



Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025
St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Randy Sohn, Organist 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:

In the Hour of Trial

O God, you desire not the death of sinners, but rather that we turn from our evil way and live. We come before you, although we have sinned and deserve only your wrath; yet we flee to your mercy in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who gave his body and his blood for our redemption.

Lord, grant that we may ever thus believe and never waver.

Grant that in such faith we may worthily come to your altar to worship and to your table to partake of the bread and wine, which your Son has given for our redemption.

In thanksgiving, we remember and proclaim the sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom we place our trust.

Until his return, graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to you alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Almighty and Worthy God, graciously behold your family who comes before you. These your children, for whom Jesus gladly gave his life, now gather before you to worship and honor, glorify and praise you. We come to be forgiven and sanctified. Make us be a holy people that all we do be done for you. Amen.

Hymn: (#142)

O Sacred Head Now Wounded

Affirming Our Faith Together: 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.*

Prayer of Confession:

Since we are assembled here in God's house to hear His Word, to call upon Him in prayer, and to receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is good that we reflect upon our unworthiness, confessing before God our sins of thought, word, and deed, and our helplessness to free ourselves from our sinful nature.

It is also good that we remember who we are as the baptized children of God, to whom the Lord has shown His mercy, cleansed from all our sin, and declared righteous in Christ our Lord. We come here today to lay claim again to the grace in which we are forgiven, and, for the sake of Christ, to be restored by His mercy to serve Him and walk in His ways.

A Moment of Silence:

Words of Assurance:

Blessing and honor and glory and might belong to Christ—the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He has turned our mourning into dancing and clothed us with joy. Know that we are forgiven by the blood of the Lamb, and sing praises to the Lord, giving thanks to his holy name. *Amen.*

St. James Choral Anthem

O Praise the Name

Scripture Reading:

John 13:1-15 ESV

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.² During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you." For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.

Message: O God, You desire not the death of sinners

Dr. Patrick Schultz

Maundy Thursday - Holy Thursday Liturgy for the Sacrament of Communion

Ever-gracious God, we gather this evening as friends gathered with Jesus in an Upper Room long ago. We come bearing the marks and burdens of a bitter and broken world. We come from anonymous places, with dry and thirsty spirits. Remind us, in the breaking of the bread, of our need and of your great sufficiency. Refresh us and make us whole with the cup of forgiveness. Draw us nearer to each other in fellowship and service and closer to you in the covenant of faithfulness and thanksgiving. Deepen in us a sense of your steadfast love for us.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When we turned away and fell from your goodness, you gave us in him your crowning gift. Emptying himself that our joy might be full, he fed the hungry, healed the sick, ate with the scorned and forgotten, washed his disciples' feet and gave unto us a holy meal.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said, "*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.*"

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples and said, *“Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for the many in forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”*

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world, the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

And now, let us pray with the confidence of children of God:

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.

Choral Anthem

Remember, Remember Me

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:

Garden of Gethsemane

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Doxology:

***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:

Everlasting God, thank you that you are the light of the world, guiding our steps on your path. Your word says that the earth is yours, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to you. We recognize everything we have belongs to you. We acknowledge that our very lives belong to you. We now offer back to you a portion of what you have given us. May God the Father prepare our journey, Jesus the Son guide our footsteps and the Holy Spirit watch over us, on every path that we follow. **Amen.**

Hymn: (#465)

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

Benediction:

The blessing of Almighty God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you as you follow Him and grow to look, live and love more like Jesus every day. Go in peace to love and serve...

Postlude:

Sarabande



Join Us For Worship

Good Friday with Communion -
7pm at St. Mark's

Easter Sunday with Communion -
9:00am St. Mark's
10:30am St. James
Sunday School 9-10am at St. James

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