



Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for, the proof of what is not seen. —Hebrews 11:1 (HCSB)

November 7, 2021

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Organists: Kathy Jurk, Randy Sohn Director: Cindy Sohn

Readers: Lori Roelse/Deb LaDuke

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

St. Mark's: *Rejoice in the Lord Always*

St. James: *Hour of Worship*

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: We are met in the presence of God

P: And we do not meet alone.

L: With the angels in the highest heaven

P: We gather to worship the Lord.

L: With Abraham and Sarah

P: We gather to worship the Lord.

L: With the saints of every age

P: We gather to worship the Lord.

L: We embark on our own journey of faith

P: God's Holy name be praised.

L: On the highway and at the rest stop; in the hood, in the slum, in the penthouse, in the desert or on the water we journey in the presence of God.

P: And we do not journey alone.

Opening Prayer (inspired by Genesis 12:1-4):

Generous God, you gave us our voices, no two the same. As you did with Abraham and Sarah, you take and touch our lives and they can become extraordinary. And in your Church, you have gathered us, in your community of common folk and complainers, prophets and puzzled people, you have called us and made a place for us. So let what we say and do here, what we ponder and decide here, be real for us and honest to you, as you prepare us for the life of the world in which you are praised. 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.

Hymn of Praise: (#43 Hymnal)

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Young At Heart:



Prayer of Confession:

Merciful Lord, we confess that with us there is an abundance of sin, but in you there is the fullness of righteousness and abundance of mercy. Without you we are as lost as a rudderless boat in the waters. We are poor, but you are rich and Christ came to be merciful to the poor.

Strengthen our resolve to be faithful and to trust in you. May we no longer wander without purpose in life, but may our course be true. True to your Word, Lord. Fill us with strength and warmth. Give light where there was before darkness. Fill us with courage and compassion to love one another, uphold one another and be as Christ has been to us. Through his name we pray. *Amen.*

Hymn of Assurance: (#221 hymnal)

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4; Hebrews 11:8-9a

St. James Choir:

We Are Called

Message:

Give Me That Ol' Time Religion

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn of Faith: (#12 Binder)

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Pastoral Prayer and 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: *Saraband*

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

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

Gracious and holy God, accept what we offer today: our gifts and offerings and tithes; our faltering steps, our brokenness, our leftovers; our hope, our risking, and our lives. Bless and transform all that we offer and all that we hold back, that new life may be ours, to celebrate and share in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending: (#31 Binder)

And They'll Know We Are Christians

Benediction:

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

Postlude

St. Mark's: *Be Glad in the Lord*

St. James: *Joyful Trumpet*

Genesis 12:1-4 ESV

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

Hebrews 11:8-9a ESV

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.

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



This week's celebrations:

Birthdays:

- November 7th – Brian Karstedt
- 8th – Reina Scharl
- 10th – Richard Lutze
- 11th – Lori Roelse
- 13th – William Dexter

Anniversaries:

- November 7th – Dave & Jackie Mueller

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."*

TODAY: Joint Meeting of the Congregations at St. James following the Worship Service.

LOOKING AHEAD... NEXT SUNDAY, Nov. 14th ...
MISSION FEST at St. Mark's, Worship Service begins at 10:00am
NO Sunday School, No dinner this year

No Worship or Sunday School at St. James –

****Come to St. Mark's 😊**

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MEETING TONIGHT- Sunday, Nov. 7th at St. Mark's--It's "Taco Night" ...Bring your own drink and a topping to share (check the email that was sent out on Thursday for details).

STUDY OF LUKE GROUP – Monday, Nov. 8th, 6:00pm, St. Mark's

NO CHOIR PRACTICE FOR ST. JAMES THIS WEEK

CONFIRMATION- Wednesday, Nov. 10th, 6:00-7:30, St. James

ST. MARK'S CHOIR PRACTICE – Wednesday, Nov. 10th, 7:00pm

GETTING ACQUAINTED...STUDY GROUP – Thurs., Nov. 11th, 6:30pm

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE TUESDAY, NOV. 16TH

A display and collection bins are located in each church to collect supplies for OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD. Details about this project the HS Youth Group is undertaking are in the November church newsletter. All donations for Operation Christmas Child are due Sunday, Nov. 21st.

Go to: www.samaritanspurse.org for information and videos showing what receiving a shoebox might mean for a child in another country. If you have any questions, you can contact Brenda Schultz at schultzbrenda@gmail.com

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: James 1

What do you think of when you hear the words, “Give me that old time religion?” Do those words sweep you back to your childhood and going to church with your mother and father, grandmother and grandfather? Does it take you back further than that?

Dr. Ellsworth Kalas once told me that when he was a young man (he was born in the early 1920’s so this would have been 1935 and later) he could name significant preachers in every major town that would bring people flocking on Sunday morning. Filling the house to overflowing. Is this what springs to mind with “old time religion?”

Back to simpler days when life seemed so much easier. Granted in those days’ churches might not have had heating (other than a woodburning stove, perhaps), or indoor bathrooms. Women sat on one side of the church and men on the other. Children were seen and not heard.

Or as one missionary from parts of Africa once told me, his church was in a goat field. To have worship they first had to round up the goats and herd them out of the pasture.

What do you think of when you hear the words, “Give me that old time religion?”

Prayer: Lord, help us that our time of worship and praise be pleasing to you. Let our voices ring out in prayer and song. May our hearts feel changed in the presence of your Spirit. Our burdens be lifted and our faith increased. In the name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

NOTES:

If you or a family member are in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Patrick at 920-693-2858 or leave a message on the church’s answering machine at: 920-693-8361