



AFTER CAIN KILLED ABEL, WHOM DID HE HAVE TO FEAR?

Sunday, June 28, 2026
St. James & St. Mark's United Church of Christ
Rev. Dr. Patrick Schultz, Pastor
Ann Rodewald, Organist
Jacob Grunwad, 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:

Grace Alone

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

Call to Worship:

As we gather, we come together as people of the cross and resurrection.

We come as children of God our Creator.

Reconciled by grace through the Son.

And filled with God's love through the Spirit.

Today we celebrate the knowing of our Lord.

May the blessings of our time in worship strengthen us for the week.

Gloria Patri:

(St. James: #493) (St. Mark's: #734)

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:

Gracious and merciful, almighty God, we call to mind the reason for our hope: Your great love and compassion; your mercy and tenderness. You never fail us; for great is your faithfulness. You are good to those who find their hope in you, to the one who seeks you! Let your blessings wash over us, Lord. **Amen.**

1. O when the saints go march - ing in, O when the
2. O when the sun re - fused to shine, O when the
3. O when they crown Him Lord of all, O when they

saints go march - ing in, O Lord, I want to be in that
sun re - fused to shine,
crown Him Lord of all,

num - ber when the saints go march - ing in, shine.
when the sun re - fused to
when they crown Him Lord of all.

WHEN THE SAINTS

Prayer of Confession:

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you and one another. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in turning away from our sisters and brothers, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed. Forgive our sins and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts as we lift the complexity and harmony of life to your heart and trust that you hear and hold us as we pray in shared silence:

A Moment of Silence:

Words of Assurance:

Sisters and brothers, sin is crouching at the door. But, fear not! Jesus Christ is the Lion of Judah, the one who has conquered sin and death. And he is the Good Shepherd who lays his life down for us so that we may have life and have it abundantly. Turn to him, receive his grace, and be at peace! Thanks be to God!

♥Young at Heart ♥

Scripture Reading:

Genesis 4:1-10 ESV

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, and you must rule over it."

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground."

♪ Hymn:

St. James (#65)

St. Mark's (#48)

*This is my Father's World
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Message:

Not the Who, But the Why

Dr. Patrick Schultz

People's Prayer:

Father of all mercies, free us from our anger at those who have failed and offended us. Move us to make amends with those whom we have failed and offended. Remake us with your forgiveness. For this, O Lord, we pray.

Hear our prayers, Gentle Savior, and bring peace to our city, our country, and the world. Fill your people with gracious words and deeds. We pray for all our country's leaders; may they govern with your wisdom. We pray for the leaders of this beautiful world that they may work together in a collaboration of peace and goodwill. Spirit of compassion, raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead all who have lost their way. We pray for those who grieve and we grieve with them. For this, O Lord, we 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:

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

Offertory Music:

When Cain Killed Abel

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:

Majestic and holy God, Creator of all that is seen and unseen, we bring these gifts in awe of Your glory revealed in the heavens and here among us. As we offer these gifts, may they reflect your wisdom and share your love, building a world that proclaims your majesty. Through your Spirit, pour your grace into our lives, that our service may mirror the love You have shown us in Christ, lifting our voices with creation to declare, *"How majestic is Your name in all the earth!"* In the name of the Holy Trinity, we pray. **Amen.**

♪ Hymn of Sending:

St. James (#80)
St. Mark's (#72)

*Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah
Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Benediction:

Having been healed, made whole, and filled with grace by God's love, go out into God's world to live out the call of Christians who bring peace and hope to others. Know *always* that God is with you. May this love of God, the peace of Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with you as you go to love and serve the Lord in all that you do, all that you are and all that you will be.

Postlude:

We Walk by Faith

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 is on summer break ~

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

A New Sermon Series Based on Questions Submitted by Church Members

June 14 Standing On Holy Ground

Questions: *How long have you been here, at St. Mark's? And why did you become a pastor?*

June 21 Forgiveness

Question: *If I can't forgive myself how can God?*

June 28 In the Beginning

Questions: *God created man both male and female, then he later created Adam, then Eve. Did Adam and Eve have belly buttons? Whom did Cain marry after he was banished? Who were the men he was worried would kill him?*

July 5 God, Country, Family

Based: *The Marine Corps' "God, Family, Country" order of service underscores that faith guides the Marine's character, family sustains them, and the nation is the mission they are sworn to protect*

July 12 Heaven

Questions: *Can heaven ever be crowded or overpopulated? How do we find our family when we get there?*

July 19 Why Do Confirmation?

