

Sunday, August 13, 2023 St. James and St. Mark's United Church of Christ Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor Ann Rodewald, Organist Scott Siekmann, Reader

Meditative Music Bells Ring Prelude Gathering for Worship:

Break Thou the Bread of Life

Call to Worship:

The Spirit of the still speaking God be with you. And also with you.

We gather in your holy presence, longing to worship you in these sacred moments. We long to know and be blessed by you who are shrouded in mystery, awe, and wonder!

Incline your ear and know we glorify you, O Faithfully Loving God! Hear our words as we call upon you in this holy time and space.

Let us worship God together and in this moment to be changed for the better.

Prayer:

Feed us, O God, in this time we spend together, with bread that is eternal. Unite us in a faithful response to your saving grace through Jesus Christ. Oen us now to hear and experience, feel and acknowledge, the word you intend for each one of us. *Amen.*

Hymn: (STJ Insert/ #349 Worship & Rejoice)

Seek Ye First

Affirmation of Faith: (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.*

Young at Heart:



Hymn: St. James (#252) St. Mark's (#48)

Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Scripture Reading:

We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Message:

Entwined

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Sacrament of Holy Communion:

When the first humans found themselves naked and ashamed, you provided clothing so that the dust of their being might not be scattered upon the earth. When there was enmity between Jacob and his brother Esau, you wrestled with Jacob so that they might be reconciled. After Joseph was cast out by his brothers, you worked through him to welcome the children of Israel out of famine into a feast of reconciliation. When families dissolve and arguments, disagreements, and misunderstandings tear us apart, you work to heal us and bring us back together. How very good it is when we forgive and love and live together in unity!

When Jesus had been crucified, dead and buried, you lifted Christ from the grave to reconcile the world to yourself. When time shall be no more, and all your children, from every tribe and nation, every kindred and tongue, shall be gathered in peace, your eternal praise shall ring out.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee: Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity! Colossians 1:3-14 ESV

God of Hope and Renewal,

pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of grain and grape that they might be for us the presence of the living Christ and upon us so that we might be empowered by and for your ministry of reconciliation.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours Almighty God, now and forever. May the presence of Christ, Body and Spirit, keep and preserve you to everlasting life.

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:

In Remembrance of Me

Let There Be Peace on Earth

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Holy God, you are our provider. We dedicate to your service our lives and these offerings from your blessing and our labor. Work in us and through us to extend your love and care, here and around the world. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending:

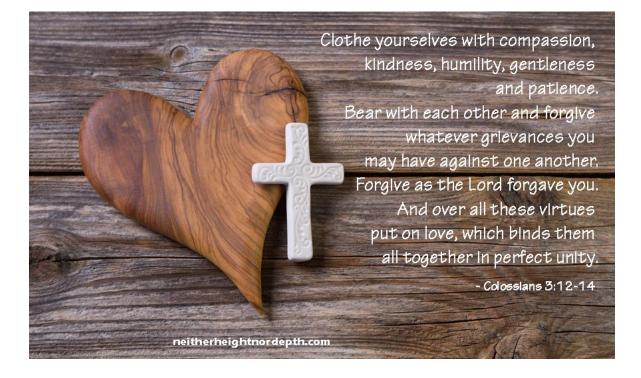
(STJ Insert/ #614 Worship & Rejoice) **Benediction:**

Renewed by the power of God's unconditional love and forgiveness; strengthened by the witness of Jesus to be of service to others, we go from this place rejoicing in the opportunities to serve our Lord in all that we do, and all that we are, and all that we will be. Go in peace and may be peace of God always be with you. *Amen.*

Postlude:

Festal Postlude

~ Sunday School is on summer break ~



Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel: St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 📑

Check out our Website: <u>www.stmstjucc.org</u>

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: stmstjoffice@gmail.com



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO: August 17 – Heather Henschel 18 – Julie Herrmann

ANNIVERSARIES:

August 13 – Joe & Cindy Klapperich 17 – Galen & Deb LaDuke



HS YOUTH MEETING - TODAY at 5:30pm at St. Mark's

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE ON FRIDAY, AUG. 25TH. Email them to Karen at <u>stmstjoffice@gmail.com</u> (you can send them earlier, too \bigcirc)

St. Marks U.C.C. & St. James U.C.C.

Invite you to

POLKA & POTLUCK

Come for an afternoon of good friends, good food and good ol' fashioned dancing.

Featuring Carl Laack

Please bring a dish to pass. You can sign up at your church or online using this QR code.



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."

