

Sunday, June 4, 2023 St. Mark's and St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist Sandy Perronne, Reader

Meditative Music Bells Ring Prelude Gathering for Worship:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Call to Worship:

This is the day that the Lord has made. This is the day when he can be found.

God of all, Breath of Life, Living Water, Savior, Friend. Come as the hungry, feed on his Word Come as the thirsty, drink of his Love Come as the faithful, worship the Lord.

Opening Prayer:

Here we are Lord; your people, your Church meeting together in your presence. We welcome each other and we welcome You. Make yourself known to us new ways through our worship, our prayers, and our understanding of your Word today.

Hymn of Worship and Praise:

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

St. Mark's (#59) St. James (#21)

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. Mark's: (#40) St. James: (#12) For the Beauty of the Earth

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 50:4-6 ESV

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.
Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face

Message:

God Opens the Ear 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:

St. Mark's: Fill Me Now

St. James: Andante Grazioso

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

God of all creation, we offer our gifts in gratitude this morning - not just for what you do in our lives, but for who you are in our lives. You are with us in the person of the Father, the God above us. You come to meet us as the Son, as God beside us. You empower us to do the work of kingdom-building by the Holy Spirit - God within us, providing strength and boldness that we would never find on our own. May these gifts become tools that make the transformation of the world a reality. We pray in the name of one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

People'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:

Worship and Rejoice: (#30) (Also printed on the next page)

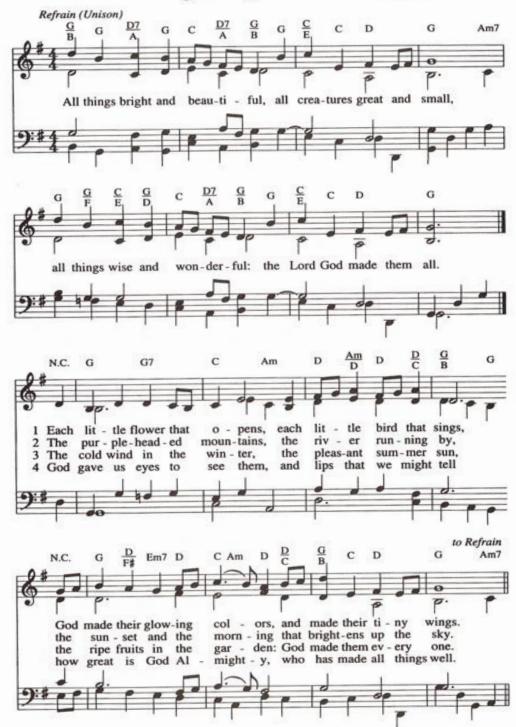
All Things Bright and Beautiful

Benediction:

May the Father's hand keep you from stumbling, the footprints of Jesus give you confidence to follow, and the fire of the Spirit keep you warm and safe in your walk with God this day. *Amen.*

Postlude: St. Mark's: *Hymn To The Trinity*

All Things Bright and Beautiful





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

Like us on Facebook



Check out our Website: www.stmstjucc.org

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

COME & JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS!

St. James UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays...... 10:30 a.m. 2nd. 4th & 5th Sundays...... 9:00 a.m.

~ Sunday School is on summer break ~

St. Mark's UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays...... 9:00 a.m. 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays......10:30 a.m.

THERE'S ROOM FOR ONE MORE! We have one open spot for our July 16th - 21st Mission trip to Cleveland, OH that we're trying to fill. Anyone may go who is 16 or older with written permission from a parent or if 18 and older, no permission form needed!

Contact Pastor Patrick by email or phone (cell: 608-352-9544) for more information.



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

June 4th - Ashley Lutzke, Tim Miota

5th - Thomas Heckmann

6th - Johnathon Koenig

8th - Morgan Henschel

9th - Ray Sixel, William Spindler

10th - Dean Sprenger, Tara Vandoske

ANNIVERSARIES:

June 6th - Thomas & Stacy Hermann

10th - Rick & Donna Wippermann



TODAY WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN 'STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH' OFFERING.

THE CHOSEN SEASON 3 STUDY GROUP - Monday, June 5th, 10am/5pm at St. Mark's

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING - Monday, June 5th, 6:30pm

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MEETING- Next week Sunday, June 11th, 5:30pm at St. Mark's.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - Vacation Bible School August 15, 16, 17

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: Read Isaiah 49:14-50:11

Chapters 49:14 through 50:9 tells of this dialogue between the Sovereign Lord and the Servant and the People. The people have been exiled through the conquering nation of Babylon. And God has sent the servant to proclaim God's redemptive works – the promises of God's work to release the people from exile. The people reject this message feeling that God has "forgotten them" ~ that the promises the servant is making to them (on behalf of God or as directed by God) are declared "in vain."

As the servant speaks promises of God's redemption the people answer by saying, who can break the grip of our captors? God says, I can. And the people respond yet again, you are the one who sold us into slavery in the first place! God proclaims he has not cast them aside and indeed has the power to restore them.

Verses 4-6 focus heavily on the Servant and the Sovereign Lord in so far as God has given to the servant instructions. He tells the messenger what to say to the people. He gives unto them a message of hope and sustenance to the tired people.

The servant (we could say: messenger or prophet) has open ears for God. Note in verse 5 he says, "I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back." His ears have been opened and his tongue has been instructed. Yet, because he shares the message of God he suffers abuse.

He is beaten. His beard is pulled out. His back is flogged. Nevertheless, this will not stop him from sharing the Word of God. Here also, God promises deliverance to the servant. He will not be abandoned. A Messiah will vindicate his courage to be obedient as the Lord, "anointed him to preach good news to the poor."

NOTES:

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."