sunday School

St. Mark's: 10:30am Worship
9:00-10:30am Sunday School Program Practice

This week's celebrations:

Birthdays:

- November 21st – Isabella Dexter, Cheyenne Spindler
- 22nd – Allison Luckow, Jonathan Meyer, Reina Scharl
- 23rd – Keri LaDuke-Rafeld, Wendy Meyer
- 24th – Vernon Henschel, Alex Perronne
- 26th – Amy Christianson, Marlene Kammann
- 27th – Maverick Beck

Anniversaries:

- November 21st – Keith & Michelle Mauk
- 25th – Henry & Bonnie Langenhahn

STUDY OF LUKE GROUP – Mon., Nov. 22nd, 6pm, St. Mark's

ST. JAMES CHOIR PRACTICE – Tues., Nov. 23rd, 6:30pm

CONFIRMATION CLASS NOT MEETING THIS WEEK

ST. MARK'S COOKIE EXCHANGE -Sign up Due Dec. 4th. Exchange is happening Dec. 12th. See Lori Roelse for details.

MISSION TRIP MEETING-Dec. 5th, 4pm at Saron UCC. Come and learn the details of the July 17 – Friday, July 23, 2022 trip to Knoxville, TN. Everyone ages 12 and over is invited to participate! You can sign up for the trip and make a \$50.00 non-refundable deposit at that meeting or by the sign-up deadline of Jan. 9th, 2022.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: HS MEETING at St. James, Sunday, Dec. 12th, 5:30-7pm

Watch for Information in the back of church regarding the Christmas Adopt-A-Family. Wrapped gifts will be due Dec. 12th.

****If you haven't seen the Church newsletter in your email Inbox, be sure to check your email 'Promotions' tab. For an unknown reason, they often end up there. If you need help knowing where that tab is/how to do it, contact Pastor Patrick or Karen Mansker. It's actually a good idea to check 'Promotions' twice a week to make sure no other church emails are there.**

WELCOME!

To the parents of young children:

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.

- ❖ Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage.
- ❖ Quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastors, musicians and leaders.
- ❖ Sing the songs, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behaviors by mimicking you.
- ❖ If you have to leave the Worship Center with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

GPS

Grow – deeper in our faith and relationship with God.

Pray – pray daily for family, neighbors, and others.

Study – read the Bible, pray over what we read, ask questions.

Additional Text: No extra reading this week.

Richard Lischer's, "The End of Words" talks about the growing dissonance between message and sensorium, between the gospel and the all-encompassing sea of words, images, and ideologies within which we attempt to communicate. As a preacher for 20 years and more, I fully recognize the rising urgency that many of my colleagues feel when trying to find just the right frequency for their message.

Some have given up on the sermon in its traditional form and replaced with informal group discussions in a Starbucks-setting or film clips from *The Lord of the Rings* in hopes that the service will be built on cultural resonance.

I was recently part of a discussion with colleagues (preachers and pastors), and we were talking about worship in general when the ever-asked question, "how much time do you spend writing your sermon?" came up. One answered, [paraphrasing] 'Any longer than 2-hours is *too long* to spend. I don't write my own sermon anymore. I collect pieces from others and the parts I like I put together to call my own. And the congregation seems to like it.'

A piece of me died then and there. That this person would write sermons to the happiness of the listener was disturbing. But even more so is the loss of personal revelation when digging into the text to see what message God has for the people *and* for the preacher. I sometimes mourn the loss of the raft of preaching.

Prayer: Lord, in whatever work you have called me to do, help me to do the hard work to reap the benefits and never to just get by. *Amen*

NOTES: