



**Sunday, March 1, 2026**  
**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:

*What A Friend We Have In Jesus*

## **Call to Worship:**

Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is a gift of God's grace, not earned but freely given.

**We gather to worship God and to remember we cannot earn our salvation.**

Today we gather to meet Jesus, not in the night like Nicodemus, but in daylight to accept the new life we are offered.

**We bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with open arms.**

Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in their faith, we submit ourselves to be formed by God's grace as we work out our salvation day by day.

**We gather as people guided by the promise of new life, a promise fulfilled by Christ' crucifixion, death and resurrection. A path we too follow.**

## **Gloria Patri: (#493)**

**Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

## **Prayer:**

Infinite God of love and heart of all life, you so loved this world that you sent your one and only Son into it that your creation might know salvation. Your presence does not separate but unites; your love does not push away but embraces; you do not condemn but save. Trusting this, we know we are loved, never rejected. We worship and glorify your name through our praise, song, prayer and communion. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

## **♪ Hymn: (#1)**

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

## **Affirmation of Faith: (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:



St. James Choral Anthem:

*Together We Rise!*

**Scripture Reading:**

John 3:1-17 ESV

*Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."*

*Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*

*"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him*

**Message:**

*Seeking Jesus*

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

♪ **Hymn:** (#406)

*In Christ There is no East or West*

**Peoples' Prayer:**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as 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 (stmstjucc.org).

**Offertory Music:**

*The Lord's My Shepherd*

**Doxology: (#551)**

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

**Faithful God of New Beginnings, you call us to trust in what we cannot yet see, to follow where you lead, even when the road is unclear. In the shadows of our questions and uncertainty, you meet us with grace, not judgement or condemnation. As Nicodemus discovered, your love is not earned but freely given. So, now receive these gifts, offerings and tithes—as a sign of our belief, our hope, and our gratitude. Bless them to betterment of a darkened world. In the name of your Son and given in love, we pray. *Amen.***

**♪ Hymn of Sending: (#476)**

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**Benediction:**

Go now in the mercy of God, whose promises never fail, to live as people who have generously received and thus generously share God’s gracious gift of new life with all we encounter. Go to love and serve the Lord: In all that you do; and all that you are; and all you will be. ***Amen.***

**Postlude:**

*Joyful Jig*

***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.***



## **Our Church Celebrations!**

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

*March 1<sup>st</sup> – Eric Grotegut, Katy Grunwald  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Kara Drewieske, Tracy Marciel  
4<sup>th</sup> – Macie Fitzgerald, James Luckow  
6<sup>th</sup> – Wyatt Henschel  
7<sup>th</sup> – Dale Krause*

### **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:**

*2<sup>nd</sup> – Dave & Cindy Call*

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### **ST JAMES CHLI DINNER TODAY, 11-1, CARRY-OUTS ONLY.**

**Quilter's Club** – Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9 to noon, at St. Mark's

**ST. JAMES CHOIR PRACTICE** – Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30pm

**ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING** – Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30pm

**CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS** – Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm at St. Mark's

**\*LENTEN WORSHIP** – Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at St. Mark's

**ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING** – Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 6pm

**EASTER LILIES** – Order forms are included on the back two pages of this bulletin. Tear off & complete the side for your church.

*Note that lily orders for both churches are due next week Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> (St. Mark's was graciously given an extension by Millhome.*

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](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)



# LENTEN WORSHIP

Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at St. Mark's

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at St. James

Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at St. Mark's

Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 7pm at St. James

Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>,

9am St. James, 10:30am St. Mark's

Maundy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>,  
7pm, St. James, Communion

Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7pm  
St. Mark's, Communion

Easter! April 5<sup>th</sup>, Communion  
9am St. Mark's  
10:30am St. James



## QUILTERS CLUB

Please join us on  
Tuesday, March 3rd  
and

Tuesday, March 17th  
9:00 - noon  
at St. Mark's UCC.

*You don't need any special skills,  
just a love for serving and sharing  
warmth with others.*



If you are you a person who just loves to play games...  
board games, dice games, card games...  
then our new group is calling your name!

## BREAKING BOARD(games)!

...will meet in the basement of St. Mark's UCC  
(W1307 Orchard Road, Cleveland)

9:30-11:30am

Wednesdays, March 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

*Everyone is invited and welcome to join us--tell your neighbors & friends!  
There's no charge, no reservations, just come and have fun!*

There will be games available and you are also invited to  
bring your own games to share.

**St. James Easter Lilies** will be purchased from Hartman's Towne & Country Greenhouse, Manitowoc. These lilies will be a plant with 4-6 blooms and the pot wrapped in gold foil with an ivory bow.



Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> .

Please call the church office (693-8361) to place your order, or fill out this slip and place it in the offering plate. It would be helpful if payment would accompany your order. You may take your flower after the Easter worship service on April 5<sup>th</sup> .

**Cost: \$12.50**

Please make checks payable to your church.

Cut Here

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**I would like to order an Easter lily for 2026**

My lily is \_\_\_\_\_

(in honor - in memory - for the joy, etc.)

of \_\_\_\_\_

(name of honoree , ***printed clearly*** as it should appear in bulletin)

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

(your name, ***printed clearly*** as it should appear in bulletin)

**St. Mark's Easter Lilies** will be purchased from Millhome Nursery & Greenhouse. These lilies will have 5+ buds, single stem and will be wrapped in foil with a bow.



**Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> \*new date!**. Please call the church office (693-8361) to place your order, or fill out this slip and place it in the offering plate. It would be helpful if payment would accompany your order. You may take your flower after the Easter worship service on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

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