



**THE BIBLE IS
MORE THAN
WORDS ON
A PAGE.**

Wednesday, March 12, 2025
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Ann Rodewald, Organist

Our Mission is to help others deepen their relationship with God, become faithful followers of Christ, and to share the message of Christ's love with others.

Meditative Music
Bells Ring
Prelude Gathering for Worship:

In the Shadow of the Cross

Call to Worship:

Beloved people of God: we gather at the river

Where Jesus was baptized, and God spoke from the heavens.

Beautiful children of God: we sit together around the table, a table that Jesus sets

Where he washes feet, breaks bread and pours wine: and God forgives us and feeds us with eternal love.

Heartbroken and of God's own image we stand at the foot of the cross:

Weeping and lost.

Newborn in Christ's blood: we rejoice at the empty tomb

Where God brings us to new life; where we are forgiven and know life eternal.

God of life, you guide us in the wilderness and speak to us through scripture and spirit. Root us in the words of our faith and the spirit of your love, that we may share the everlasting grace you give all people. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn (#664)

Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet

First Scripture Reading:

Revelation 2:2-7

"I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."

Hymn (#87)

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Second Scripture Reading:

John 1:14-18

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Third Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 55:11-13

*so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.*

*"For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the Lord,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."*

Hymn (#569)

God of Grace and God of Glory

Message: *God Speaks to Us Through Scripture and Spirit*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Peoples' Prayer:

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the abundance of your steadfast love. As we are filled with your grace and mercy, as we are renewed in spirit. May you guide us and use us to bring about your reign of peace on earth. In the name of Jesus Christ, the holy one, we now pray:

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:

I Believe in a Hill Called Mount Calvary

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Doxology:

***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.***

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Blessed are you, O God of love. You birthed all creation and became human for us in Jesus Christ. You speak to us through Scripture and Spirit; Your love is eternal. Bless and multiply this offering that it may be used to feed, clothe, nourish those in need.
Amen.

Hymn of Sending: (#710)

The Trees of the Field

Benediction:

May the God who delights in your goodness
bless you, keep you, and hold you
in the depths of love and mercy.
In the name of the Triune God,
Amen.

Postlude:

Alas! and Did My Saviour Bleed?

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.***

Resources Used: "© Church Anew. Used with Permission."

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.stmarksstjamesucc.org

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