



of his kingdom there  
will be no end

LUKE 1:33

**Sunday, July 27, 2025**  
**St. James & St. Mark's United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Kathy Jurk, Organist    Jacob Grunwald, Reader

*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

**Call to Worship:** (Psalm 63:1-4)

O God, you are my God, and I earnestly seek you:

**my soul thirsts for you;**

**my flesh faints for you;**

**my heart cries out to you.**

As in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

**So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,**

**beholding your power and glory.**

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

**So I will bless you as long as I live;**

**in your name I will lift up my hands.**

Blessed are you, Lord God, for you have visited and redeemed your people. Your Savior has conquered death and is exalted above every power in heaven and on earth where he reigns. We sing our thanksgiving and offer our praise to your majestic name.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, knit together once more your Church. Grant that your Church might honor you with the purpose of proclaiming grace and freedom to all the world. On this day we exalt Christ as our King and ask that you make us prophets of the Most High. *Amen.*

**Hymn:**

St. James (#45 Binder), St. Mark's (#515)

*Hymn of Promise,  
In the Bulb There is a Flower*

**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.***

**Young at Heart:**



**New Member Vows as we welcome Tammie Green to St. Mark's UCC!  
Stay for the Celebration after!**

*"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Cor 12:12)*

There is always a call for celebration when our church receives new members. We, as a church family, welcome all. Today, with great praise and thanksgiving, we welcome Tammie Green into our church family.

We give thanks to God for his grace and guidance and blessing ~ a God who has created and is creating; a God who has come to us in Christ to make us new; a God who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit; a God who is still speaking.

**Rev. Dr. Schultz:**

Tammie, do you repent of your sins and denounce wickedness, evil, and injustice in our communities and this world? **I Do.**

Do you accept the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word of Jesus Christ to become the one God has made you to be?

**I Do.**

Do you accept Christ as your Lord and Savior, put your trust in him and promise to learn more about him, follow him, and serve others in his name? **I Do.**

Will you promise to support this congregation with your time, talents, resources, gifts and tithes, participating regularly in worship with St. Mark's United Church of Christ, praying for its leaders, its congregation, our community, the pastor and the unity of this church for the sake of the Gospel? **I Will.**

Will you invite and welcome others into a relationship with Jesus Christ for the sake of transforming the world? **I Will.**

### **To the Congregation:**

Will you welcome Tammie who stands before you, as a beloved child of God and member of this church? **We Will.**

Will you support and care for her, pray for her, love her, work with and encourage her in all Christ-led ways? **We Will.**

Heavenly God pour out your Holy Spirit and bless Tammie even as she in turns bless the people around her. We ask your blessings on all who are gathered here today, that they are one with Christ.

**All praise to you, Eternal Father,  
through your Son Jesus Christ,  
who with you and the Holy Spirit  
lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

As Pastor and with the support of the St. Mark's Consistory, I welcome you: Tammie Green as our newest member.

Be richly blessed in the ways of faithful community.

Be blessed to be a blessing to those outside the structures of the beautiful, physical church building, knowing that our church extends as far as the people will take it, so that others may come to know the love, grace, and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of Confession:**

Heavenly Father, you have called us to a life of total identification with Jesus Christ. Our desire is to be faithful to your call, no matter the cost. Still, there are times when we revert to our sinful behavior, while we temporarily turn away from God. We confess those times to you and repent of our selfish decisions. Cleanse us from all unrighteousness and spiritual compromise. Restore to us our forward-looking faith that is filled with your promises and your eternal hope. We pray this in Christ's name.

## **A Moment of Silence:**

## **Words of Assurance:**

Friends, forgiveness comes from God, who does not count our sin against us. For God has reconciled us through Christ and entrusts to us the message of reconciliation. Believe the gospel! In Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! *Amen.*

## **Hymn:**

St. James (#89)

St. Mark's (#477)

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

*Come and Find the Quiet Center*

## **Scripture Reading:**

*Luke 1:30-33 ESV*

*And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."*

## **Message:**

*The Last Kingdom – Lost in Translation*

*Dr. Patrick Schultz*

## **People's Prayer:**

Lord God, you came to give honor to the least, those forgotten, overlooked and misjudged. You came to give first place to the last, those left behind, misunderstood and undervalued. You came to give a warm welcome to the lost, those who are orphaned, abandoned and destitute. Help us to be your ears to listen to their cries. Help us to be your voice speaking out love and acceptance. Help us to be your feet walking beside those in need. Help us to be your hands to clothe, feed and shelter them. You came for the least, the lost and last of this world. Lord, hear our 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 ([stmarksstjamesucc.org](http://stmarksstjamesucc.org)).

