



HE'S COMING BACK

YOUR PLACE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

ACTS 1:6-11

Sunday, April 12, 2026
St. James United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Marcus Ellair, Organist

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

Call to Worship:

What do we do next? How do we follow Jesus now? We have so many questions...
Where will we find our answers?

They are found together in prayer.

The disciples gathered, together, men and women of God, followers of Christ in Holy Conferencing.

Together, they prayed, how will we find the answers?

Who will we call to labor in God's work with us? Who will be work alongside God's will with us? Who are our neighbors?

Together, in prayer, they sought answers.

Dear friends, sisters and brothers in Christ, we gather in worship as a rehearsal for Christ's return. We lift our voices as one in song. We hold our hands together in communion and service to others. We give generously to one another in Christ's name. How will we worship our God this morning?

Together in prayer.

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:

O Ascended Christ, Lord and Savior, when your first followers needed direction; when you ascended to your Father; they gathered. We're told that "They constantly devoted themselves to prayer." O Holy God, we gather today for worship, that we may be given the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may accept evermore of your abundant and available grace. We gather today in prayer that we may offer you our offerings of praise.

Amen.

♪ Hymn: (#12)

For the Beauty of the Earth

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:

Acts 1:6-11 ESV

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Message:

So Now We Wait

Dr. Patrick Schultz

♪ **Hymn:** (#182)

Fairest Lord Jesus!

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 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 ~

Sung response: (#258)

*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:

Eternal God and King over all creation, life-giver and life-saver, we give out of gratitude for your love and mercy, for your Son Jesus Christ. Forgive us the sins that we have committed today in thought, word and deed, and cleanse, O Lord, our humble souls. May these offerings, gifts, and tithes be used to further your ministry through your church, into the community and beyond. Amen.

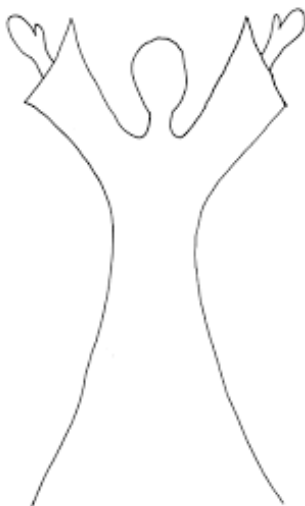
♪ **Hymn of Sending:** (#474)

I've Found a Friend

Benediction:

The power and love of Jesus Christ is with you. You are sent forth to be his witnesses in the world, bringing the good news, healing, establishing ministries of justice and peace. Go in confidence and the power and love of God goes 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:





Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

April 12th – John Grunwald, Michael Stolzmann

13th – LaVern Wippermann

14th – Alivia Maxey

15th – Lee Schmitz

16th – Jerry Jetzer, Dorothy Mueller

17th – Ann Adams, Brenda Schultz

18th – Kathy Kaestner

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

April 14th – Dean & Emily Sprenger

SHEEPSHEAD - TODAY, 1:00pm at St. James

QUILTER'S CLUB – Tuesday, April 14th, 9-noon at St. Mark's

ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL – Wednesday, April 15th, 6:30pm

BUNCO – Thursday, April 16th, 6pm at St. James

CONFIRMATION AT ST. JAMES THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH

MAY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 17TH. Email them to Karen at: stmstjoffice@gmail.com

TIE BLANKET SUNDAY to support We Believe Foundation, next week Sunday, April 19th, starting at 1:00pm in St. James Basement (see details on page 3)


ST. JAMES MEMBERS – Church yard clean-up will be held on April 25th.
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.

****THERE'S LOTS HAPPENING AT OUR CHURCHES THIS MONTH,
BE SURE TO CHECK THE NEXT PAGES....**

TODAY



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



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.*



It's How We Roll!

**St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:
Join us for BUNGO 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



*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 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.

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.

Please help market our Brat Fry to be held on Wednesday, May 13th by inviting your family and friends and sharing it on your Facebook page.

There will be sign-up sheets in the narthex for volunteer workers, donations of tortes and charcoal.

Mary Ann Vogel, chairperson,
920 693 8352
wvogel3@yahoo.com

BRAT FRY

Wednesday May 13, 2026
4 - 7 pm



Brats * Hamburgers * Chicken * Dessert

St James UCC
Spring Valley
13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton

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 ~

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.stmarksstjamesucc.org

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