

Sunday, October 5, 2025
World Communion
Neighbors-In Need Special Offering
St. Mark's & 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:

We, Your People, Praise You

# **Call To Worship:**

Holy God, from all corners of the earth, your people gather to sing your praise and prepare to feast at your table.

We come together, united in faith, to share in the joy of communion.

Around the world, your children break bread and pour wine, celebrating the love made known in the Lord's Supper.

We join with our siblings in Christ, from every nation and culture, to partake in this sacred meal.

Let us worship together, sharing God's bounty and grace.

Amen. Let us lift our hearts in worship!

### **Opening Prayer:**

For the gift of faith which sees beyond the present moment and looks to an eternity, we thank you. For the gift of faith small as a mustard seed, which has power within its simplicity, we thank you. For the gift of faith bestowed upon those who would simply come, hearts open in humility, we thank you. *Amen*.

♪ Hymn:

**St. Mark's** (#302)

**St. James** (#166)

He Lives Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Young at Heart:

St. James Choral Anthem:

Come and Dine

# Prayer of Confession: Precious God - for all the times we don't

God of the rivers and the wilderness, of Babylon, Jerusalem, Cleveland and Spring Valley we come to you today with the deep ache of a world that still knows displacement. We pray for all who are wandering, refugees fleeing war, immigrants seeking welcome, souls lost in systems that forget their name. May they find rest and home. We pray for the ones whose faith feels the size of a mustard seed, tiny, unsure, and overwhelmed. May they know that even the smallest act of trust can plant forests of transformation. Bring healing where healing can come, and peace where it cannot.

Let our unity not erase our difference, but celebrate it, a foretaste of the kingdom where every tribe, every language, every story has a place. And God, where the world breaks trust and justice is delayed, let your Spirit stir us toward equity, let your church rise to embody compassion, and let your table always remain open, never guarded.

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 today will be sung:

Hymn:

St. Mark's (#426)

St. James (#5 Binder)

### **Scripture Reading:**

Proverbs 3:5-6 English Standard Version

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

**Message:** Gifts Both Given and Received: Faith

Dr. Patrick Schultz

**Rlessed Assurance** 

#### **World Communion**

Creator of the Universe, maker of mountains and rivers, deserts and seas, vineyards and wheat fields, we praise you for the life you have given us and for all living things around us! From the seeds you scattered, you gathered the people of Israel, giving them your covenant and your promise. In the fullness of time, you came to us in Jesus of Nazareth, child of Mary and the Promised One of Israel. We honor his teachings, we weep at his suffering, and we rejoice in his risen life.

We ask your blessing on this bread and this cup. May these gifts of Christ's body and blood strengthen us to be the gathered and scattered Church in the world—many in culture and expression, yet one in Spirit, one in truth, one in faith, one in love.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

On the night of your betrayal, Lord Jesus, you took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to your disciples and said, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

You did the same with the cup after the supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out is the new covenant in my blood."

Blessed Trinity, in remembrance of all you have done to save us, we offer ourselves to you in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we sing (proclaim) the mystery of our faith:

Christ has come among us. Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ abides with us. Christ will come again. Pour out your Spirit on us and on these gifts.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ.

And make us, through them, Christ's body alive in the world.

# 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:**

What a Friend

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

Giving is more than a financial act — it's a bold expression of faith – a selfless act of conviction and confidence that God will provide. It fuels ministry across borders, languages, and cultures, and becomes a witness to God's expansive love. Together, we give not just to sustain what is, but to make room for what can be — extending Christ's table so that all may find a place and a purpose.

# 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:

Dear Heavenly God, we thank you for the opportunity to dedicate our offerings to you. Help us to understand the profound significance of this act of giving. Teach us to offer our gifts with a pure heart and a grateful spirit, knowing that you bless those who give with a joyful heart. *Amen*.

♪ Hymn:

St. Mark's (#730) St. James (#22 Binder) Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

## **Benediction:**

Go now as those who have been fed, not only with bread and cup, but with remembrance, mercy, and the wild welcome of Christ. Let your faith, even if only a mustard seed, uproot indifference, plant compassion, and prepare a place for someone else to be seen, to be heard, to be healed. Wherever you go, Babylon or Jerusalem, downtown or dirt road, carry the table with you. And may the Spirit of God go before you to stir courage, walk beside you to offer peace, and dwell within you to keep setting the table of grace. 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:

Victory Through Christ



# **Our Church Celebrations!**

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

October 5th - Alexander Miota

7<sup>th</sup> - ValJean Marcoe

8th - William Luebke

9<sup>th</sup> - Joanne Fessler, Colten Sommer

10th - Kay Bitter

11th - Christine Hayon

#### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

October 8<sup>th</sup> - Dan & Rachel Sohn Mike & Kristin Zolltheis 11<sup>th</sup>- Jay & Kayla Sommer

**QUILTERS CLUB** will meet 9-noon on Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> after a long summer break. You don't need any special skills, just a love for serving and sharing warmth with others.

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY meets Tuesday, Oct. 7th at 6:30pm

ST. JAMES CHOIR PRACTICE - Wednesday, October 8th at 6:30pm

ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY meetings Thursday, Oct. 9th, at 6pm

ST. JAMES ADOPT-A-HWY is next week Sunday, Oct. 12th



### **CROP WALK**

Oct. 12

Registration 12:00pm, 12:30 Walk at St. Peters UCC, Kiel



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

# 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!



St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:
Join us for BUNCO NIGHT, Thur.,
Oct. 16th, 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

# St. James UCC

13312 Pioneer Rd, Newton WI 53063

# **Ham Dinner**

# Dine-In & Carry out

Sunday, October 19, 2025 11:00am – 12:30 pm

Please join us in worship at 10:00 am.

Featuring:

We Believe Foundation

Dinner will include: Ham, German Potato Salad, Corn, Applesauce, Coleslaw, Dinner Rolls, Pumpkin or Apple Pie.

Cost: \$15.00 per meal

Thank you for supporting "Our Church's Wider Mission".

# 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.

# 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 <a href="mailto:laroelse@gmail.com">laroelse@gmail.com</a>.



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: <a href="mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com">stmstjoffice@gmail.com</a>

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