## **Offertory Music**

*~ 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:

Good and Gracious God, we dedicate these offerings to you. Use them according to your will, to further your ministry throughout this church, this community and beyond. Help us to give with pure hearts, knowing that everything we have is a gift from you. *Amen.*

## Hymn:

St. James (#476)

St. Mark's (#649)

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
Gather Us In*

## Benediction: [Romans 15:5-6]

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Go now, in peace, to love and serve him in all that you do, all that you are, and all you will be. *Amen.*

## Postlude

***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.***

***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: [www.stmarksstjamesucc.org](http://www.stmarksstjamesucc.org)

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)



## Our Church Celebrations!

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:**

July 27<sup>th</sup> – Ann Rodewald, Katelynn Sibley  
29<sup>th</sup> – Chris Grotegut  
31<sup>st</sup> – Amy Clemens, Grace Schultz  
August 1<sup>st</sup> – Larry Heling, Linda Rozmarynowski  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Rhonda Krause

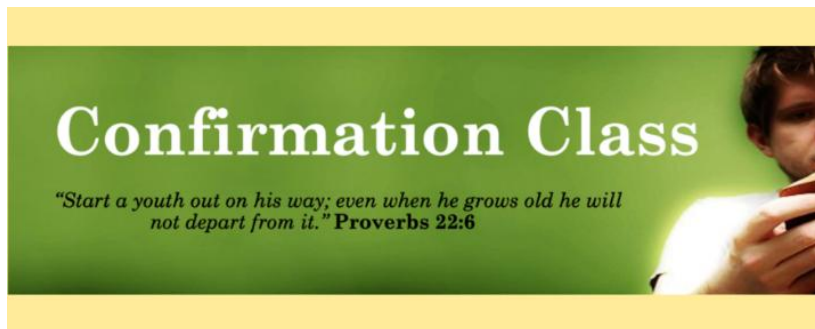
### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

August 2<sup>nd</sup> – Allen & Eunice Stolzmann

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**SMJ YOUTH VOLLEYBALL – TONIGHT**, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm at St. James. Come and watch our SMJ Team take on Saron UCC.

Next week Sunday, August 3rd the volleyball tournament will begin at noon at St. James. Come and show your support!



*It's getting to be that time of the year.... Confirmation classes are right around the corner, starting in September. If you have a child or know of someone who is ready for Confirmation this year (entering into 8th grade or older) please contact our church office via email [stmjstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmjstjoffice@gmail.com) or contact Pastor Patrick directly at [schultzpw@gmail.com](mailto:schultzpw@gmail.com) or 608-352-9544 for registration.*

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Registration is open and rides are available.**

The areas where we need help this summer for Vacation Bible School are:

setting up, daily snacks, treats, beverages, crafts, music, storytelling and assisting for the day. Contact the office, [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com) or 920-693-8361 if you are able to lend a hand.

## **St. James, St. Mark's and Bethlehem UCC's**

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025**

**Held at St. Mark's UCC**

**W1307 Orchard Road, Cleveland, WI 53015**

**August 12,13,14 ~ 9:00am – 12:00noon**

**For children entering first through sixth grades**

**FREE, No Charge!**

**Theme: An Epic Australian Adventure**

**An Unforgettable Journey with Jesus**

**For registration form visit:**

**<https://stmarksstjamesucc.org/>**

**Or call the church office: 920.693.8361**

**VBS registration forms are available in the back of church and you may also register Online!**

### *Ways You Can Get Involved...*

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Would you like to remember someone, or an anniversary or event? Please consider altar flowers for a Sunday morning service. Let our office know who/what they are for and we will include that in the bulletin.

**BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP:** Would you like to sponsor bulletins for a Sunday morning service this summer? Please contact the office to sponsor \$20 Keep this in mind as a special way to honor or memorialize a special person or event in your life.

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** These summer months we are looking for those who would like to share their gift of music during a Sunday morning service. Play an instrument or sing a song - or both! Please contact our office or organists (Randy Sohn, Kathy Jurk) to let us know of your interest.

**READERS:** Would you like to read the biblical text or a particular part of worship on a Sunday morning? This summer is a great time to do so. Please contact Pastor Patrick with your interest.





# SAVE THE DATE!

St. Mark's & St. James invite you to a

## JOINT FAMILY PICNIC DAY!

**Sunday, September 7, 2025** *(rain or shine)*

Held at St. Mark's UCC, W1307 Orchard Rd, Cleveland

### **10:30 JOINT WORSHIP** *followed by* **LUNCH & GAMES**

*(no service at St. James)*

*Hamburgers and Hot Dogs (donations appreciated)*

### **GAMES FOR ALL AGES**

Bingo	Yard Games	Croquet	Fish Pond
Pick-a-Duck	Corn Hole	Ring Toss	Balloon Dart
Ladder Golf	Dunk the Pastor	<i>(fee per ball) ....And More!</i>	

*When the event draws nearer, we will be asking for donations of prizes,  
as well as the use of yard games and canopies.*

**For the Joint Family Picnic Day registration form visit:**

**<https://bit.ly/jointchurchpicnic>**

**There are also paper copies of the registration form  
available at church.**