Questions: *Why is Confirmation so important? Why do we do confirmation?*

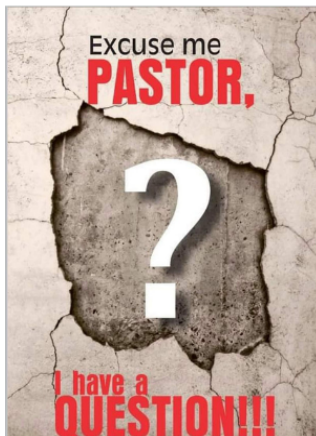
July 26 Death and Prayer

August 2 The Second Coming

Questions: *What is meant by Jesus' second coming, does it mean when we pass away and see him again?*

August 9 What Happens When We Give Too Much of Ourselves?

Questions: *Why do people who have leadership roles in our church (consistory, search committee, teaching...) disappear from the church after their role/term has ended? Great question!*





Our Church Celebrations!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK TO:

June 28th – Cheyenne Behnke

30th – Allen Stolzmann

July 1st – Ruth Ann Kolb

2nd – Matthew Lutzke

4th – Brandon Cyr, Henry Langenhahn, Cody Mueller

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY THIS WEEK TO:

June 28th – Steven & Linda Rozmarynowski

Jim & Patty Taylor



COME AND CHEER ON ST. JAMES/ST. MARK'S YOUTH VOLLEYBALL TEAM TONIGHT WHEN THEY TAKE ON BETHLEHEM/ST PETERS 2 at Bethlehem UCC. THE GAME BEGINS AT 6:30pm.

Next Sunday is a Bye week for all teams (holiday weekend).

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.

A NEW STUDY GROUP!

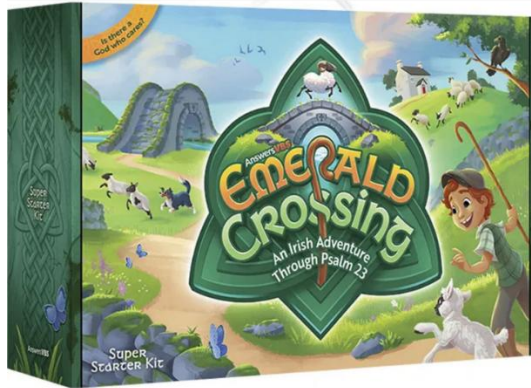
Pastor Patrick is making plans for a study group, which is scheduled to begin the week of September 21st. It's an Adult Confirmation curriculum - 7 weeks long. The group will be held in the evening (it should still be light out) with 1.5 - 2.0 hours each night. Whether you can come to some or all of 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

This summer's Vacation Bible School journey carries us to
Ireland in *the Emerald Crossing*.



August 18-19-20 from 9:00am till 12:00pm.

**Open to all children kindergarten – 6th grade fall of 2026,
churched and non-churched.**

**Hosted by St. Mark's, St. James & Bethlehem UCC,
held at St. Mark's UCC,
W1309 Orchard Road, Cleveland WI.**

In a world filled with worry and confusion, our kids need to know there *is* a God who cares for them. At *Emerald Crossing* VBS, we'll journey through Ireland's lush landscapes, exploring the powerful words of Psalm 23. We'll discover the life of the shepherd-king David and will learn how to cross from worry to peace, from fear to faith, and from uncertainty to a firm foundation in God's Word through a relationship with the Good Shepherd.



Sign up for VBS online at:

<https://bit.ly/summer2026VBS>

OR by calling the church office: 920-693-8361

Each child registering before July 31st qualifies for a special door prize drawing!

**Volunteers are needed for help with activities, snacks and lessons.
Let Pastor Patrick know if are able to help out.**



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



Noon



12:30 PM

Outdoor Service led by



Potluck & Social



Music by 2/5's

Pastor Patrick Schultz



Bring a dish to pass



Party Band

NEED MORE INFO, CHECK OUT WWW.SPRINGHOPEBARN.COM