



Sunday, January 4, 2026
Second Sunday after Christmas
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Keith Weiland, Pastor
Randy Sohn, Organist Sandy Perronne, 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:

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Call to Worship:

At God's table of justice, everyone has a place and none are turned away.

Here strangers are welcomed as friends, the poor sit alongside the rich, and the upside-down kin-dom of God is revealed.

At God's table of abundance, a banquet of righteousness and liberation is set for all.

Here the powerless are heard; the outcast are showered with honor, and the inside-out kin-dom of God is revealed.

At God's table of life, all peoples know peace and creation flourishes.

Here the hopeless are nourished with possibility, the complacent are transformed into advocates for change. Here in our very midst the kin-dom of God is revealed.

Hymn: (St. Mark's #189), (St. James #104)

Angels, From the Realms of Glory

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.*

Unison Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, you came to us, you manifested your glory, your light shining in the darkness. You searched for us and found us. Grant us the wisdom to search for you, to seek you, and, in seeking, to find you, to embrace you as the source of our lives, the hope of our world, the light in our darkness. Amen.

Words of Assurance

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 1:14



Sacrament of Baptism: August Charles Lutze

Hymn: (St. Mark's #670), (St. James #199)

O Word of God Incarnate

Scripture Reading:

John 1:1-18 English Standard Version

The Word Became Flesh

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; God the only Son, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

The Message:

God Among Us

Rev. Keith R. Weiland

People's Prayer:

Lord Jesus, you came to us, you manifested your glory to us, your light is shining in the darkness. You searched for us and found us.

Grant us the wisdom to search for you, to seek you, and, in seeking, to find you, to embrace you as the source of our lives, the hope of our world, the light in our darkness. Hear us as we lift our voices as one:

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: ~ *The offering is brought to the altar* ~

Offertory Music:

A Joyous Noel

Doxology: *(Everyone stand as you are able.)*

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:

Dear God: With all that we have, help us to be content; and in our contentment, to be grateful; and in our gratitude, to be generous; and I our generosity, to share the love of Christ with those in need. We ask in his name. Amen.

Hymn: (St. Mark's #236), (St. James #123)

As With Gladness

Benediction:

Postlude:

Go, Tell It on the Mountain



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

*January 5th – Terri Grunwald
7th – Jim Becker II, Corey Vandoske
8th – Aubriana Peterson
9th – Scott Siekman*

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:

January 10th – Kevin & Betty Kellner

QUILTERS MEET – Tuesday, January 6th, 9-noon, at St. Mark's

ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING – Tuesday, January 6th, 6:30pm

ST. MARK'S IS IN NEED OF GREETERS FOR 2026— Sign up for your preferred month(s) on the form that's located on the coffee table in the church entryway. You may also sign up Online at: <https://bit.ly/greeter2026>



IT'S ANNUAL REPORT TIME!

ST. MARK'S, YOUR REPORTS WERE DUE FRIDAY, JAN. 2ND Watch your email for you copy of the annual report to review before the January 11th Annual Meeting (held after worship).

ST. JAMES, YOUR REPORTS ARE DUE FRIDAY, JAN. 9TH.

Email your group's annual reports to Karen at: stmstjoffice@gmail.com

ST. JAMES ANNUAL MEETING IS JAN. 18TH after the worship service

While Pastor Patrick is out on medical leave,
Rev. Keith Weiland will be your contact person
should pastoral care be needed.

He may be reached by email or phone:

cell phone: 920-946-2260
email: raidermascot@gmail.com
home phone: 920-565-3278



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.
Sunday School at St. James 9-10am every Sunday.

St. Mark's UCC

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.
2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.

Visit our Church Website: <https://www.stmarksstjamesucc.org>
Worship Services are recorded weekly and uploaded to our church

YouTube channel: St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Facebook: St. Marks & St. James UCC

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office:
stmstjoffice@gmail.com