



**Sunday, September 21, 2025**  
**St. Mark's & St. James United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor  
Randy Sohn, Organist      Brenda Miota, 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:

*Blessed Be the Name*

**Call To Worship:**

Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice!

**Today we choose to rejoice. Today we choose to worship and give thanks.**

Seek the peace of God that will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**Today we choose God's peace; today we place our trust in God.**

Turn your hearts away from the distractions and disappointments of life that will always flow in and flow out like the tide. Set your affections on things above and worship the Lord who loves you and cares for you.

**We come to worship God who alone is excellent and worthy of praise!**

## Opening Prayer:

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded. Since we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth, make us hunger for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. *Amen.*

## ♪ Hymn:

St. Mark's (#405)

St. James (#322)

*My Hope is Built on Nothing Less  
The Church's One Foundation*

## Apostle's 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:

## Prayer of Confession:

O God, who sent gifts of the Holy Spirit to those first saints, we know you continue to send gifts to us, even though we do not claim them. We confess that we have not always opened the gifts we have claimed. We pack them away in an already stuffed closet of grace we have discarded. Move us, by your Spirit, to pick up our presents, that you so freely give. To open them and to spend them lavishly on the people and the situations around us. Break in on our reluctance and astonish us anew, O God!

We lift the complexity and harmony of life to your heart and trust that you hear and hold us as we pray in shared silence:

## A Moment of Silence:

## Words of Assurance: (Psalm 28:6-7)

Praise the LORD, for he is gracious and has heard my cry for mercy. The Lord is my strength and shield; With all my heart I trust in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him.

**♪ Hymn:**

**St. Mark's (#480)**

**St. James (#386)**

*Open My Eyes, That I May See  
From All That Dwell Below*

**Scripture Readings:**

*Psalm 39:4-6 ESV*

*"O LORD, make me know my end*

*and what is the measure of my days;*

*let me know how fleeting I am!*

*Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,*

*and my lifetime is as nothing before you.*

*Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! Selah*

*Surely a man goes about as a shadow!*

*Surely for nothing they are in turmoil;*

*man heaps up wealth and does not know who will gather!*

*2 Peter 3:7-9 ESV*

*But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.*

*But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.*

**Message:**

*Gifts Both Given and Received: Time*

Dr. Patrick Schultz

**People's 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.**

**Offertory Music:**

*Hymn of Adoration*

*~ 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:**

Each of us is a fragile miracle, evidence of God's creative hands, and amazing grace. We are each unique, unrepeatable gifts to the world. We are proof of God's love. And so we who are the gifts of creation now give gifts to our Creator. Use them to further your kingdom in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

♪ Hymn:

St. Mark's (#350)

St. James (#465)

*The Summons  
I Will Sing the Wondrous Story*

**Benediction:**

May we go from this sacred space and this sacred time, our minds filled with the Word and the fellowship of the community of faith, to live out our call in the world as a people of joy and of hope. Go now, in peace, to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all you will be. *Amen.*

**Postlude:**

*Honor and Glory, Power and Salvation*

***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)

**What is one question you've always  
wanted to ask the pastor?**

Be a part of a sermon series the pastor is writing by  
submitting your question. All questions will  
be considered for a sermon topic to be preached.

Write your answer on the back of the Welcome Card.

# Staying Close, Staying Connected

## Our Church Celebrations!

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

September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Ruby Jump, Betty Kellner,  
Austin Riesterer, Payton Scharl  
24<sup>th</sup> – Claire Clemens, Jon Luckow,  
Michelle Luckow, Geraldine Scheffler  
26<sup>th</sup> – Richard Binversie, Daniel Sohn  
27<sup>th</sup> – Eion Heling, Sandra Kracht-Jones

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

September 26<sup>th</sup> – Steve & Jenny Schnelle

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**ST. JAMES CHOIR PRACTICE** – Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> , 6:30pm

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24<sup>TH</sup>** – Email them to Karen at [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)



### **ST. MARK'S:**

If you are interested in information regarding Sunday School at St. Mark's this year, contact Pastor Patrick at [schultzpw@gmail.com](mailto:schultzpw@gmail.com) or call 608-352-9544. You may also call the church office, 920-693-8361 or email Karen at: [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)

## **ST. MARK'S FOOD DRIVE for North High School**



### **We're collecting:**

- \* Granola/Breakfast Bars
- \* Mac & Cheese (microwave)
- \* Pasta/Pasta Sauce

**\*\*We are also in need of  
Male & Female Deodorant\*\***

**Collection boxes will be in the church entry way Oct. 5 - 26.**

*THANK YOU for your support!*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**WORLD COMMUNION & NEIGHBORS-IN-NEED OFFERING**  
**SUNDAY, October 5<sup>th</sup>**

**CROP WALK – October 12<sup>th</sup>**

**ST. JAMES MISSION FEST – October 19<sup>th</sup>.**

### ***United Church Men & Women*** ***Scholarship Banquet***

6:30 pm, Thursday, October 30, 2025  
Ebenezer United Church of Christ  
3215 Saemann Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081

Tickets can be purchased from  
Scott Henschel or Lori Roelse. Cost is \$20.

Please join in this opportunity to support those who are  
studying for ministry and leadership in the United  
Church of Christ.

Feel free to reach out to Lori with questions. Phone  
920-946-3540 or email [laroelse@gmail.com](mailto:laroelse@gmail.com).

