



Sunday, November 27, 2022
First Advent Sunday
St. James/St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Organist: Ann Rodewald Choir Director: Kathy Jurk

Readers: Jacob and Luke Grunwald

Advent Candle Lighting Readers: Wyatt Henschel (STJ), Reid Vandoske (STM)

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

Lift Up Your Heads

Story Part I

Opening Prayer:

Adonai, El Shaddai, Lord our God, let your hope arise in our hearts! Lift our eyes up to see that you alone are where our hope comes from. Help us to shake off the anxiety, discouragements, and distractions that have filled this year.

May we pause to remember that we have hope in you.

~ A moment of silence ~

We invite your Spirit into this beautiful Advent season. Renew our sense of holy anticipation! Let us be those who are waiting eagerly for Jesus to come again. And more than anything, we ask that you be glorified in this season of expectation.

Amen.

The Reading for and Lighting of the First Advent Candle:

Reader: On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of hope.
(Light the first candle.)

Reader: Hope is our assurance that God will finish all he has started.
Hope is our confidence that he will do all he has promised.

People: **All the promises of God are fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
He is our hope, today and forever!** (2 Corinthians 1:20)

Reader: Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Hymn of Praise:

(#154 *Worship & Rejoice*)
(#88 *The Hymnal*)

O Come, O come, Emmanuel



Young at Heart:

St. Mark's Choral Anthem:

Even So, Love Jesus, Come

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 39:4-5

Message:

The Gift of Time

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn of Response:

St. James: (#87)

Be Still My Soul

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:

Emmanuel

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

God who is faith and truth, be present with us as we plan our spending and make our budgets. May we use our resources in ways that build healthy, happy relationships with you and others. May we remember the teachings of Jesus that challenge us; his ways are counter to our culture and societal expectations. May these gifts be blessed to further God's Kingdom on earth. ~ *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 (#390 Worship & Rejoice)
St. James (back of bulletin)

Marching To Zion

Benediction:

Beloved Community of Christ, do not just speak and sing of Zion. Live, love, and share as Zion: those who strive to be visibly one in Christ, among whom there are no poor or oppressed. Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all you will be. *Amen.*

Postlude:

Postlude in C

Psalm 39:4-5

*"O LORD, make me know my end
and what is the measure of my days;
let me know how fleeting I am!*

*Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.
Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! Selah*

Like us on Facebook



Check out our Website: www.stmstjucc.org

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: stmstjoffice@gmail.com

Marching to Zion

F C7 F C F C

1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
 2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
 3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets
 4 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - ery tear be dry;

F Bb/F F Gm/Bb Bb F C F/C C

join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
 but chil - dren of the heav - en - ly King, but chil - dren of the
 be - fore we reach the heav - en - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
 we're march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Em -

G7 C F C F F7 Gm/Bb F/C C7

sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur - round the
 heav - en - ly King may speak their joys a - broad, may speak their joys a -
 heav - en - ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en
 man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on

F Refrain C

throne.
 broad. We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on;
 streets.
 high.

we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.