



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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Organist: Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn

Reader: Lori Roelse/Debra LaDuke

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship

St. Mark's: *O That Will Be Glory*

St. James: *Sunday Morning*

**Call to Worship: (responsively)**

L: Wonderful God, we gather today to celebrate your presence in the lives of faithful people.

Send your Spirit to meet us here and guide us into your depths that we may begin to glimpse your grace:

**P: What eye has not seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the human heart conceived ~ all you have prepared  
for those who love you.**

L: We pray this in the name of Jesus, your Mystery, your Wisdom, your Glory.

**Opening Prayer (All together):**

We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives His grace, One in heart and one in spirit, a sign of hope for all humanity. Let us show how He has changed us, and remade us in His own image. Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill; That we all may know the blessing of the doing of God's will. *Amen.*

Young at Heart



Hymn of Life:

*This Is My Father's World*

**Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance:**

We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives His grace, One in heart and one in spirit, a sign of hope for all humanity. Let us show how He has changed us, and remade us in His own image. Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill; That we all may know the blessing of the doing of God's will. *Amen.*

**Affirming our Faith Together: 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.*

**Song of Assurance:**

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

**Scripture Reading:**

**Message:**

*Does What You Believe Matter?*

**Romans 4:17-25 (ESV)**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

### 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: *Meditation on "Trust in Jesus"*  
St. James: *Trust in the Lord*

### Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

**For the blessings of this and all our days, we thank you, gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just our financial gifts but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us to further the Kingdom of God both near and far. Amen.**

### A Sending Forth Song:

*For All the Saints*

### Benediction

May the blessing of light be upon you - light without and light within.  
May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great and beautiful campfire,  
so that stranger and friend may come and warm himself at it.  
And may light shine out of the two eyes of you,  
like a candle set in the window of a house,  
And now may the Lord bless you and bless you kindly. Go to love and serve the Lord. *Amen*

### Postlude

St. Mark's: *Come With Rejoicing*  
St. James: *Raise a Song of Glory*

### LOOKING FORWARD TO:

Sun., June 13<sup>th</sup> St. James - 9am Worship  
St. Mark's - 10:30am Worship



### Today's Scripture: Romans 4:17-25

as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness<sup>al</sup> of Sarah's womb. No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

### THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS:

Birthdays: June 6<sup>th</sup> - Johnathon Koenig  
8<sup>th</sup> - Morgan Henschel  
9<sup>th</sup> - Ray Sixel, William Spindler  
10<sup>th</sup> - Dean Sprenger, Tara Vandoske  
11<sup>th</sup> - Mike Summers  
12<sup>th</sup> - Michael Belitz

### Anniversaries:

June 6<sup>th</sup>- Thomas & Stacy Hermann  
10<sup>th</sup> - Rick & Donna Wippermann  
11<sup>th</sup> - Todd & Stacy Grunwald

Website: [www.stmstjucc.org](http://www.stmstjucc.org) email: [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto: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

## 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:**

*II Corinthians 1:24; 5:7 Romans 4 Hebrews 11*

What do we mean when we say, I believe? At its lowest level, it implies uncertainty. Someone asks, “Did Joe tell Cindy that I was coming?” We reply, “I believe so.” It is reasonable to think this happened, but we don’t trust that it absolutely happened.

We say, “I believe” when expressing support but are not absolutely certain. “I believe the Packers are going to win the Super Bowl” meaning we are willing to talk about it and ready to be convinced that we are wrong. But, at this time this is what I think.

At a higher level saying “I believe” means that I am completely convinced that something is true even though others might not think so. At this level some declare, “I believe that God exists.” Others declare, “I don’t believe God exists.” And yet others, “I believe that one cannot truly know if God exists or not.” This higher level is where many people are when they say, “I believe in God the Father Almighty.”

At a deeper level one might say, “I believe in...” When Grace was much younger, she would run into my arms – I would catch her and toss her in the air. She was willing to do so because she “believes(d)” in her father. She trusts him. Here we begin to see more difference between “I believe that...” and “I believe in...” What the Creed means is that we trust God and put our lives in his hands, just as a small child being launched into the air trusts she will be caught on the way down.

Prayer: Lord, help us to believe at the very deepest levels of our heart.  
*Amen.*