



July 18, 2021
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Organist: Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn

Reader: Sandy Perronne

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship-

St. Mark's: *I Saw the Cross of Jesus*

St. James: *Praise and Exultation*

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: Living, He loved me.

P: I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20)

L: Dying, He saved me.

P: But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

L: Buried, He carried my sins far away.

P: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

L: Rising from the dead, he justified me, freely - forever!

P: And all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (Romans 3:24)

L: One day He is returning, o glorious day!

P: He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. (Revelation 22:20)

Opening Prayer (all together):

Heavenly God, thank you for the life and witness of Simon of Cyrene and the simple ministry he performed for Jesus, when he took up the cross of Christ on his shoulder and followed him all the way to Calvary. I pray that in your grace and strength I would be a disciple who denies myself and is willing to die to self, to live for Christ alone, and to take up my cross and follow him. I know that Christ alone had to pay the price for my sin on that cross, but I pray that I may be willing to suffer persecution and loss for his dear sake. Thank You in Jesus' name, *Amen.*

Praise God: (#542 Hymnal)

Jesus, In Thy Dying Woes (Vs 1, 3)

Hymn of Life: (#190 Hymnal)

O Spirit of the Living God

Prayer of Confession:

O God, we do not want to suffer. We do not want to relive the pain and agony Christ faced on our behalf. We do not want to turn the other cheek, to embrace those who oppress us, nor go the extra mile for someone who demands we go that first mile.

We want to justify ourselves, not empty ourselves. We try to save ourselves. We want to wash our hands of all guilt and declare our innocence when someone accuses us of unfaithfulness. We cry out, "*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*" when it is ourselves who have forsaken God. We cannot live with the burden of our sin. Grant us your forgiveness. In Christ's name. *Amen.*

Words of Assurance: (all together)

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Christ has taken the burden of the guilt of our sins to the cross and through his death and resurrection granted us access to eternal life with him. Trust in God to provide for all we need to live as a child of God. We are forgiven; we are loved; we are set free to love, forgive, and show grace to all whom we meet. *Amen.*

Affirming our Faith Together: (all 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: (#281 Pilgrim People)

Count Your Blessings

Scripture Reading:

Luke 23:13-26

Message: *Suffered, Crucified, Dead and Buried*

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: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*
St. James: *The Master Has Called Us*

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

Thank you, God, for the greatest of all gifts, the saving action of Jesus Christ. Your grace-filled gift inspires our own generous response. We bring our offerings and renewed commitment and place them before you. Bless all that is given that we may both find new ways to serve the people around us; and continue in the ministries we now serve. In the precious name of Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A Sending Forth Song: (#406 Hymnal)

In Christ There is no East or West

Benediction:

Go forth to serve the children of God. Help them to know Christ more deeply – or to invite them into a relationship with him. Pray for these children. Encourage them and lead by your own Christian actions. Know that God is with you in all that you do. God goes with you, loving, blessing, and upholding you. In Christ's saving grace, *Amen.*

Postlude

St. Mark's: *Rise Up and Serve the Lord*
St. James: *More Than Conquerors*

Luke 23:13-26 ESV

Pilate then called together the chief priests and the rulers and the people, and said to them, "You brought me this man as one who was misleading the people. And after examining him before you, behold, I did not find this man guilty of any of your charges against him. Neither did Herod, for he sent him back to us. Look, nothing deserving death has been done by him. I will therefore punish and release him."

But they all cried out together, "Away with this man, and release to us Barabbas"— a man who had been thrown into prison for an insurrection started in the city and for murder. Pilate addressed them once more, desiring to release Jesus, but they kept shouting, "Crucify, crucify him!" A third time he said to them, "Why? What evil has he done? I have found in him no guilt deserving death. I will therefore punish and release him." But they were urgent, demanding with loud cries that he should be crucified. And their voices prevailed. So Pilate decided that their demand should be granted. He released the man who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, for whom they asked, but he delivered Jesus over to their will.

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

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

GPS

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS:

Birthdays:

July 18th – Sue Johnson

20th – Hailey Henschel, Jane Vandoske

21st – Randall Krause, Emily Urban

22nd – Owen Bramstedt, Ronald Hansmann, Janice Marcheske

23rd – Madisan Langenhahn

Anniversaries:

July 23rd – Corey & Amy Clemens

Richard & Sarah Lutze

Tim & Wendy Schueler

24th – Hank & Barb Reimer

LOOKING FORWARD TO.....

TODAY....Youth Volleyball vs Bethlehem AT St. James, 6:30pm Double Header!

Sunday, July 25th – St. James, 9:00am Worship
St. Mark's, 10:30am Worship

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – August 17, 18, 19 9am to noon

—contact Pastor Patrick to register—children of all ages welcome...

Extend the invitation to neighbors, friends, family (grandkids)....

Supplies still needed:

*Corn Starch: We still need a *lot* of this. If everyone could bring in a bag/box or container or two...

*Kiddy pools: We need 2 more kiddy pools.

*Blind folds – at least 5 more of the larger red, blue, green or pink (any color) at Hobby Lobby or Walmart would work just fine.

*Water balloons

*Pre-gessoed ('pre-primed') 4x4 or 4x6 canvas – 25 should do it.

*School glue – 1 or 2 more in addition to those already bringing glue

*Black liquid watercolor

*Vellum paper

*Sheets of foam (to go along with Pool Noodles) – depending on the size, I need enough for 20-25 sailboats the kids will make using pool noodles, straw, foam sheets (for sails).

*Large straws

*Aluminum foil

*Pennies – all pennies will eventually be donated to the church

*Buckets and small cups (kiddos will fill the buckets with water using the small cups). Possibly, the winning team gets to drench the other team with their winning bucket of water – so buckets should be clean.

*A large scroll of watercolor paper that all the kiddoes can paint their favorite VBS memory.

*Watercolor brushes

~~If you would rather give financially, that is welcomed as well.

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:

Deut. 21:23; Gal. 3:13; /Eph. 6:12; the Nicene Creed (in what ways are the two Creeds the same? And how are they different?)

To paraphrase Frances M. Young, the two amazing things about this part of the Creed is that 1) there is no clarification of the meaning of these events. They simply state this is what happened to Jesus Christ; 2) these events have been challenged over and over and began to be contested at an early date. Islam still contests these articles.

In the early 2nd century the reality struck Ignatius (bishop of Antioch) that he needed to defend the truth of the crucifixion. There were serious suggestions that an angelic being in Jesus, led him to be viewed as human and to appear to die a human death. [This is otherwise known as Docetism]. Or, that the Christ as a spiritual being descended upon Jesus at the time of his baptism and left right before the crucifixion. This particular view was largely stated from Cerinthus, with whom John the Apostle had argued while in the baths of Ephesus [or so the legends tell us].

As an aside, the mention of Pontius Pilate was not a condemnation of him. Rather it was to note the particular time period in which Jesus was crucified. The Creed does not date the suffering of Jesus “in the year of ...” Such dating had not yet been formed. Dating was noted by such events as “from the foundation of Rome,” or by noting who was ruling at the time. Other examples of this are: “In the year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne” (Isa. 6:1). And from the New Testament, “This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.” (Luke 2:2)

Prayer: God, thank you for bringing your word to us in new ways and blessing us with new knowledge. May our hearts and minds be always open to you, for all time. *Amen.*