

Love the Lord your God
with all your heart and
with all your soul and
with all your strength.

Deuteronomy
6:5

August 8, 2021

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Leading Worship Today: Deb LaDuke/Lori Roelse

Organist: Ann Rodewald Reader: Scott Siekman

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

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

I Love to Tell the Story

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall pass continually from my lips.

P: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

L: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

P: I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

L: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

P: Blessed is the one who takes refuge in him!

Opening Prayer (All together):

O Lord, open our lips, and our mouth will proclaim your praise.

It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name,

O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning

and your faithfulness at night.

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving

and extol him with music and song. *Amen.*

Hymn of Life: (#19 Hymnal)

We Praise Thee, O God

Prayer of Confession:

Lord, you have called us to worship you. We gladly gather! As we praise you, though, our own inadequacy reminds us of how we have broken our relationship with you.

Because we have sinned against you, even our worship fails to be what it could. We often treat it as a show. We simply go through motions, failing to recognize that you

want to engage us deeply. Renew us, we pray, according to your steadfast love. Remind us of your covenant faithfulness and have mercy on us in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen

Words of Assurance: (All together)

God of majesty,

whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven:

Be with your servants who make art and music for your people,

that with joy we on earth may glimpse your beauty;

and bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection

which will be ours as we stand before your unveiled glory.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

The Apostles' Creed: (All together)

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: (#43 Hymnal)

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Scripture Reading:

Colossians 3:16-17

Message:

Sing a song and glorify God

Hymn Sing

Silent 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:

Trust and Obey

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

Creator God, you have made us in your image to reflect your goodness. You have called us to use our gifts to build your kingdom. As we begin this day, we seek to reflect your image. Help us not only to focus on how to develop our creativity, but also to seek the wisdom to use our skills to your glory, and for the building up of the people we serve. In the name of Christ and through the Holy Spirit we pray, Amen

A Sending Forth Song: (#191 Hymnal)

Breath on Me Breath of God

Benediction:

May the blessing of God,
the giver of every good and perfect gift;
and of Christ, who summons us to service;
and of the Holy Spirit, who inspires generosity and love, be with us all. Go to love and serve the Lord in all that you are and all that you do. *Amen.*

Postlude

Postlude Triumphant

Colossians 3:16-17 ESV

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

LOOKING FORWARD TO:

NOON TODAY... Youth Volleyball Tournament at St. James! Come & enjoy the fun of supporting & cheering on our youth ☺

Thurs., Aug. 12th St. Mark's Consistory, 6:30pm

Sun., Aug. 15th St. Mark's - 9:00am Worship
St. James - 10:30am Worship

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATIONS:

Birthdays: August 9th - Courtney Binversie, Debbie Brickner

Anniversaries: August 8th - Jerry & Louise Jetzer

9th - Ray & Debbie Brickner

10th - Richard & Linda Schroeder

13th - Joe & Cindy Klapperich

Next Sunday, Rev. Dr. Karl Kuhn will be leading worship while Pastor Patrick is on vacation. This short biography will help you get to know him ☺

Rev. Dr. Karl Kuhn is Professor of Religion, Grace Chair of Religious Studies, and Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts at Lakeland University where he has served since the Fall of 1999. He graduated from UW-Milwaukee with a B.A. in English in 1990, and later earned an M. Div. from Eden Theological Seminary in 1994, followed by a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies from Marquette University in 1999. An ordained United Church of Christ clergy, he has served several congregations as an associate and interim minister. His special interests are in the fields of biblical interpretation and biblical theology, and he has widely published and lectured in both fields. He has authored numerous articles and six books, *Having Words with God: The Bible as Conversation* (Fortress Press, 2008), *The Heart of Biblical Narrative: Rediscovering Biblical Appeal to the Emotions* (Fortress Press, 2009), *Luke: The Elite Evangelist* (Paul's Social Network Series; Collegeville, Liturgical, 2010), and *The Kingdom According to Luke and Acts* (Baker Academic, 2015), *Insights from Cultural Anthropology* (Fortress Press, 2018), and co-authored *New Proclamation: The Essential Pastoral Companion for Preaching, Year C 2010* (Fortress Press, 2009). His latest work is entitled *Reading the Bible Badly: How American Christians Misunderstand and Misread their Scriptures* (Cascade Press, 2020). He is also currently serving as an Associate Editor for the *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*, one of the leading journals in his field. In addition to his work in biblical studies, Karl also speaks frequently in the community to promote interfaith understanding.

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:

Psalm 145 Psalm 149 Psalm 150 Hymn *Trust & Obey*

The order in which we pick out items from our grocery list doesn't really matter. But order is important to our Christian faith. Our obedience will never save us, nor will it enable us to trust. Instead, our vain attempts at obedience will only bring frustration. But when trust comes first, obedience follows out of love.

Trust & Obey was written after a D. L. Moody evangelistic meeting in Brocton, Massachusetts. Daniel Towner was the song leader that night and he asked the people to share how they had been saved.

Several spoke of how certain they felt of their salvation. But then a young man rose and said, "I am not quite sure, but I am going to trust, and I am going to obey."

Towner couldn't forget that testimony. He jotted it down and sent it to John Sammis, with the hope that Sammis would find in it the inspiration for a hymn text. Towner was not disappointed.

This week, read the additional text. Have a copy of Trust & Obey by your side. After the Psalms readings, I would like you to read, and re-read each verse of Trust & Obey. Using the flip side of this, write down what comes to mind after each verse. You might want to read Trust & Obey each day of the week (as a prelude to the Psalms).

Where do you hear the gospel of Jesus Christ in this hymn?
What strikes you as new ~ you never heard or saw this before.
What is familiar and comforting?
How does this fit your life? What is relevant to where you are now?

Prayer: Lord, in times of low confidence and spirit, help me to trust in you. *Amen.*

NOTES: