

February 14, 2021
St. James United Church of Christ
St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz
Pastor

Kathy Jurk
Organist

Prelude Music
Gathering:

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

Call to Worship:

L: The Lord has called you here this day.

P: Lord, reveal to us your purposes for us.

L: Open your hearts to receive God's good news.

P: Lord, make us ready to serve you.

L: Come, let us worship God!

P: Let us sing our praises to the Almighty One.

Opening Prayer:

The darkness of winter has been our companion, Lord. Let us bear up under the cold and darkness as we anticipate longer days of light and warming temperatures. Bring your light to us, that we might see your glory and may work for you, offering hope and peace to this world. We ask this, in Jesus' Name. *Amen.*

Song of Prayer:

Be Exalted, O God

Prayer of Confession:

Patient Lord, you know how impatient we can be. We would be just like the disciples, at first not believing, then desiring to know all. Thank you for being so patient with us. Forgive us when we get so wrapped up in the moment that we don't take time enough to understand its significance. Help us to pause, reflect, think, and thank you for the blessings of the moment and unexpected revelations. Give us wisdom and strength to be more understanding. Give us patience to be your disciples, proclaiming your transforming love to all people. *Amen.*

Words of Assurance:

To you the light of love and ministry has been revealed. Rejoice! You have been blessed by God to be witnesses; to proclaim God's love to all. Be at peace! *Amen.*

Song of Assurance:

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Scripture Reading:

Luke 24:13-35

Message:

[Beginnings] *What Happens When I Die?*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Praising God in Music:

*O Morning Star
O Spirit of the Living God*

A Time of Silent Reflection and Prayer:

Lord of infinite mercy, help us look at Jesus with new eyes, those eyes that see him in light of the witness of the ages; that see Jesus as the One who comes to set people free, to heal, to bring hope and peace. Make us ready to become faithful disciples. Give us strength and courage this day to witness to Jesus' love by the many deeds of mercy and justice we can offer in his name. For we offer ourselves, imperfect, but willing, to serve. *Amen.*

Offering

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:

Father Almighty, Bless Us

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (all together):

Gather the gifts of our hands and hearts, living Spirit. Use these gifts to build not monuments to our glory, nor memorials to your distant glory, rather testaments to your intimate love. *Amen.*

A Sending Forth Song

Unto Thy Temple, Lord

Benediction

When joy fills us

We will walk softly

When our hearts are rejoicing

We will walk softly

When we recognize Jesus sits, walks and stands beside us

We will walk softly

When we hear of pain and suffering of others

We will walk softly

When hearts are stricken by grief

We will walk softly

When all around us is attacking our faith

We will walk softly

(Benediction continued on the next page)

When doubt fills our days

We will walk softly

When others are watching

We will walk softly

As we lead others into the path of righteousness for His name's sake

We will walk softly

Go now, to love and serve the Lord

We will walk softly

~"Walk Softly" written by Boe Harris-Nakakakena

Postlude

This Week We Celebrate:

Birthdays:

February 16th - Everit Gumm, Cole Herrmann

19th - Wyatt Koenig

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, Wednesday, February 17th, 7pm at St. James.



Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.