



STEP OUT IN FAITH

God will make a way
JOSHUA 3

Sunday, January 12, 2025
St. James and St. Mark's United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Ann Rodewald, Organist
Scott Siekman, Reader

Meditative Music
Bells Ring
Prelude Gathering for Worship:

The Lord Is My Light

Call to Worship:

We gather

a community of faith in God's world.

We gather to celebrate

that no darkness can extinguish light,

to remember

that love will always be more powerful than death,

and to trust that

peace will always be stronger than violence.

We gather,

people of faith in the light of God's world.

Welcome to worship.

Prayer:

God of mercy and truth, through the waters of our baptism, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you have made us your own. From the wandering wilderness of our existence, you lead us to the river's shore, part the waters, and bring us to where we can be with you in peace. We pray that our lives and the work of our hands may please you and help build the kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. *Amen.*

Hymn:

Come, Thou Almighty King

St. James (#4)

St. Mark's (#148)



Young at Heart:

Prayer of Confession:

Lead us home, O God, when we wander lost in wildernesses of our own making. Like errant children, we stray from the safety of our heavenly parent. We hear your voice calling but go our own way. We remember your teachings, but instead follow the foolish desires and whims of our hearts. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us home, where we will follow your path and do the work you have for us. *Amen.*

A Moment of Silence:

Words of Assurance:

Heavenly God, thank you for the wonderful things you have done, in and through Israel, in and through the Church, in and through our lives. Thank You for the way you have guided and directed us and the lives of all your people. Help us to carry out the good work that you have prepared for us to do in the power of the Holy Spirit; consecrate us to you in thought, word and deed. For you are a great and mighty God. *Amen.*

Hymn:

St. James (#191)

St. Mark's (#461)

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God***Scripture Reading:**

Joshua 1:2b, 7; 3:14-17 ESV

*Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel.**Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.**So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.***Message:***New Beginnings – What If?*

Dr. Patrick Schultz

Offering:*Lead Me, Guide Me*

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:*~ The offering is brought to the altar ~***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**

Giving God, we thank you and give praise for all of your gifts to us. We know that you are the source of every good thing; that light and love come from you. You have created us, and you continue to breathe life into us through the power of your Holy Spirit. You have given us so much, and it is because we recognize the gifts you have given to us that we now give to the work of your kingdom.

As we dedicate this offering, we offer ourselves. Take and use us, that our hands may reach out in service, our feet may walk the difficult path of reconciliation, and that our words may be words of peace. *Amen.*

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:

St. James (#471)
St. Mark's (#342)

*More Love to Thee
Rejoice, the Lord is King!*

Benediction:

Go now, in the freedom of the gospel of Christ. Encourage one another to lead lives worthy of God and walk together in service and humility. Let your words and your lives be one in Christ.

May the God of lasting love open the way before you; May Jesus the Messiah be your one instructor; And may the Holy Spirit lead you on into the promised land of God's kingdom and glory.

Go now to love and serve the Lord, in all that you do, all that you are and all that you will be. *Amen*.

Postlude:

Praise Him!

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 at St. James 9-10am ~***

St. Mark's UCC

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

10:30am Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:

St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Check out our Website: www.stmstjucc.org

Like Us on Facebook: St Marks & St James

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



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

*January 12th – Margene Reyer
14th – Brenda Miota, Tim Schueler
16th – Warren Vandoske
17th – Andrew Nye
18th – Hailey Hermann*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK TO:

January 14th – Gary & Sheri Kaestner

ST. MARK'S ANNUAL MEETING WILL OCCUR AFTER WORSHIP TODAY.

ST. JAMES ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD NEXT WEEK SUN., JAN. 19TH, AFTER THE 10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE.

From Pastor Nicole Herda, St. Peter's UCC Kiel:

You are invited to participate in the Rural Soup cookoff January 19th at Laack's Tavern and Ballroom.

This year 25 people from five of our local congregations (from 9th grade- retired adults with varying skillsets) will be heading to central Appalachia as they serve the Appalachia Service Project (ASP). It costs \$500 per person for a week which includes the cost of our travel, lodging (often in a school), meals, supplies, and college staffers. To afford the trip, we need help.

For \$10 per adult or \$5 per kid twelve and under, you can sample homemade soups. There are also raffle baskets and baked goods available! Participants vote on the best soup with their donations.

If you have a soup you would like to enter or a raffle basket to donate, simply click on the QR code on the poster or reach out to Pastor Nicole : pastornicoleherda@gmail.com . Your presence and support help make homes in central Appalachia warmer, safer and drier.

****SEE POSTER ON THE BACK PAGE.....**

MIESFELD'S *Brat Fry*

Our 2025 Mission Team is raising funds for a youth mission trip to Altoona, Pennsylvania.



WHERE:

MIESFELD'S 4811 VENTURE
DR. SHEBOYGAN, WI. 53083

WHEN:

SATURDAY, FEBURARY
15TH @ 9A.M. - 2P.M.



RURAL CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

Presents

SHEEPSHEAD TOURNAMENT



Where: Bethlehem United Church of Christ
11608 Lax Chapel Road
Kiel, WI 53042

When: **Sunday, February 16, 2025, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm**
[Snow date is Feb. 23rd, same time]
Doors open at 12:30

Entrance Fee: Canned goods and/or free will offering

Rules will be explained before the tournament begins.

All levels of skill are welcome.

Beginner's table(s) will be available for those who don't know how to play.

Don't want to play sheepshead but want to participate in the fun?

Bring your own board or card game.

Refreshments will be available.

COME ONE...COME ALL! Open to the Public!

Childcare will be supplied. Games and movies for the kiddos.

Read more about this event on page 5 of the bulletin.



Scan QR code to
sign up to
support!

The Rural Churches Mission Soup Cookoff

Sunday, January 19th, 2025

11am - 2pm



\$10/adult

\$5/kids 12 & under

For all the homemade soups you want to sample.

Raffle Baskets & Baked Goods also available!
All proceeds go to support 26 local youth and
adults participating in the Appalachia Service
Project- June 2025.



Laack's Tavern & Ballroom
W4302 Cty Rd JM,
Johnsonville, WI