



Sunday, April 26, 2026
St. James & St. Mark's United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Ann Rodewald, Organist
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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

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

Call to Worship:

Come, all who are seeking life in Christ.

We come to devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayer, following the example of the early church.

The Spirit gathers us into a new community, where hearts are open, needs are shared, and joy overflows.

We rejoice together, praising God for the wonders of salvation and the growth of the church.

Let us live as a Spirit-filled people, giving generously, loving one another, and witnessing to the world.

We will walk in the ways of Christ, trusting God to add to our number those who are being saved.

Praise the Lord, for God's steadfast love and faithfulness endure forever.

Thanks be to God, who calls us to life, love, and service.

Holy, Holy, Holy!

Lord God almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Prayer:

Lord, help us today become RADICAL in our faith, (not because we wish to become religious zealots or kooky Christians) but because we realize the first Christians were... unashamedly, and unapologetically your followers; not just hearers but doers of the Word. Transform us today from seekers to believers, from believers to followers, and from followers to disciple-makers, through the Power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

♪ Hymn:

St. James (#322)

St. Mark's (#649)

The Church's One Foundation

Gather Us In

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.*

♥Young at Heart ♥

Scripture Reading:

Acts 2:42-47 ESV

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Message:

Healthy Church – Radical Community

Dr. Patrick Schultz

♪ Hymn:

St. James (#30)

St Mark's (#480)

*Come, We Who Love the Lord
Open My Eyes, That I May See*

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:

St. James is also set up to take on-line offerings through our church website:
<https://stmarksstjamesucc.org/>

Offertory Music:

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Doxology: (*Sung as the offering is brought to the altar*)

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

**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:

Consoling and Guiding God, we bring our offerings and our very lives to your altar this morning. Many of us come feeling like we are in the midst of a storm, with disagreement and discord buffeting us from all directions. Help us to hear your voice in the midst of this, your call to serve, and your encouragement to endure for the work of the kingdom. Lead us in the light and hope of this Easter season, so we can joyfully and faithfully serve you in the world! In the name of Jesus, our rock and redeemer, we pray. *Amen.*

♪ Hymn of Sending:

St. James (#389)

St. Mark's (#712)

*Rise Up, O People of God!
Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

Benediction:

May the power and love of Jesus Christ be with you. Together in community we came to worship and together in community we go forth to do the good works Jesus Christ puts before us. Go in confidence and the power and love of God; go to love and serve the Lord in all that you do; and all that you are; and all you will be. *Amen.*

Postlude:

Go Forth for God

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: <https://stmarksstjamesucc.org/>

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



Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

April 28th – Abby Herrmann

30th – Ryan Binversie

May 2nd – Luke Grunwald

Timothy Heckmann

Brian Henschel

Layla Shultz

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:

April 28th – Jack & Wendy Schnelle

Thad & Crissy Athorp

May 1st – Steven & Mary Jo Gabsch

*****Next week Sunday is Building Fund Sunday*****

QUILTER'S CLUB – Tuesday, April 28th, 9-noon at St. Mark's

ST. JAMES CHOIR REHEARSAL – Wednesday, April 29th, 6:30pm

ST. JAMES ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY – Saturday, May 2nd, 9am.

SHEEPSHEAD GATHERING – Sunday, May 3rd, 1pm at St. James. Spread the word!

ALL VISION OF HOPE REQUESTS ARE DUE SUNDAY, MAY 10TH. Applications are available in Narthex See Vision of Hope member with questions.

CONSISTORY MEETINGS:

ST. JAMES – Tuesday, May 5th, 6:30pm

ST. MARK'S – Thursday, May 7th, 6:00pm

SPOOFING SCAMMERS OFTEN POSE AS PASTORS

Spoofing occurs when a scammer impersonates someone else to defraud others, and pretending to be a pastor is a popular spoof. Here's a reminder that no one, either from the Wisconsin Conference or from St. Mark's and St. James, will ever ask you to send gift cards. In the past you have received scam emails from Pastor Patrick. There has also been a recent scam involving emails purporting to come from Conference Minister Franz Rigert. But a close look makes clear that the sender isn't the pastor nor Franz. You can read up on scam awareness at: <https://bit.ly/4scamawareness>

Keep an eye for any emails that seem hinky. Do not respond to them. If you want verification send a message to Karen M or Pastor Patrick and we will confirm.

~Pastor Patrick

A photograph of a quilter's workspace. In the foreground, a stack of colorful fabric squares (blue, red, yellow, green, pink, etc.) sits on a white cutting mat. A pair of purple-handled scissors is open on the mat. In the background, there are spools of thread in various colors (white, red, yellow) and other sewing supplies. The background is softly blurred.

QUILTERS CLUB

Please join us on
Tuesday
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.*



Everyone is invited to join us for a...

Sheepshead Gathering!

at **ST. JAMES UCC**
13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton (Spring Valley)

SUNDAY, May 3rd, 1:00pm!



St. James and St. Mark's Ladies:

Join us for BUNCO NIGHT

Thursday, May 21st

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

BRAT FRY

Wednesday May 13, 2026

4 - 7 pm



Brats * Hamburgers * Chicken * Dessert

St James UCC

Spring Valley
13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton

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

vwogel3@yahoo.com