



Sunday, July 24, 2022
St. James/St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor Ann Rodewald, Organist

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship

The Gentle Savior

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: It is good to give thanks to God, to sing praises in the name of the Most High.

P: We declare God's steadfast love in the morning and the faithfulness of God through the night.

L: The presence of God makes us glad, and the work of God's hands calls forth our joy.

P: We flourish in the house of our Lord and bear fruit as God blesses us.

L: The goodness of God dwells in both youth and aged, and God's mercy flows through all who receive it.

P: We open our hearts to the love of God and seek to be taught by Jesus Christ.

Opening Prayer:

Send the refreshing rains of love to water the seeds you have planted within us O Lord, that we might accomplish all you intend. May the abundance you entrust to us overflow in words of praise and deeds of kindness. *Amen.*

Hymn of Praise: (#80 Hymnal)

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Young at Heart:



Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance:

Merciful God, we are dead in our sins, cut off from the source of life, unable to receive the treasure you offer us. We claim to follow Christ but instead go our own way. We call on you for insight and blessing but fail to do that for which you empower us. We dry up inside, ignoring the healing waters of your love that bring new life and growth. Save us, God, for we cannot save ourselves.

The love of God is steadfast and faithful, and God's forgiveness triumphs over our selfish desires. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle. God nourishes the best within us to bring new growth and vitality. Praise God, who delivers us from death to life.

Hymn Response: (#472 Hymnal)

What a Friend We Have in Jesus v.3

Affirmation of Our Faith:

L: What do you believe?

P: **We believe that Jesus is the Christ and we have been born of God.**

L: Who do you love?

P: **We love God and we love all the children of God.**

L: Who are you?

P: **We are the children of God, see how we love.**

L: How will you overcome the world?

P: **By our Love and faith in God and by following God's commandments.**

L: How do you have victory in our world?

P: **By our faith in Jesus Christ, who has overcome the world.**

—based on John 5:1-6

Hymn of Response: (#87 Hymnal)

Be Still My Soul

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 92:12-15

Message:

I Love Growing Older, But I'll Never Grow Old

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:

As the Deer

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

May the gifts carry your word to the hearts and homes of every member of our church and community, flowing through us into all the world. Grant that they may accomplish your purposes and prosper the work you call us to do. Use our gifts and our lives as you will. **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: (#476 Hymnal)

Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

Benediction:

Go out in joy and be led forth in peace, for God has granted victory over death.

The hills will break into singing and the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Dig deep to lay firm foundations for faithfulness.

God is the rock on which our faith is built.

Be steadfast, immovable, abounding in God's work, that your labor may not be in vain.

We will walk with one another as forgiven sinners, eager to do what we have heard. Amen.

Postlude

Thine Is The Greatness

Psalm 92:12-15 ESV

*The righteous flourish like the palm tree
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
They are planted in the house of the LORD;
they flourish in the courts of our God.
They still bear fruit in old age;
they are ever full of sap and green,
to declare that the LORD is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.*

*“Blessed are those who hunger and
thirst for righteousness, for they will be
filled.” Matthew 5:6*

Each day the Salvation Army of Sheboygan sends about 25 adult clients out into the community for work or other activities. They are given a sack lunch to last until they return at supper time. The Vacation Bible School children will be making lunches, including encouraging messages or Bible verses. We are aiming to make 100 lunches, but we need your help. Here is a list of our needs:

- Uncrustables sandwiches (contact Lori for delivery/pick up as these need to be kept frozen)
- Fruit cups or applesauce
- Small boxes of raisins
- Single serving packages of trail mix/nuts
- Granola bars
- Individually wrapped Rice Krispy Treats/cookies
- Individual bags of chips
- Juice boxes or bottles



There is a box at each church for your donations. All items are needed by Sunday, August 7.

Please contact Lori Roelse at 920-946-3540 with any questions.