



November 24, 2021

**St. James United Church of Christ
Thanksgiving Eve**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Organist: Randy Sohn

Choir Director: Cindy Sohn

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: Come, let us celebrate the wondrous gifts that God has given us.

P: Throughout all our lives, God has blessed us with love and hope.

L: Praise be to God who provides for us.

P: May our hearts be truly grateful, and may we show our gratitude by the ways in which we live and care for others. Hallelujah!

Opening Prayer: (all together) based on Psalm 100

We are called to make a joyful noise to the Lord; we and all the earth. We are filled with gladness, and we worship the Lord! Let us break forth in song and know this: The Lord is God. We belong to the Lord who made us. We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture. We enter God's gates with thanksgiving, we come into the holy courts with praise. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good! His steadfast love endures forever. *Amen.*

Affirmation of our Faith:

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.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,

as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen, amen.

Hymn of Praise: (#19 Hymnal)

We Praise Thee, O God

Prayer of Confession:

For the wide sky and the blessed sun,

For the salty sea and the running water,

For the everlasting hills

And the never-resting winds,

For trees and the common grass underfoot.

We thank you for our senses

By which we hear the songs of birds,
And see the splendor of the summer fields,
And taste the autumn fruits,
And rejoice in the feel of the snow,
And smell the breath of the spring.
Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty;
And save our souls from being so blind that we pass unseeing
When even the common thornbush is aflame with your glory.
O God our Creator,
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn of Assurance: (#466 hymnal)

He Leadeth Me

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 126

Message: *If You Can't Take It Anymore, There's a Reason*
(Nadia Bolz-Weber) Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

St. James Choir

We Gather Together

Holy Communion

Hymn of Faith: (#72 Hymnal)

Now Thank We All Our God

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:

We Gather Together

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

We are your servants and in you we live. We thank you for your generosity in our lives. We cry out and you respond in graciousness, compassion and righteousness. Receive our tithes and offerings, multiply them to the glory of your Kingdom and Word. Amen.

Hymn of Sending: (Insert of #427 Pilgrim People)

Marching to Zion

Benediction:

Filled to the brim with the goodness of God; the nourishment of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, and the power of the Holy Spirit, go now in peace to love and serve the Lord in all that you think, do and say. God's peace be with you. *Amen.*

Postlude

The Thankful Heart Rejoices

PSALM 126 ESV

*When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."
The LORD has done great things for us;
we are glad.
Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!
Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!
He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.*

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Send an email to be added to our prayer team.
Messages are uploaded to YouTube: St. Mark's & St. James UCC