



Sunday, March 15, 2026
St. Mark's United Church of Christ
St. James United Church of Christ

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

Kathy Jurk/Randy Sohn, Organist

Tim Schueler, 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:

St. Mark's: *"Are Ye Able," Said The Master*
St. James: *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

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

Call to Worship:

Once we lived in darkness, unable to see.

Now the light of God has shone upon us. Our eyes are opened and we are no longer blind!

You have opened our eyes Lord, that we might see you and see the need for you in our world.

The acts of darkness are left behind as we journey to God's light. Show us how we can best serve you, O Lord.

Thanks be to God who gives us the light.

Our eyes are filled with tears of gladness and joy. Our hearts overflow with love for you, Creator, Savior, and Spirit.

Gloria Patri: (St. Mark's #734, St. James #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:

God, I pray that I may so know you and love you that I may rejoice in you. And if I may not do so fully in this life, let me go steadily on to the day when I come to that fullness. Let the knowledge of you increase in me here, and there let it come to fullness. Let your love grow in me here, and there let it be fulfilled so that here my joy may be in great hope, and there in full reality.

♪ Hymn:

St. Mark's: (#87)

St. James: (#287)

**Come, Christians, Join to Sing
God of Grace and God of Glory**

Affirmation of Faith: (Statement of Faith)

We believe in God, the Eternal Spirit, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Father, and to his deeds we testify:

He calls the worlds into being, creates man in his own image and sets before him the ways of life and death.

He seeks in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

He judges men and nations by his righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Lord, he has come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to himself.

He bestows upon us his Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

He calls us into his church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be his servants in the service of men, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

He promises to all who trust him forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, his presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in his kingdom which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto him.

Amen.

Young At Heart:



♪ Hymn:

St. Mark's: (#48)

St. James: (#471)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

More Love To Thee

Scripture Reading:

John 9:16-27 ESV

Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

The Jew did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him.")

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"

Message:

I See Blind People (part II)

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

♪ Hymn:

St. Mark's: (#504)

St. James: (#72)

*Just a Closer Walk With Thee
Now Thank We All Our God*

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:

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:

St. Mark's: *Loving kindness*

St. James: *Here Faith Abides*

~ *The offering is brought to the altar* ~

Doxology: St. Mark's (#34), St. James (#551)

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:

Generous God, you tenderly care for each person you have created. You miraculously restore people to health and shine light into the lives of those who are discouraged. Guide us so that we will not regard others according to outward appearances but seek to find your love in their hearts. We dedicate our offerings and ourselves to continue the work of your kingdom on earth until Christ returns in glory. *Amen.*

♪ Hymn of Sending:

St. Mark's: (#557), St. James: (insert)

Pass It On

Benediction:

Beloved children of God, may the blessing of God's mercy go before you, behind you, and all around you as we journey in grace, reflecting the Light of new life wherever we go. Go now to love and serve the Lord: In all that you do; and all that you are; and all you will be. *Amen.*

Postlude:

St. Mark's: *Marche Romaine*

St. James: *Softly and Tenderly*



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

March 16th – Scott Zolltheis

17th – Adelia Scharl, Delmar Sommer

18th – Mike Bernhardt, Tammy Dexter, Dave Mueller

19th – Jody Binversie, Kristin Zolltheis

NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:

TODAY IS BUILDING FUND SUNDAY.

QUILTERS CLUB – meets Tuesday, March 17th, 9-noon at St. Mark's...and you are welcome to join! No special skills are needed, just a desire to help others.

CONFIRMATION CLASS – meets at 6:30pm Wed., Mar. 18th, at St. Mark's.

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

ARTICLES FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER are due Friday, March 20th. Email them to Karen at stmstjoffice@gmail.com

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.

LENTEN WORSHIP

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



Everyone is invited to join us for a...
**Sheepshead
Gathering!**
at ST. JAMES UCC,
SUNDAY, April 12th, 1:00pm!

SAVE
THE
DATES:

BUNCO

It's How We Roll!

St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:
Join us for **BUNCO NIGHT, Thur.,
April 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**

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