

St. James United Methodist Church

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



*Then they prayed and
said, "Lord, you know
everyone's heart."*

Acts 1:24, NRSV

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.

*The flowers which grace our altar this morning are given to the glory of God
In honor of the graduation class of 2021.*

Seventh Sunday of Easter May 16, 2021



GATHERING AS JESUS' DISCIPLES

GATHERING MUSIC		Amy Marrello
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Rev. Lynne Mentzer
GREETING OF PEACE		
INTROIT	"Kum Ba Yah No. 494	Amy Marrello

PRAYING AS JESUS TAUGHT US

CALL TO WORSHIP		George Fisher
L: Friends, let us open our ears to hear the voice of God among us.		
P: We are eager to know God's will.		
L: Brothers and sisters, let us open our hearts to love one another.		
P: We are ready to care for and serve our neighbors.		
L: Community of faith, let us open our lives to fulfill our many callings.		
P: We are humbled to be God's people in this time and place.		
HYMN	"Blessed Assurance" No. 369 (vs, 1,3)	Amy Marrello

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE		Rev. Lynne Mentzer
READING FROM THE EPISTLES	1 John 5:9-13	George Fisher
READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26	Rev. Lynne Mentzer
SERMON		

HYMN

“In Christ Alone” No. 3105 (vs. 1, 4)

Amy Marrello

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life’s first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme or plan
Can ever pluck me from his hand.
‘Til he returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I’ll stand.

SHARING THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO GENEROUS GIVING AND LIVING

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

Amy Marrello

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND DEDICATION

O God, as we bring these gifts and tithes this day, we ask your blessing upon them. Guide their use for your good purposes. Bless those whose lives will benefit from them. And keep us humble and generous, compassionate and grateful, for we seek to live as Jesus lived and not for ourselves alone. In Jesus’ name, we ask it. Amen.

GOING FORTH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

HYMN

“To God Be the Glory” No. 98 (vs. 1,3)

Amy Marrello

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he hath done!**

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
And great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

BLESSING

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

POSTLUDE

Amy Marrello

CLOSING HYMN

“Here I Am, Lord” No. 593

Sung Outside

This Week’s Events at St. James – May 16, 2021		
Today, Sunday 5/16	9:15 am	Outdoor children’s message and hymn sing
	9:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, 5/18	9:30 am	Food Pantry
	7:00pm	SPRC meeting
Wednesday, 5/19	10:30 am	Zoom Virtual Coffee Hour
Saturday, 5/22	9:00 am	Clothes Closet
	10:00 am	Conference Resource Day via Zoom
Next Sunday, 5/23	9:30 am	Worship

Announcements–May 16, 2021

COVID-19 Updates

At every monthly meeting, the St. James Church Council has been revisiting our COVID-19 safety precautions. At the May 11 meeting, church council voted on a few items that affect our Sunday worship services.

- Starting next Sunday, we will resume coffee fellowship after church with refreshments in the courtyard. If it rains, we will gather in the fellowship hall.
- Church goers can use both front and side door entrances to the sanctuary.
- Seating is still directed by the ushers. Spacing has changed to 3ft between non-related persons.
- We are not ready to start singing in the sanctuary, so we will continue to have the hymn sing outside before worship services and closing hymn outside, weather permitting.
- Please continue to wear face masks.

***"Deep and Wide"* Conference Resource Day with Leonard Sweet**

May 22, 2021 from 10 am - 12 pm. We will travel together simultaneously deep (local) and wide (global) in looking at the importance of four key metaphors for the future:

1. Do Little Large: Small is All. The Particular is of Universal Significance. Can you taste your church's terroir?
2. Sozo Jesus (Sozo means "save" or "heal").
3. Mandorla Sweet Spot (Jesus always comes in surround sound). Can you hear the double ring?
4. Deep Breathing exercises (Holy Spirit Breathings and Breathology)

Clergy and Laity are encouraged to join in this online session. Visit www.neumc.org for details and to register.

Special Celebration for Jen Savoy

After years of hard work, Jen will receive her Master of Divinity degree from Boston University School of Theology on May 15 and is awaiting her first appointment to serve as pastor of a church in the New England Conference. Jen will lead our worship service on Sunday, May 23 and we will have outdoor fellowship time in the courtyard after the service.

Finance and Food Pantry News

The Finance Committee has been working to streamline accounts and processes. In March, we met with Donna Johnson to discuss the best way to handle food pantry donations. We decided that, as of **June 1**, donations to the food pantry will no longer go through the St. James bank account. This will make it much easier for Donna to track food pantry donations. It will also provide a faster way for the donations to get to the food pantry. **Checks should be made out directly to Merrimack Community Food Pantry.** When we receive these checks at the church office, they will go directly to the food pantry mailbox. The money will be deposited directly into the food pantry account. Thank you for your continued support of the Merrimack Community Food Pantry.

More Pocket Prayers Needed

Our Pocket Prayer quilt squares have been in high demand at the local hospitals and they are running low. If you have been sewing pocket prayers, please bring them to the church so Cheryl Barb can deliver them to the hospitals.

Brigid's House of Hope Kitchen Drive

Brigid's House of Hope is New Hampshire's first safe house for victims of human trafficking. Hannah Essa, Program Manager at Brigid's House of Hope is organizing a kitchen drive to outfit the kitchens at the shelter with necessary supplies. The St. James Outreach Team would like to contribute by providing enough items for one of the kitchens. Outreach Team leader Chris Kiss will keep track of which items are donated to ensure that we check off all of the items on the list without duplicates. Please call Chris at 424-1782 if you would like to donate to this worthwhile cause.

Kitchen Supplies List

Pots & pans: 2 saucepans (small/large)
 1-2 large stock pots
 2 saute pans (small/large)
 tea kettle

Kitchen utensils: spatulas
 cooking spoons
 ladle
 slotted spoon
 whisk
 tongs
 utensil holder

Kitchen tools: can opener
 vegetable peeler
 grater
 food thermometer
 kitchen shears

Small appliances: mixer
 food processor
 coffee maker
 blender
 toaster/toaster oven

Dinnerware set (dinner plates, small plates, bowls – service for 4-6)

Mixing bowls, various sizes

Measuring cup set

Measuring spoon set

Colander/strainer

Cutting board set

Set of cooking knives

Food storage container set

Baking trays

Baking dishes – 9x13 and 8x8

Oven mitts/ pot holders

Sponges & dish soap

Kitchen towels

Flatware (service for 4-6)

Set of cups (service for 4-6)