



May 1, 2022

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist
Liturgy Reader: Sandy Perronne; Deb La Duke

Meditative Music
Bells Ring Prelude
Gathering for Worship

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: This is what the Sovereign Lord says: "I myself will search for my sheep and look after them."

P: As shepherds look after their scattered flocks when they are with them, so will the Lord look after God's sheep.

L: "I will tend them in good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land."

P: God will be the one to tend God's sheep and to search for the lost. God will bring back the strays and strengthen the weak. Let us worship God, today!

Opening Prayer:

Come, bow down and worship, kneel to the Lord, our Maker. This is our God, our shepherd, we are the flock led with care. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Hymn of Praise: (#461 The Hymnal)

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Young At Heart:



GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.**

St. Mark's New Member Sunday:

We welcome *Mary Jo Adamec!*
Stay for Cake and Coffee after the worship service. All are welcome!

Prayer of Confession:

O Lord, we admit the truthfulness of your word that we are sinners by nature. We confess that we are like lost sheep, wandering from your commandments and good ways. And we confess that we wander from your good commandments specifically by setting our hearts on the things of this world rather than on Christ who is on high. We too often forget that we have nothing in this world that we have not received from your good and gracious hand. And we too easily forget that every good and perfect gift comes from you not to be idolized and enjoyed in an ultimate sense, but so that we might ultimately enjoy the One who gave it.

All these sins and more we lament and mourn over, Father. We know we have sinned, we acknowledge our transgressions. O Lord, have mercy upon us and cleanse us from all our iniquities. We humbly repent and turn in faith to Christ our Prophet, Priest, King, Savior.

Words of Assurance:

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel, that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! If we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. *This is Good News!*

Hymn of Assurance: (#453 The Hymnal)

Shepherd of Eager Youth

Affirming Our Faith:*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.*

Scripture Reading:

Luke 15:3-7

Message:*B THE 99*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

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:

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

God of calm and content, we offer our humble gifts and the service of our lives in the hope that they will be pleasing to you. We pray that, with your blessing, they will produce a harvest of peace, healing, and love. In Jesus' name, we pray. *Amen.*

DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

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.*

Hymn of Sending: (#272 The Hymnal)*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Closing Prayer: (all together)

Eternal God and Father, by whose power we are created and by whose love we are redeemed: guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service, and live this day in love to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. *Amen.*

Benediction:

Trust in the Lord and do good; live with the land and enjoy safe pasture.

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn,


your vindication like the noonday sun. Go now to Love and Serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, all that you will be. *Amen.*

Postlude

Luke 15:3-7 (ESV)

So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

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