

Wednesday, March 25, 2026
St. James United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Ann Rodwald, Organist
London Kuester; Brooklyn Vandoske, Readers

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:

Alas, And Did My Savior Bleed

**Bold text means to read in unison*

Call to Worship:

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me! For You are the God in whom I take refuge.

**Send out Your Light and Your Truth; let them lead me;
let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!**

Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy, and I will praise You with the lyre, O God, my God.

**Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my Salvation and my God.**

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people, from the deceitful and unjust man deliver me!

For You are the God in Whom I take refuge.

Prayer:

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

♪ Hymn: (#191)

Breathe On Me, Breath of God

[Please be seated]

First Reading:

John 11:17-27 ESV, Brooklyn Vandoske
Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

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

Second Reading:

John 11:38-44 ESV, London Kuester
Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Message: *Nothing Prevents Me from Following His Call* Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz

♪ **Hymn: (#181)**

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

People's Prayer:

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."

Prince of Peace, I come before you with a heart burdened and restless. Grant me the inner peace that surpasses all understanding. Calm the storms within me and fill me with the assurance of your presence. Help me to cast my anxieties upon you and to trust in your perfect peace. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

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:

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 offering is brought to the altar by Landin Wakefield and Peter Grunwald* ~

(#258) ~ *Sung as the offering is brought to the altar, stand as you are able.*~

***We give Thee but Thine Own,
Whate'er the gift may be:
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.***

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

Heavenly Father, guide us as we give today. Let our offerings be used to fulfill your will and bring glory to your name. May they provide for those in need and spread your word. **Amen.**

♪ **Hymn of Sending:** (#322)

The Church's One Foundation

Benediction:

Heavenly Father, as we leave this place, pour your peace into every heart. Let your blessings follow each person, and may your light continue to shine upon our path. Keep us safe and near to you all week long.

Go now, in peace to love and serve the Lord, in all that you are, all that you do, and all that you will be. **God bless you!**


Postlude:

Power In the Blood



Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:

St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: <https://stmarksstjamesucc.org/>

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