

EASTER, APRIL 17, 2022
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist
Kathy Jurk/Cindy Sohn, Choir Director Liturgy Reader: Lori Roelse

Meditative Music
Bells Ring Prelude
Gathering for Worship:

St. Mark's: *Thine is the Glory*
St. James Choir Anthem: *Sing This Joyful Morn*

Call to Worship (responsively):

L: This is a new day! A day of marvels and miracles! A day to rejoice in what God has done! Yesterday was filled with too many worries and too little faith.

P: On this Easter morning, we hear the people saying, "Mary don't you weep!"

L: This is a new day! A day of marvels and miracles! A day to rejoice in what God has done! Yesterday was filled with too much criticism and too little affirmation.

P: Others are saying, "Today, Martha, don't you moan!"

L: This is a new day! A day of marvels and miracles! A day to rejoice in what God has done! Yesterday was filled with too many questions and too few answers.

P: And we say, "This is Easter morning: dry your tears and shout for joy! Jesus is not dead. He is Alive! God has conquered death and Jesus has canceled sin. This is, indeed, a new day! Leap for joy!"

Opening Prayer:

Dear God, this past week has been one of mixed emotions; of faith struggling to understand. We have greeted you with palm branches; we have sat at the table with you to share a farewell meal. We have witnessed your death on a simple wooden cross. Yet on the third day, you come to us again in victory. By this we know that death is not the final word. As the sun boldly rises to meet a new day, rise in our lives this Easter morning, for you are our hope, our life, and our joy. *Amen.*

Hymn of Praise: (#167 Hymnal)

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Affirming our Faith Together:

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.*

St. Mark's Young at Heart Choir:



Risen

Brianne Vandoske, solo

St. James Young at Heart Message:

A Prayer of Confession:

Holy, Holy, Holy God, as we draw near to the mouth of the tomb and find the stone rolled away, as we bend with racing hearts to look inside, we are struck dumb. All our words are as prattle before the awe and majesty of your power. In silence, we bow before you, for we have fallen short of the glory for which you created us

Silent confession

P: Lord, have mercy upon us, and make us worthy to be called your own.

Words of Assurance (together):

In the empty tomb, God declares that nothing can separate us from the love of God; nothing we have done or left undone; no one whom we have been or failed to be. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Alleluia! *Amen.*

St. Mark's Choir Anthem:

Hallelujah, Jesus Lives!

St. James Choir Anthem:

The Day for Rejoicing

Scripture Reading:

Acts 10:34-43

Message:

God Raised Him

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Sacrament of Holy Communion: (See Communion Insert)

St. James Choir:

We Remember You

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: *Easter Dawning*

St. James: *My Lord, What a Morning*

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (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.*

Praise and Prayers:

A Sending Forth Song: (#176 Hymnal)

Crown Him With Many Crowns

Benediction:

It is around kitchen tables swelling with food, on worn porches, during easy road trips, and in the hum of barber shops or hair salons that we experience the Divine as we linger long enough to hear, really hear the stories of others. Your life matters. Your life matters and your stories matter. So, testify; tell your story.

Or someone else will.

Postlude:

St. Mark's:

Christ Arose!

St. James:


piano and organ duet

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Acts 10:34-43

So Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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.

Like us on Facebook  Check out our website: www.stmstjucc.org
Join our prayer team~contact Karen in our Church office: stmstjoffice@gmail.com