

RESISTING THE TEMPTER



MATTHEW 4:1-11

Sunday, February 22, 2026
St. James United Church of Christ
St. Mark's United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Kathy Jurk, Organist

Cindy Sohn, Choir Director

Jacob Grunwald, 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:

Cleansing Fountain

****Bold text means to read in unison**

Call to Worship:

The tempter said, if you are the Son of God, use your power to satisfy yourself.
Lord, strengthen us to resist temptation and rely on you in all ways.

The tempter said, if you are the Son of God, prove it dramatically.
Lord, remind us that you love us just as we are. We need not prove anything.

The tempter said, if you are the Son of God, take control of the kingdoms of the world.
**Lord, you already have full control of all the kingdoms.
Praise be to your name.**

Gloria Patri:

**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:

God, we come with hesitant steps and uncertain motives to sweep out the corners where sin has accumulated and uncover the ways we have strayed from your truth. Expose the empty and barren places we don't allow you to enter. Reveal our half-hearted struggles where we have been indifferent to the suffering of others. Forgive and re-make us in Christ's image, O God. ***Amen.***

Hymn:

**St. James Choral Anthem:
St. Mark's (#373)**

*Come As You Are
Change My Heart, O God*

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.*

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 4:1-11 ESV

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

*"Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."*

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

"He will command his angels concerning you,"

and

*"On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone."*

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

*"You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve."*

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Message:

O How We Are Tempted

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Hymn:

St. James (#466)

St. Mark's (#499)

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

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 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
Offertory Music:

I Surrender All

~ The offering is brought to the altar ~

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:

To the glory of our God, life-giver and life-saver, we give out of gratitude for your love and mercy, for your Son Jesus Christ. May these offerings, gifts, and tithes be used to further your ministry through your church. Amen.

Hymn of Sending:

St. James (#35)

Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

St. Mark's (#483)

Take Time to Be Holy

Benediction:

Place your trust in God's guidance. Go into this world where the need of hope and healing with the love of Christ is in great demand. Though the journey is long, God will sustain you. Go in peace and may God's peace always go with you. Go now in mercy and love, to serve the Lord: In all that you do; and all that you are; and all you will be.

Amen.

Postlude:

Postlude in A Minor

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



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

*Yesterday, February 21st – Linda Schroeder, Reid Vandoske
22nd –Scott Dexter, Peter Grunwald, Tom Nye
24th – Shelia Hemb
25th – Myron Hickman, Jason Riesterer, Bill Roelse
26th – Rieck Beiersdorf, Amy Summers
27th – Karie Ladwig
28th – Poppy Binversie, Theodore Sibley
29th – Eunice Stolzmann, Walter Tylor*

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

26th – Bill & Laurie Heckmann

**See the graphic with details on the next pages....*

***TODAY...SHEEPSHEAD GATHERING AT ST. JAMES!**

***QUILTERS CLUB** -Tuesday, February 24th, 9-noon at St. Mark's

VISION OF HOPE -Tuesday, February 24th, 6pm at St. James

ST. JAMES CHOIR PRACTICE – Tuesday, February 24th, 6:30pm

***BREAKING BOARD (GAMES)** – Wednesday, February 25th, 9:30-11:30 at St. Mark's

CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETS – Wednesday, February 25th, 6:00pm at St. James

***LENTEN WORSHIP** – Wednesday, February 25th, 7pm at St. James

***ST. JAMES CHII DINNER** – Next week Sunday, March 1st, 11-1, Carry-Outs Only.

EASTER LILIES – An order form is included in this bulletin.

**Note that lily orders are due on March 1st for St. Mark's
and due on March 8th for St. James.**

TODAY!



Everyone is invited to join us for a...

Sheephead Gathering!

at ST. JAMES UCC,
SUNDAY, FEB. 22nd, 1:00pm!



**BETHLEHEM UCC HAS INVITED US TO A
FAMILY ICE FISHING OUTING TODAY
Sunday, February 22nd, on Wilke Lake**

Parking will be at Scott & Jane Umland's residence:
10411 Glen Flora Rd, Kiel
OR
Public Boat Launch
Located off of Point Creek Rd. (By Hennings Cheese)

We will plan on fishing from approximately 11:00 am until 2:00'ish (or however long you want to stay out on the lake). Live bait will be provided (wax worms & minnows). We will grill hamburgers, brats, & hotdogs on the lake for lunch (beverages will be BYOB).

Remember to bring your warm clothes, fishing gear, DNR fishing license, and good spirits. We hope that mother nature will bless us with a nice winter day, and everyone can have fun on the ice. Everyone is welcome to attend (fishing gear or not, we will provide gear for anyone that does not have any).

In the event of cancellation due to ice conditions, please check Bethlehem's church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/bucckiel>

EVERYONE
IS
WELCOME
TO THESE
EVENTS...

INVITE
YOUR
FRIENDS
&
NEIGHBORS



QUILTERS CLUB

Please join us on
Tuesday, February 24th
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, Wednesday, February 25th

*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.

*Bring a beverage and snack if you'd like.



St. James UCC Chili Dinner!

Sunday, March 1st, 11 to 1

13312 Pioneer Road, Spring Valley
Newton, WI 53063

CARRY OUTS ONLY

Quart of Chili: \$10.00

Gallon of Chili: \$25.00

All carry-outs include chili, crackers, fresh bread,
cheese & a dessert!

Hosted by the Consistories of St. James & St. Mark's UCC
on behalf of the Youth Fellowship



LENTEN WORSHIP

Wednesday, February 25th, 7pm at St. James

Wednesday, March 4th, 7pm at St. Mark's

Wednesday, March 11th, 7pm at St. James

Wednesday, March 18th, 7pm at St. Mark's

Wednesday, March 25th, 7pm at St. James

Palm Sunday, March 29th,

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

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd,
7pm, St. James, Communion

Good Friday, April 3rd, 7pm
St. Mark's, Communion

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