

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners

1 TIMOTHY 1:15

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Building Fund Sunday

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Ann Rodewald, Organist

Scott Siekman, Reader at St. Mark's

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

Something Beautiful

Call to Worship: (responsively) [Psalm 14, 1 Timothy 1]

L: Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God."

P: We proclaim that God's presence is real and alive and thriving!

L: Evildoers declare through their actions, "We go through life alone."

P: But we see God's grace, faithfulness, and steadfast love in our lives and in the world around us.

All: Praise be to God!

Opening Prayer:

God of all peoples, may we be your people in all our thoughts and actions. We are your wayward children, returning to find rest and renewal – rebuilding our faith and our lives. We are disciples of Christ, eager for new insights and firm direction. Fill us now with the warmth of your presence that we may find new joy in your service. *Amen.*

Young at Heart:



Prayer of Confession:

Gracious and loving God, we find it difficult at times to place our trust in you. Too often we look at the world, and see only violence, pain, destruction, and signs of hopelessness and despair. Too often we rely on our own strength, our own plans, our own devices, rather than trusting in your hand to hold us, your love to sustain us, and your wisdom to see us through.

Forgive us, Holy One. Help us turn to you when we are lost, that we might find our way home. Help us navigate the treacherous waters of this world, that we might experience your abundant grace, mercy, and love. Help us put our trust in you, that the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus may shine in our lives for all to see. *Amen.*

Words of Assurance:

Caring Lord, like Paul who writes to Timothy, like the sheep who wanders away from the care and guidance of his shepherd, we have all been lost. We thank you that you do not leave us in that state but pursue us out of your compelling love and your sense of justice. Grant us a measure of participation in your love and justice that we may pursue all things lost with that same sense of urgency. In Christ's name we pray, *amen.* (Scott W. Bullard)

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.*

Scripture Reading:

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Message:

No One Person is Exempt From Forgiveness
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn of Response: (#176 Hymnal)

Crown Him With Many Crowns

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:

Grace Alone

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for these gifts and ask that they be used to help those in need in our community and throughout the world. As we offer you these gifts, we offer ourselves as well, that together we might transform the world with your grace and love. *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: (back of bulletin)

Lead On, O King Eternal

Benediction:

May we go now, into each of our own corners of the world knowing that it is God who loves us, and Christ who strengthens us, and the Holy Spirit who empowers us for service... *Amen.*

Postlude:

Postludium

1 Timothy 1:12-17 ESV

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

C F C C/Bb F C F G

1 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, we fol - low, not with fears;

G7 C C7 F/C C G/D D7 G

hence - forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home,
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet A - men of peace;
 for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

G7 C C7 F A7/E D D7 G

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

G/F C/E F C7/G F/A F(♯) F C/G G7 G C

and now, O King E - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heav - en - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest: lead on, O God of might.