#### November 29, 2020 St. Mark's United Church of Christ St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz Pastor Randy Sohn Organist

He Touched Me

Prelude Music
Gathering in Readiness for Worship
Ringing of the Bells

Call to Worship (Responsively)

L: Brothers and sisters, boys and girls ~

P: Come and worship!

L: Even if you're tired and worn out ~

P: Come and worship!

L: Lay down the heavy things you are carrying ~

P: Come and worship!

L: Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you ~

P: Come and worship!

L: See if you can discover how Jesus wants to use you ~

P: Come and worship!

A: For Jesus is humble and gentle, and he will give us everything we need to follow him.

## **Opening Prayer (all together)**

Lord of heaven and earth, we gather in your presence with thanksgiving and praise for the way in which you have revealed yourself to us. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, we have come to know and love you; we have caught a glimpse of your heart, and we have heard the call to follow. Continue to reveal yourself to us as we worship. May your Holy Spirit open our minds and hearts to your presence here, and to the word that you have for us this morning. We long to meet you here, and to know you better. In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

**Praising God in Music** 

Glory Be to God the Father There is a Balm in Gilead

**Scripture Reading** 

Matthew 11:28-30

L: This is the Word of God for you, the People of God.

P: Thanks Be to God.

Message:

There When You Need It The Most
Ms. Sherrie Tuma Czechanski and Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

# Prayers and Joys of the Congregation We Affirm Our Faith Together:

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

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** 

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

### Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (all together)

We long for the time when the meek shall inherit the earth and all who hunger and thirst after justice shall be satisfied, and we believe that, despite the persistence of evil, now is always the time when more good can be done and we can make a difference. May it be so, through the offering of these gifts and the offering of our lives. Amen.

#### A Sending Forth Song

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

# Benediction (Isaiah 2:1-5)

Go forth and walk the path of the Lord. Go and live as one instructed in the ways of the Lord. Take the weapons of your life, and turn them into instruments of peace and justice. Praise be to our God who shows us the way! Amen.

Postlu	d	e
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This Week We Celebrate:

Birthdays: Nov. 29th - Barb Reimer; 30th - Logan Strysick, Donna Wippermann;

Dec. 4th - Tyler Bramstedt, Ellen Mae Surfus, Jim Taylor

<u>Anniversary</u>: Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> - William & Dorothy Mueller

# **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:**

Read Psalm 55:22 Zechariah 7:9-10 John 15:12

John 15:12 reminds us that we are to love one another, just as Jesus loved us. This is so important that we find in both Old and New Testaments the call to love one another, feed one another, help heal one another, care for one another, give to one in need... and the list goes on. In essence – even as Jesus did unto us, we should do unto others.

That particular phrase even as Jesus did unto us, we should do unto others strikes me as one more to the point than do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

In today's scripture reading from Matthew we see that ultimately, regardless of how we live (peacefully or in the midst of war; healthy or racked in pain each day; wealthy or poverty stricken...) we can find an easing of all the hurt by trusting in Christ. When we come to him – pray to him – talk with him – worship him – have faith in him much of that which rested heavy on our shoulders lightens.

If we can give our lives over to Christ, fully and in every way, we will live better lives. Not pain-free, tragedy-free, or without sorrow and frustration. But those become much less important. It becomes easier to bear up under all of that... It also becomes easier to see the burdens of others and have a desire to reach out and help.

**Prayer:** Healing, heavenly, and gracious God, let my prayer to you be one in which I put Christ first, above all else. If I have never invited Jesus into my heart and to be in charge of my life, let me do so now with these words: Lord, forgive me my sins and the ways I have turned from you. I want you to be in charge of my life; I want to feel your presence each day. Lord, come into my heart and teach me how to a better follower. I give myself to you now and always. Amen

d learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and r :28-30 ESV)
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Website: www.stmstjucc.org Find us on Facebook & You Tube - St Mark's & St James UCC Email karenchurchsec@gmail.com to join our Prayer Team

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poinsettia orders are due TODAY! The cost is \$9.50 with a choice of red or white flowers. Contact Wendy Henschel from St. James or Judy Steinbeck at St. Mark's if you have a question or an order today. While church is being held virtually, be assured that you will still get vour poinsettia. Arrangements are being made for pick up and/or delivery and you will be contacted.

December Newsletter Articles are due TODAY.

Adopt-a-Family Gifts are due on Sunday, Dec. 13th. If you are interested in helping these families in need, you could write a check to your church and write "Adopt-a-Family" in the memo line and mail to your church: St. James UCC, 13312 Pioneer Road, Newton, WI 53063

St. Mark's UCC, W1307 Orchard Road, Cleveland, WI 53015

\*\*Be sure that the checks arrive at church prior to Dec. 13th so that they are able to get to the families.



# HOSPICE ST MARK'S UCC

Guest Speaker on Sunday, Nov. 29th is

# Sherrie Tuma Czechanski, **Care Transition Coordinator with St. Croix Hospice**





ST. CROIX

There when you need us the most

"Hospice Advocacy and Education drives my dedication to those I serve...Quality of Life and Quality of Care really does Matter...Hospice is a Gift rather than an ending."

Sherrie has been in the geriatric field for 21 years. Her expertise includes: Assisted Living Operations, Skilled Nursing/Acute Facilities Regional roles, Hospital Systems Educator to Physicians, Clinicians and Community, as well as Senior Care Advocation through consulting roles. Her mentor is her Mother who was in Healthcare for 40+ years. Dignity, Respect, and Compassion drives her mission to assist others in their journey through life!