



Sunday, May 31, 2026, Trinity Sunday
St. James & St. Mark's United Church of Christ
Rev. Kim Henning, Guest 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:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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

Welcome and Opening Words

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.
Praise be to God!

Choral Gathering:

Spirit of the Living God (first verse)

St. James: (#insert)

St. Mark's: (#492)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me. (second time—a cappella)

Call to Worship

O Lord, let my soul rise up to meet you

As the day rises to meet the sun.

Glory to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Behold the Creator of life! We look at the stars, the planets, the flowing rivers, the rustling leaves, the birds and humans. We are in awe.

We praise God for being the Creator of this world.

Behold the Son of God, Jesus Christ! He blessed the poor. He healed lepers. He spoke words of dignity to outcasts. He suffered death and was raised on Easter.

We praise our Lord Jesus Christ.

Behold the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God calls us together as sisters and brothers. The Spirit of God breathes life, hope, love and joy into the church.

We praise the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please pray with me,

O loving God, you gather the strong and the feeble, the brave and the fainthearted, the righteous and those who seek righteousness, the forgiven and those who we forgive. We are bold to ask you to come among us and to bless us with your presence. Help us, O God, to hear your word. Help us, O God, to listen to your still-speaking voice. Help us, O God, to follow the way of Jesus. Amen.

Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy

St. James: (#1)

St. Mark's: (#136)

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, you came to Abraham and you spoke to him through those three visitors who came to his tent; you came to Moses on Mount Horeb and spoke to him through a burning bush; and in the fullness of time you came among us and you spoke to us through Jesus Christ.

Have mercy on us, O God, for those times you have spoken and we have not listened. We are easily distracted. Our attention spans are short. And sometimes we just have trouble discerning the importance of your Word amid life's many perceived priorities. We know our shortcomings, and we ask your forgiveness. Lead us, O God, along that pathway that is truly life-giving in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Beloved, you are children of God. You have been claimed, loved, and forgiven through the life-saving death of Jesus Christ. Give praise to God for the joy of your salvation. Amen.

Response

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

St. James: (#181)

St. Mark's: (#96)

Psalm 8

(The prayer before us celebrates God's glory in the world and the God-given dignity of human beings.)

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

The New Testament

2 Corinthians 13:11-13 NRSV

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

The Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20 NRSV

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

♥Young at Heart ♥

I am With You

Hymn

Jesus Calls Us

St. James: (#207)

St. Mark's: (#345)

Message:

The Ending is Just the Beginning

Pastoral Prayer and 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:

Here I Am, Lord

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 God all creatures here below;
Praise God above you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving:

We bring an offering, O God, as a testimony of our faith in Jesus Christ and as a witness of our commitment to the church. We pray that the whole of our lives---even those portions we have withheld---may be a testimony of our commitment to the way of the Gospel. We offer this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen

Hymn

St. James: (#467)

St. Mark's: (#560)

I Love to Tell the Story

Commission and Benediction:

Postlude:

We've a Story To Tell to the Nations

COME & JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS!

St. James UCC: 13312 Pioneer Rd., Newton

1st & 3rd Sundays..... 10:30 a.m.

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays..... 9:00 a.m.


St. Mark's UCC: W1307 Orchard Rd., Cleveland

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:

June 4 - Ashley Lutzke, Tim Miota

5 - Thomas Heckmann

6 - Dave Adams, Johnathon Koenig

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK:

May 31 - Mark & Kathy Jurk

June 3 - Tim & Angel DeBlaey

Dale & Doris Sprenger

The consistories will be meeting tomorrow evening to begin the first steps in the search for our next pastor. If you are interested in being a part of the Search Committee, please make that interest known to a consistory member TODAY.

JOINT CONSISTORY MEETING – Tuesday, June 2nd, 6:30pm at St. James.

NEXT WEEK SUNDAY IS A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR “STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH”. This offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

ST. MARK’S – The sign-up form for the “Hospitality Hour” is on the table next to the elevator in the entryway. Choose a Sunday to bring treats to share, or give a monetary donation and a snack will be purchased to share.

BUY-ONE-GET-ONE FREE – tickets available in the back of church for the June 2nd Carden International circus. Take as many tickets as you'd like to share with family and friends.



A NEW STUDY GROUP!

Pastor Patrick is making plans for a study group in early fall (or this summer if there is interest). It's an Adult Confirmation curriculum - 7 weeks long. The group will be held in the evening (it should still be light out) with 1.5 - 2.0 hours each night. A date is not nailed down yet, but will be shortly.

Whether you can come to some or all of the sessions, you will be welcomed!

Let Pastor or Karen (stmstjoffice@gmail.com or (920) 693-8361) know if you are interested in attending.

AGENDA:

Session One – God/Jesus/Holy Spirit: Understanding the Trinity

Session Two – The Bible: Understanding Our Sacred Text

Session Three – Following Jesus: What's this guy all about?

Session Four – History of Christianity: Understanding How We Got Here

Session Five- United Church of Christ: Who Are We?

Session Six – Worship & the Sacraments: Why We Do What We Do

Session Seven – Spiritual practices: Finding Ways to Pray & Incorporate Faith into Our Daily Lives

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



ST. JAMES & ST. MARKS U.C.C.



GENERATIONS *Sunday*

Join St. James U.C.C., St. Mark's U.C.C., and Spring Hope Barn for a Sunday celebrating community, connection, and generations coming together. From grandparents to grandchildren, friends to neighbors, all are welcome to enjoy an afternoon filled with delicious food, great music, and meaningful time together. We look forward to celebrating with everyone!

Live music provided by 2/5's Party Band.

Sunday, July 19, 2026

11:00 AM



Outdoor Service led by
Pastor Patrick Schultz



Noon

Potluck & Social
Bring a dish to pass



12:30 PM

Music by 2/5's
Party Band



NEED MORE INFO, CHECK OUT WWW.SPRINGHOPEBARN.COM