



**Sunday, August 31, 2025**  
**St. James & St. Mark's United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor  
Rev. Julie A. Mavity Maddalena, Guest Pastor  
Kathy Jurk, 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

## Call to Worship:

If we speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

**And if we have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if we have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.**

If we give away all our possessions, and hand over our bodies so that we may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

**Love is patient; love is kind;**

love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

**Love is not irritable or resentful; love rejoices in the truth.**

Love bears all things, love believes all things,

Love hopes all things, love endures all things. Love never ends. Amen.

## Prayer

**God whose love is vast and measureless, wider than the universe, unlimited and infinite: In wonder we worship you. God whose love will never run dry, will never fall short, will never fail: In wonder we worship you.**

**God whose love knows nothing of our distinctions, our notions of ‘deserving’ and ‘undeserving’, and which encompasses everyone: In wonder we worship you. May we learn from your love and share it with each other. Amen.**

## ♪ Hymn:

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

**St. James (#205)**

**St. Mark's (#589)**



## Young at Heart:

## Scripture Reading:

1 Corinthians 13

*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.*

*If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*

*Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.*

### ♪ Hymn:

*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

**St. James** (#31 – binder)

**St. Mark's** (#595)

### Message

Beautiful, Difficult Love

### Peoples' Prayer

#### 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 ([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 heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:**  
God who is Love, receive our gifts of self and substance. They have belonged to you since our very beginning. We give them freely, joyfully, prayerfully. With them we praise you. With them we celebrate the great power that is love—a love that abides always, a love that radically transforms, a love that makes us whole. May they bring your Love to the world. Amen.

♪ **Hymn:** *Blest Be the Bind That Ties*  
**St. James (#280)**  
**St. Mark's (#393)**

**Benediction**

**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:**

*August 31<sup>st</sup> – Kevin Jump, Joanie Mohr*  
*September 1<sup>st</sup> – Clarence Belitz, Alyssa Grotegut,*  
*Raleigh Hess, Brett Spindler*  
*5<sup>th</sup> – Thad Athorp*  
*6<sup>th</sup> – Waylon Beck, Jamey Binversie,*  
*David Call, Cindy Sohn*

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

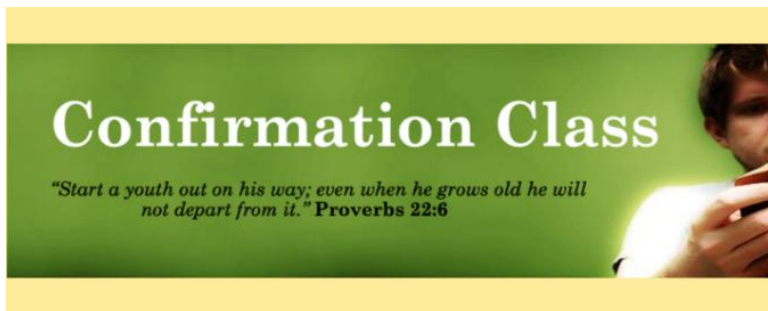
*September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Tom & Nancy Nye*  
*5<sup>th</sup> – Al & Judy Wippermann*  
*6<sup>th</sup> – Tim & Noel Wippermann*

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**BUILDING FUND SUNDAY, NEXT WEEK SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>.**

**ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING** – Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30pm

**ST. JAMES SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins Sunday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>. There will also be Bible presentations, Teacher Installation/Blessing and Blanket Plus Sunday that day.



*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 [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com) or contact Pastor Patrick directly at [schultzpw@gmail.com](mailto:schultzpw@gmail.com) or 608-352-9544 for registration.*



There's still time to register! Either sign up on the from in the bulletin or visit: <https://bit.ly/jointchurchpicnic>



**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 (fee per ball)	....And More!	✓

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



*It's How We Roll!*

St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:  
Join us for **BUNCO NIGHT, Thur.,  
Sept. 11th, 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](mailto:tserketich@yahoo.com)