



Sunday, February 12, 2023
St. James/St. Mark's United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Ann Rodewald, Organist Scott Siekman, Reader

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

The Lord is My Light

Call To Worship:

L: We have come together as one.

P: One people, gathered in the name of the one God.

L: We will worship together as one.

P: One community, giving praise and honor to the Righteous One.

L: We are being empowered as one by One.

P: One body and one Spirit, called to the hope of one calling,

L: One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

P: One God and Father of all who is above all, through all and in all.

Prayer:

O God, you so loved the world as to give your only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Grant to us the precious gift of faith, that we may know that the Son of God is come, and may have power to overcome the world and gain a blessed immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Doxology:

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.**

Hymn of Praise:

St. James: (#324)
St. Mark's: (#496)

*Christ is Made the Sure Foundation
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

Young at Heart:



Hymn:

St. James: (#221)
St. Mark's: (#507)

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee
A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

Prayer of Confession:

O God, whose will it is that all your children should be one in Christ; we pray for the unity of your Church. Pardon our pride and our lack of faith, of understanding and of charity, which are the causes of our divisions and downfall.

Deliver us from narrow-mindedness, from our bitterness, from our prejudices. Save us from considering as normal that which is a scandal to the world and an offence to your love.

Teach us to recognize the gifts of grace among all those who call upon you and confess the faith of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Words of Assurance:

God of unity and love, you have placed within each of us a spirit of hope and community. You have mercy upon us when we speak without love or act without humility. Cleanse us with the living water of your grace. Create in us willing hearts that we shall overcome and live in patience and gentleness. Through each of us and all of us together, may your Church be strengthened. In Christ's name, we pray. *Amen.*

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 4:24; 1 Peter 2:21-23

Message:

Choice of Faith

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn of Response:

St. James: (#464)

St. Mark's: (#428)

Dwell in Me, O Blessed Spirit

When Peace Like a River

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:

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: *[adapted from Ephesians 4:1-16]*

Almighty Giver of All Good Gifts: Grow in us the wisdom to know that all we have to give is in our hands only because you have given to us first. Remind us that you have called us in Christ to be gentle, patient, and loving – and at one with your children everywhere. May the gifts we have been given and the gifts we share reflect the debt of our gratitude for your many blessings. We pray this in the holy name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. *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 and ever. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending:

St. James: (#466)

St. Mark's: (#557)

He Leadeth Me

Pass It On

Benediction:

... Go now to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, in all that you are, and in all you will be. To the glory of your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. *Amen.*

Postlude:

Lift High the Cross

Matthew 4:24

So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, those having seizures, and paralytics, and he healed them.

1 Peter 2:21-23

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

*“He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”*

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.



Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:
St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: www.stmstjucc.org

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