



September 26, 2021

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

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Organist: Randy Sohn

Meditative Music

Bells Ring

Prelude Gathering for Worship:

Hymn of Adoration

Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: The world belongs to God,

P: the earth and all its people.

L: How good and lovely it is

P: to live together in unity.

L: Love and justice come together,

P: justice and peace join hands.

L: If the Lord's disciples keep silent

P: the very stones themselves would shout aloud that our world belongs to God and God is building a global hope.

L: Open our lips, O God,

P: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Opening Prayer (All together):

O wondrous God, on this holy day, we have gathered together once again to celebrate your presence among us, to praise you, and to thank you for all you have given us. May this time of worship strengthen and refresh us, and fill us with such joy that we cannot help but share it with everyone around us. Though we are very different people, with many different talents and gifts, make us one in your Spirit, that we may be your ministers in the world. **Amen!**

Doxology:

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: (#9 - Binder)

God, We Thank You for Our People

Young At Heart



Prayer of Confession:

Almighty, gracious and loving God. Would that we be, whom you intend us to be. We aren't always good at following you and this morning we ask your forgiveness. Forgive my incompleteness: for not growing in Christ; for not delving more deeply into the Scriptures, and for not giving more freely of my talents and gifts.

Forgive my moments of disinterest: for my lack of concern for the needs of those around me; for my apathy and blindness to hurts I could help heal.

Forgive my dishonesty: by taking the easy way rather than the right way; by speaking in one manner and living in another; for silencing truth to preserve tranquility and settling for less than what is best, for loving tradition more than obeying your pioneering Spirit.

God, forgive my loudness: for talking when I should be listening.

Forgive my silence: in feeling love and failing to whisper it; when reeling with joy and not shouting hallelujah, knowing truth and declining to share it.

Almighty, Gracious and Loving God forgive me.

Words of Assurance: (All together)

For God says, "I am the God who forgives your sins, and I do this because of who I am. I will not hold your sins against you." In the grace of your mercy and forgiveness, may we embody the way of Christ's followers; and endure the trials and tribulations of the Christian. You do not hold our sins and slights against us, for which we are grateful. Amen.

Hymn of Assurance: (#25 Binder)

Open My Eyes That I May See

Prayer of Illumination:

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord. For I am a poor sinner who dares stand on the holy ground before your altar. A ground where many, who have shared the Good News of Jesus Christ, have stood on before me. May I humbly add to the ongoing story of your great love of us. *Amen.*

Scripture Reading:**Message:***The Communion of Saints***1 Corinthians 1:2**

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:*Peace in God's Good Time**~ The offering is brought to the altar ~***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving: (all together)**

We thank you for all you have blessed us with. We have known enlightenment and your promise fulfilled through your gracious and generous acts of compassion. Help us to bring words of healing and hope to all we meet. Accept and bless these wonderful gifts that they may be used to serve you by serving others in need. Amen.

Hymn of Sending: (#33 Binder)*Trust and Obey (V 1, 3, 5)***Benediction:**

You have been called and anointed by the Holy Spirit. You have been strengthened and enlightened through the Good News of the Gospel. You have become one body in Christ joining with the communion of saints, those upon whose shoulders we stand. Go to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you say, all that you are, and that you will be. *Amen.*

Postlude*For All the Saints***1 Corinthians 1:2**

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:



*If you or a family member are in need of pastoral care,
please contact Pastor Patrick at 920-693-2858
or leave a message on the church's
answering machine at: 920-693-8361*

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:

1 Corinthians 1 1 Corinthians 10 2 Corinthians 13

The term “communion of saints” is not found in scripture although *koinonia* and “saints” occur frequently. *Koinonia* is found most often in Paul’s letters. This is a Greek term, with no equal, or equivalent in the Hebrew language. There is no recorded instance of Jesus using this word. The very first time it is mentioned in the New Testament is in 1 Corinthians (a letter by Paul).

