



**Sunday, March 29th, 2026**

**Palm Sunday**

**St. James and St. Mark's United Church of Christ**

Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor

Ann Rodewald, 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:

*The Holy City*

*\*Bold text means to read in unison*

### **Call to Worship:**

Lenten travelers, the journey to the cross begins with a procession into Jerusalem, a demonstration of Jesus' saving power.

**We come to praise Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

The crowds line the path and shout "Hosanna! Save us!" as Jesus rides in, not on a mighty war horse, but on the backs of a donkey and a colt.

**We come to call on Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

The city murmurs, wondering who this person is who demonstrates power through humility, strength without tyranny.

**We come to witness Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

Lenten travelers, will you come on the journey to Jerusalem, following a Messiah who saves us to live after the pattern of the kingdom of God, not the kingdoms of this world?

**We come to follow Jesus, the Messiah, the One who saves!**

### ***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:**

Humble God, you have shown us the way to enter all the Jerusalems of this world. You showed us not to enter our lives with fear, but with humility and courage. As we worship this day, we draw upon your example of Jesus on that humble donkey, and we raise our palm branches in rejoicing! We raise our voices, shouting along with your people of every age, "Hosanna in the highest!" Come and save us this day, O Jesus of Jerusalem.

***Amen.***

### **♪ Hymn:**

**St. James (#135)**

**St. Mark's (#265)**

**[Please Be Seated]**

*All Glory, Laud and Honor*

*All Glory, Laud and Honor (vs. 1, 3, 5)*

### **Prayer of Confession:**

Let us confess before God our tendency,  
like the Jerusalem crowds,  
to profess our faith in moments of enthusiasm  
and deny our faith in moments of stress.

## Words of Assurance:

O God, we sing and praise you, happy of heart and strong of spirit, when we are among others who praise you too. But in times of stress, we seek scapegoats to be targets for our anger. We betray those we love and who have loved us, and we turn against you, too busy to seek you, too selfish to obey you. Your compassion is without bounds, O God, for you forgive us again and again. You restore us to a right spirit and bring us together to worship you again. God of steadfast love, teach us how to be steadfast; through Jesus Christ, we pray. *Amen.*

## Affirmation of Faith: (Nicene Creed)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Amen.



## Young At Heart:

St. James Choral Anthem  
St. Mark's (#267)

*Come, Sing Hosanna  
Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

## Scripture Reading:

Matthew 21:1-11 ESV  
*Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,*

*“Say to the daughter of Zion,  
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”*

*The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”*

**Message:**

*The Once and Future King*

Dr. Patrick Schultz

♪ **Hymn:**

**St. James:** (#100)

**St. Mark’s:** (#270)

*O How Shall I Receive Thee*

*How He Loves You and Me*

**Peoples’ Prayer:**

**Gracious God, we give you thanks for the abundance of your steadfast love. As we are filled with your grace and mercy, so we are renewed in spirit. May you guide us and use us to bring about your reign of peace on earth.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ, the holy one, we now pray:**

**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](http://stmstjucc.org)).

**Offertory Music:**

*The Palms*

*~ The offering is brought to the altar ~*

***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.***

## Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

God, we do not live by bread alone, but by the Word that comes from you. We are hungry for your Word. We are thirsty for your peace. Speak to us, nourish our souls, and revive us with your love. Grant us grace and wisdom. Use these offerings, gifts and tithes that your Word may be shared to our community and beyond. *Amen.*

## ♪ Hymn of Sending:

St. James: (#30)

St. Mark's: (#159)

*Come, We Who Love the Lord  
The King of Glory Comes*

## Benediction:

May God the Father, who has created you for His Kingdom; may God the Son, who has forgiven you all your sins and invited you to "Come and see;" and may God the Holy Spirit, who has worked faith in your hearts so that you might follow where He leads, bless you this day and always.

Go now to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are, and all you will be. *Amen.*

## Postlude:

*Lift Up Your Heads*



### **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.**

Services are recorded and available on our church YouTube channel:  
St. Mark's & St. James UCC

Like us on Facebook 

Check out our Website: [www.stmstjucc.org](http://www.stmstjucc.org)

Join our prayer team; contact Karen in our Church office: [stmstjoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stmstjoffice@gmail.com)



## **Our Church Celebrations!**

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

*March 29<sup>th</sup> – Brianna Miota, Rebecca Miota*  
*30<sup>th</sup> – Dennis Bitter, Sandra Beiersdorf,*  
*Tim Wippermann*  
*April 1<sup>st</sup> – Carol Weiland*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> – Glenn Grunwald*  
*3<sup>rd</sup> – Dale Dirks, Chris Schnelle*

### **ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:**

*March 31<sup>st</sup> – Myron & Kathleen Hickman*  
*April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Rev. Patrick & Brenda Schultz*

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**NO CONFIRMATION CLASS THIS WEEK.** We will meet Wed., April 8, 6-7:30pm.

**SEE THE BACK OF THE BULLETIN FOR THE LISTING OF HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES.** Communion is served at each of them this week.

**ST. JAMES MEMBERS** – Church yard clean-up will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup>. All wreaths and special items need to be removed from the cemetery prior so that they will not be discarded at the yard clean-up.

**ST. JAMES CONSISTORY MEETING** – 6:30pm Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

**ST. MARK'S CONSISTORY MEETING** – 6:00pm Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>

**BREAKING BOARD (games)** –9:30-11:30, Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Mark's.

**ST. JAMES STEWARDSHIP MEETING** – Wed., April 8<sup>th</sup>, 5:30pm

**ST JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL** – Wed., April 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm

**ST. JAMES BRAT FRY PLANNING MEETING** – Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm.



If you are you a person who just loves to play games...board games, dice games, card games...  
this group is perfect for you!

## BREAKING BOARD(games)!

...will meet in the basement of St. Mark's UCC

(W1307 Orchard Road, Cleveland)

9:30-11:30am

Wednesday, April 8

Wednesday, April 22

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.



## QUILTERS CLUB

Please join us on

Tuesdays

April 14

April 28

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.*

# BUNCO



*It's How We Roll!*

St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:

Join us for **BUNCO NIGHT, Thur.,**

**April 16<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:tserketich@yahoo.com)



## TIE BLANKET SUNDAY TO SUPPORT WE BELIEVE FOUNDATION!



St James hosted Jim & Julie Kirschner of the We Believe Foundation for St James Mission Fest. They are dedicated to providing aid and comfort to families dealing with pediatric cancer. Their foundation started after their son was diagnosed and lost his life to Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia at the age of 15. One of the ways that Jim & Julie give back is by providing tie blankets to the children in the hospital. This provides extra warmth as they go through treatment.

Please join us on Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 pm  
in the St James basement to make tie blankets!



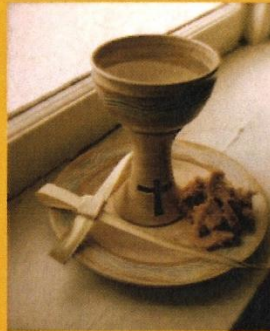
Please bring with you the following:

- 2 pieces of fleece material (1 solid color and 1 printed). Size 1 ½ or 2 square yards.
- A sharp scissors.

If you are unable to join us and you'd like to donate material, please leave it in the St. James church basement.

## Maundy Thursday Worship

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7pm,  
at St. James UCC  
~Communion will be served



## Good Friday Worship

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7pm,  
at St. Mark's UCC  
~Communion will be served



## Easter Worship

April 5<sup>th</sup>  
*Communion will be served*  
9:00am St. Mark's UCC  
10:30am St. James UCC  
Sunday School at St. James 9-10

