



**Sunday, June 20th, 2021, Father's Day
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
St. James United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Organist: Kathy Jurk

Reader: Sandy Perronne-St. Mark's

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship-

For the Beauty of the Earth

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: God is with us, right here and now.

P: We open our lives to the Creator.

L: God cares for us and gives us glory.

P: We open our hearts to the Creator.

L: God appoints us keepers of the earth.

P: We dedicate ourselves to the Creator.

L: Blessed are you, O God, creator of all that is and will be.

P: Blessed are you, O God, who made us in your image.

A: All honor and glory to you, God Almighty!

Opening Prayer (All together):

Eternal God, your Spirit moved on the waters—and there was light, your first creation. Your Spirit moved on the water of our baptism—and again, there was light in our souls and hearts. Let your holy light shine on us today, as we remember your creation and our special part in it. Amen.

Praise God (sung response):

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

Hymn of Life:

Heaven and Earth, and Sea and Air

Hymnal, page 45

Prayer of Confession:

Holy and eternal God, you created us in your image and gave us special responsibilities toward creation and our fellow human beings. You set us as caretakers for the earth and all its plants and animals. You anointed us as disciples and told us to make fellow disciples the world over. Dear God, as we look at our polluted earth, where we consume resources at an unsustainable rate, we know that we have failed to be good stewards.

In many ways, we have failed to live as disciples ourselves, to say nothing of making disciples of all nations. We beg your mercy for our sins and await with expectancy the renewal of our minds and hearts, that we may devote the rest of our days to protecting the earth and making disciples of all nations in accordance with your will.

Words of Assurance:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Creator of all that is seen and unseen. You are the sea on which we float; you are the wind that fills our sails; you are the storm that buffets us; you are the calm that brings us peace.

Open our ears to hear your every word; open our eyes to see your beauty; open our hearts to be warmed by your love. Make us over, day by day, into bearers of your peace. We are forgiven through your grace. 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: *O God of Love, O King of Peace* Hymnal, page 404

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1; Hebrews 11:3
Message: *Maker of Heaven and Earth* Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

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: *Christ, the Life of All the Living*

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

Heavenly Father, thank you that you can satisfy our every desire and need. Your word says that we should honor you with the first fruits of our wealth. Accept our tithes and offerings as a gift of worship to you. Multiply what we give for the growth of your kingdom. May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith so that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to know the love of Christ that surpasses all knowledge. May we be filled with all the fullness of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, *Amen.*

A Sending Forth Song: *Now Thank We All Our God* Hymnal, page 72

Benediction: ...Go to love and serve the Lord.

Postlude *Onto All the World*

Website: www.stmstjucc.org email: 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

Genesis Chapter 1 (ESV)

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. *And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.*

⁶ And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷ And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸ And God called the expanse Heaven. *And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.*

⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.

¹¹ And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." ¹³ *And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.*

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." ¹⁹ *And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.*

²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²³ *And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.*

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make [humankind] in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷ So God created [humanity] in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them. ²⁸ And God blessed them.
...And it was so. ³¹ And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. *And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.*

Hebrew 11:3 (ESV)

³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible

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:

Psalms 104

Isaiah 41:21-23, 25-26; 44:7

The Apostles' Creed gives three powerful statements about the Character of God right from the beginning. God is the Father. God is Almighty (omnipotent). And God is the Maker of heaven and Earth.

Have you taken a walk-through nature lately? Or stayed up late to go out and gaze at the stars. Have you sat on the beach of Lake Michigan and listened to the waves coming in and going out? Or gotten up early just to watch the sun rise? These are mighty declarations of God's creative power. To think – all this came about from a void!

While the telescope and microscope reveal to us the secrets of nature; it does not explain the power behind how they came to be. They help us to understand more fully the laws of nature but not how life and matter came to be.

The only adequate answer to these questions is in the Holy Scriptures. "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen 1:1); "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God" (Hebrews 11:3) "All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made." (John 1:3)

This first article of the Apostles' Creed does not merely affirm our acceptance of certain teachings about God. "I believe in God" is a response of the heart to the accepted truth, and the consent of the will to its implications. To really believe in God is to yield our life to God's control and trust to his wisdom and love.

Prayer: How meager we are when laid against the visage of all creation. How the expanse of the universe – with its countless galaxies to the smallest single celled being leaves us in wonder. We are blessed to be created in your image, God our Father. *Amen.*

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

Wed., June 23rd NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE

Sun., June 27th St. James - 9am Worship
St. Mark's - 10:30am Worship

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS:

Birthdays: June 20th - David Lorfeld

21st - Steven Henschel

23rd - Bradley Mauk

24th - Camryn Spindler

25th - Christine Gumm

26th - Tim Schultz

Anniversaries: 21st - Robert & Barbara Pragalz

26th - Randy & Cindy Sohn

NOTES: