



Sunday, April 6, 2025
St. Mark's and St. James United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist
Sandy Perronne, Reader Cindy Sohn, Choir Director

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:
St. Mark's:
St. James:

*There is a Green Hill Far Away
Here Faith Abides*

Call to Worship:

We answer your call, O Lord and give thanks that you brought us together to hear your truth.

We are immeasurably loved. Every hardened edge and hidden scar telling our life story – there is beauty in our body. It is divine, sacred, and Godly. We are more than enough.

You whisper these truths in our ears and in our hearts; you cry them out loud for us and all to hear.

Lord we hear your gentle whispers; you do not need to shout it so loudly: We are good and worthy of love. We are good and worthy of love. We are more than enough.

Creator God, you knit us together as if love itself were perfectly stitched together – perfectly shaped for us. You have told us, even though no one else might have.

Goodness is where we come from and where we're always heading. Goodness is our essence, our default setting. Our goodness will grow and overflow and spread if we let it. And we celebrate this.

God of goodness, you love your whole creation, and you make the broken whole. Give us hearts to recognize the broken places in ourselves and the world, that we may join in the healing work of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Hymn:

St. Mark's (#95)
St. James (#30)

*Praise Him! Praise Him!
Come, We Who Love the Lord*

Affirming Our Faith: Statement of Faith

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, and to his deeds we testify:

He calls the worlds into being, creates man in his own image and sets before him the ways of life and death.

He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

He judges men and nations by his righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, he has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to himself.

He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

He calls us into his church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of men, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist

the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him.

Amen.

Young at Heart:



Prayer of Confession:

Lord of all, the demands of Your righteousness are too hard for us to fulfill alone, so we use this excuse to ignore Your law. You forgive our iniquity and remember our sin no more, and we abuse this freedom as if it were a license to selfishness, self-indulgence and self-righteousness. You give us the gift of grace: atonement in the blood of Your Son: yet we let the lies of Satan define us, rather than the truth of Your Word. Forgive us, Lord, the sins we know in our heart. Save us, Lord, from the sins we hide.

A Moment of Silence:

Words of Assurance: *Now hear these words of favor...*

People of God, rejoice, by the command of Christ and the power of the cross, our sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. He has clothed us with the garments of salvation; and covered us with the robe of righteousness. We are strong in the Lord and in His mighty power.

Hymn:

St. Mark's (#486)

St. James Choral Anthem

Have Thine Own Way, Lord!

Christ Be with Me

Scripture Reading:

John 12:1-8 ESV

Six days before the Passover, Jesus therefore came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So they gave a dinner for him there. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him at table. Mary therefore took a pound of expensive ointment made from pure nard, and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" He said this, not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief, and having charge of the moneybag he used to help himself to what was put into it. Jesus said, "Leave her alone, so that she may keep it for the day of my burial. For the poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

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:

St. Mark's:

Jesus Lover of My Soul

St. James:

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Doxology: ~ *The offering is brought to the altar* ~

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.

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Loving God, source of all joy, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude. As Mary poured out her love for Jesus with costly perfume, so we pour out our gifts before you, seeking to honor you with all that we have. During this Lenten season, may our offerings remind us of the abundance you've poured into our lives. Help us to give extravagantly, not out of duty, but from hearts filled with joy and gratitude. Bless these gifts and use them to bring your hope to the world. In Christ's name, we pray. *Amen.*

Hymn of Sending [insert]: (*Matt Maher*)

All the People Said Amen

Benediction:

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might, with feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. Go out into the world with joy and hope, standing firm in your faith through the power of Almighty God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Go to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all you will be. Be blessed my friends! *Amen.*

Postlude:

St. Mark's:

Postlude by "Goetze"

St. James:

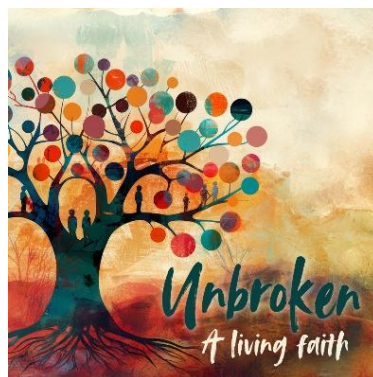
I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Lenten Wednesdays

Unbroken: A Living Faith is a deep dive into the God of faith. It is a time to recall, re-establish, and renew our own faith in God even when we are (or feel) broken.

Join us on Wednesday nights for this series as we explore a faith, passed down from generation to generation - in an unbroken line of ancestry that connects us all the way back to Jesus.

April 9th – 7pm at St. Mark's



Check the back of the bulletin for the Holy Week schedule.

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.

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:

St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: <https://stmarksstjamesucc.org/>

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



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

April 7th – Karen Becker, Dale Sprenger

11th – Bonnie Langenhahn

12th – Jon Grunewald, Gene Kaestner, Michael Stolzmann

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

April 9th – David & Christine Gumm

ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL – 6:30pm Tuesday, April 8th.

LENTEN WORSHIP, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9th, 7pm at ST. MARK'S
ST. MARK'S CHOIR PRACTICE will follow the Lenten Worship Service.

ST. JAMES YARD CLEAN UP, 9AM SAT., APRIL 19TH (rain date is the April 26th)



St. James and St. Mark's ladies join us for **BUNCO NIGHT**, Thursday, April 10th, at 6:00 pm at St. James.

A \$5 participation fee is optional

Please join us and RSVP to

Jackie Mueller or Tammy Serketich or email tserketich@yahoo.com



TOURNAMENT!

ST. JAMES UCC
SUNDAY, APRIL 13th
12:30pm

*Open to Men & Women of
St. James & St. Mark's UCC*

A Living Dramatization of
Leonardo da Vinci's
LAST SUPPER

DRAMA, MUSIC, COMMUNION, WORSHIP



PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13
3:00PM

Join us for a one hour production of "The Last Supper" inspired by the large fresco style painting on the wall of Santa Maria delle Grazie, in Milan by Leonardo da Vinci. In this dramatization, the 12 disciples speak their minds to themselves, to each other, and to the Lord in light of the words which they have just heard Jesus speak, "One of you will betray me."

Narrator: Mason White. *Cast:* John Brown, Bob Deyo, Steve Flook, Rev. Jeremy Hysten, Mike King, Bruce Neils, Tom Ott, Richard Reineking, Keith Risse, Jeff Ritt, Jim Schwarten, Daniel Van Straten, Rev. Greg Whelton.
Directed by: Mandy Radloff. *Organist:* Lisa Flook. *Soloist:* Rev. Kristal Klemme.

Admission is free.

Cash donation or peanut butter jars are welcome and will benefit
Sheboygan Area Pay It Forward and the *Sheboygan County Food Bank*.

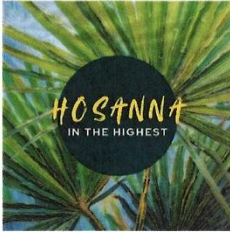
on Sheboygan's
South Side
St Paul's
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

(920) 458-1611 sspucc.org

2114 Wedemeyer St.
Sheboygan
(corner of Union Avenue
and Wedemeyer Street)

*[side note: Pat & Noreen Flook's son & daughter-in-law,
Steve & Lisa Flook, are both participating in this special event]*

JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP!



Palm Sunday, April 13th Worship:

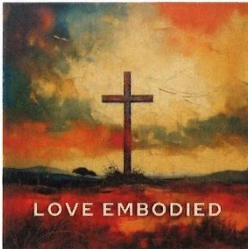
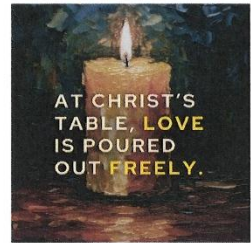
9:00 St. James; 10:30 St. Mark's

Loves Us Eternally ~ Even in the face of suffering, Jesus enters with peace and love. This Holy Week, how can we embody his eternal love?

Maunder Thursday, with Communion,

St. James 7pm, April 17th

God Meets Us in Bread, Wine, and Water ~ At Christ's table, love is poured out freely. Here, we are fed, forgiven, and reminded that we belong.



Good Friday with Communion,

St. Mark's 7pm, April 18th

The Cross and Love's Victory ~ Even at the cross, love is not absent. Jesus' sacrifice is the ultimate declaration: Love will always have the last word.

Easter Sunday, April 20th, Worship with Communion:

St. Mark's 9:00am; St. James 10:30am

The Promise of New Life ~ Death does not have the last word—life and love reign! Today, we celebrate the hope of resurrection that changes everything.