Koinonia has several meanings depending on the context in which it is used. It can mean, “association,” “communion,” “fellowship,” and “close relationship”; it can mean good will to one another manifesting in the close relationship one has with another; and it can mean sharing in something: Christ’s suffering, crucifixion and resurrection.

Members of the church are often called “saints”; “To the church of God which is at Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor 1:2).

The communion of saints shares communion in spiritual goods, especially faith, the sacraments, serving, and giving. The communion of saints also refers to the communion of the church of heaven and earth. This is a communion “in Christ who ‘died for all,’ so that what each one does or suffers in and for Christ bears fruit for all.”

Who do you count as saints who have been or gone before you? Upon whose shoulders do you stand? How are you a saint to those who will come after you?

Prayer: Bless us O Lord, that the fruits of our spirit may be a gift unto others, that together we make up the communion of saints and the body of Christ. *Amen.*



This week's celebrations:

Birthdays:

- Sept. 26th – Richard Binversie, Daniel Sohn
27th – Eion Heling, Sandra Kracht-Jones
30th – Olivia Bramstedt
Oct. 1st – Bruce Karstedt, Jackie Mueller, Sandra Stark
2nd – Kevin Kellner

Anniversaries:

- Sept. 26th – Steve & Jenny Schnelle
28th – Jon & Diane Luckow; Jay & Dawn Schnelle;
Dave & Jan Strysick
30th – Jason & Anna Marie Bramstedt
Oct. 2nd – Lee & Terri Schmitz

WELCOME!

To the parents of young children:

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress those wiggles in God's house.

- ❖ Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to engage.
- ❖ Quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastors, musicians and leaders.
- ❖ Sing the songs, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behaviors by mimicking you.
- ❖ If you have to leave the Worship Center with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

Website: www.stmstjucc.org email: stmstjoffice@gmail.com
phone: 920.693.8361

Send an email to be added to our prayer team.

Messages are uploaded to YouTube: St. Mark's & St. James UCC

LOOKING AHEAD... NEXT SUNDAY, OCT. 2ND

World Wide Communion & Neighbors In Need Special Offering

St. Mark's Worship Service begins at 9:00,
First day of Sunday School, 9:00-10:00

St. James Worship Service begins at 10:30,
Sunday School – 9:15-10:15

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE – Monday, September 27th

ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL – 6:30pm, Tuesday, Sept. 28th

ADOPT A HIGHWAY (ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP) has been set for Saturday, October 2 at 8 am. We will meet at the St. James shed. Anyone may participate, but if you are younger than 11 you will need parental supervision. A rain date is set for Sunday, October 3 after church and before the Packer game. We are designated to pick up the area from the first part of CTH XX to CTH X. Any questions please feel free to contact Michelle Mauk at 920-980-348

SUNDAY, OCT. 3RD, THE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH OF BOTH CHURCHES are invited to a meal, games, and discussion at St. Mark's UCC. On the menu-- hotdogs, corn on the cob, baked beans, and Raymond's grandmother's famous fruit salad:) Come join us for some good food and fun and bring a friend!

RSVP by Friday, October 1 to schultzbrenda@gmail.com so that I'll be sure to have enough food. Up for discussion: The sometimes "domino" effect of our decisions, and our first "field trip". Hope to see everyone there!

STUDY GROUPS – Pastor Patrick is looking to start two study groups early October. One would be working to finish the *Study of Luke* – that was discontinued last year due to Covid concerns. The other study group is called “*Get Acquainted With Your Bible*” book. This group is open to all ages. This is a great place to start if you are not very familiar with the Bible: the two testaments; the various books, letters and characters.

For the two study groups noted, we will need to order books for the class, so please let Pastor Patrick or Karen Mansker, our office administrator, that you plan on attending. The classes will be held at St. Mark's UCC.

Email: schultzpw@gmail.com or the church office stmstjoffice@gmail.com or call 920-693-8361

REMINDERS:

Oct. 10th – CROP Walk

Oct. 17th- Mission Fest at St. James