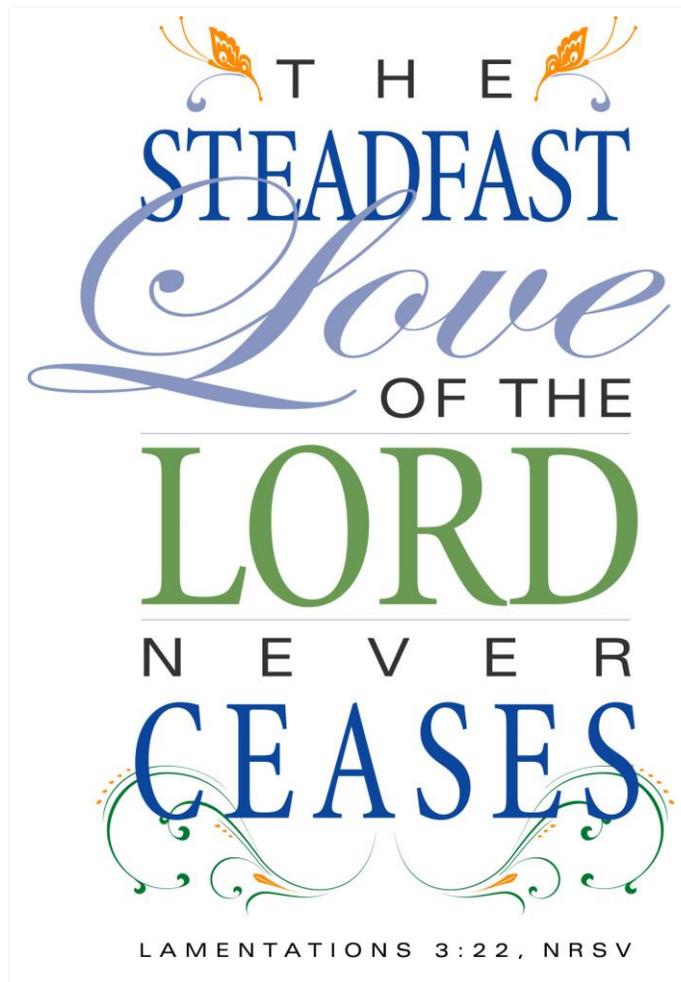


St. James United Methodist Church

646 Daniel Webster Highway, PO Box 895
Merrimack, NH 03054



Ministers: Rev. Lynne Mentzer and All the People!
Director of Music: Darlene Skene
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00 am – 2:00 pm
Office Telephone: 424-7459 Parsonage: 424-2758
Food Pantry: Donna Johnson 440-9597
Church E-mail: stjamesmrmk@gmail.com
Prayer Request E-mail: sjprayerchain@gmail.com
Visit us on the web: stjames-umchurch.org
Facebook: St. James UMC

Welcome to on-line worship from St. James United Methodist Church!

We are pleased to have you as part of our family of faith today and every Sunday.

Visit www.stjames-umchurch.org and click on online worship at the top of the homepage. Turn your sound on and follow along with this bulletin.

The announcements are at the end of the bulletin.

February 14, 2021
Transfiguration Sunday



GATHERING AS JESUS' DISCIPLES

GATHERING MUSIC

Darlene Skene

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

INTROIT

Darlene Skene

PRAYING AS JESUS TAUGHT US

OPENING PRAYER

Donna Wallace

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READING

Lamentations 3: 1-3, 19-24

Donna Wallace

SERMON

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" No. 384 (vs. 1,2,4)

Darlene Skene

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

SHARING THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND GRATITUDE MOMENT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND DEDICATION

Gracious God, even as we confess our love for you, we confess that we struggle sometimes to love one another. Forgive us and heal us with your *hesed*, your steadfast love. Bless the gifts we bring this day, that they will be used to serve our neighbors in your holy name. Amen.

GOING FORTH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

* HYMN

“My Life Flows On” No. 2212 (vs. 1,2,4)

Darlene Skene

My life flows on in endless song,
Above earth's lamentation.
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.

(refrain)

**No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that refuge clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
How can I keep from singing?**

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? **(refrain)**

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? **(refrain)**

* BLESSING

* EXTROIT

Darlene Skene

This Week's Events at St. James – February 14, 2021		
Today, Sunday 2/14	9:30 am	Online worship
Tuesday, 2/16	9:30 am	Food Pantry
	7:00 pm	SPRC meeting
Wednesday, 2/17	10:30 am	Zoom Virtual Coffee Hour
	12:00 pm	Imposition of Ashes
	7:00 pm	Imposition of Ashes
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday online worship service
Thursday, 2/18	7:00 pm	Lenten Bible Study via Zoom
Next Sunday, 2/21	9:30 am	Online worship

Announcements–February 14, 2021



Ash Wednesday

The Ash Wednesday worship service will be available online at 7:00 pm on February 17. In a similar fashion to in-person communion, you may come to the church for imposition of ashes at noon and 7 pm using safe COVID-19 practices. Please enter through the side door at the top of the ramp, wear masks, and maintain 6 ft. distance between yourself and others.

Lenten Book Study

Our shared Advent bible study via ZOOM with new friends from the North Salem UMC has inspired us to offer a Lenten study in a similar manner. We will meet via Zoom from 7-8 pm on 6 Thursday evenings February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18 and 25. The book "Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week" by Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story, raising ethical and spiritual questions for readers, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.. Sign up by calling the church office at 424-7459 or email stjamesmrmk@gmail.com. We will send Zoom invitations by email.

COVID-19 update: Continue with online only worship

An important agenda item at our February 9 church council meeting was to decide whether to go back to our socially distanced in-person worship services with live-stream option or to continue online-only worship. Keeping in mind the number of recently reported COVID cases in the area, the council unanimously voted to continue with online-only worship and reevaluate the situation on a monthly basis. The next church council meeting will be March 9.

ZOOM In for Virtual Coffee Hour Wednesday Mornings

At 10:30 AM each Wednesday morning, 16-20 church friends turn on their laptop computers and ZOOM in for our weekly virtual coffee hour. Invitations are e-mailed out to the entire church family no later than Tuesday afternoon – just click and join in on Wednesday morning. We check in with each other, share stories and God-moments, pray and laugh together. Won't you join us? If you haven't received your invitation by e-mail, please contact the church office. Hope to see you Wednesday!

The Clothes Closet is now accepting donations of clothing.

The St. James Clothes closet is open by appointment only. Clothing donations are now being accepted, also by appointment. Please call the church office 424-7459 if you would like to make an appointment.