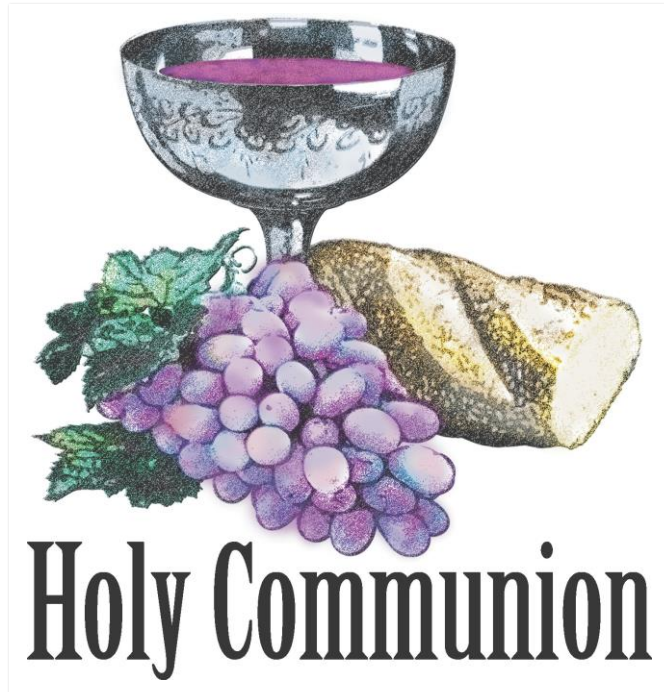


St. James United Methodist Church

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.

Second Sunday after Pentecost June 6, 2021



GATHERING AS JESUS' DISCIPLES

GATHERING MUSIC		Katie Rogers
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Rev. Lynne Mentzer
PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST		
INTROIT	“Here I Am, Lord” No. 593	Katie Rogers
CALL TO WORSHIP		Robin House
L: Come, friends, it is time to pray, praise and worship our God -		
P: For we have been gathered by the Holy Spirit.		
L: Come, brothers and sisters, it is time to listen for the good news of Christ -		
P: For we have been named and claimed by Jesus through our baptism.		
L: Come, family of God, it is time to recognize the Spirit at work among us –		
P: For we have been called to love and serve as God’s beloved community.		
HYMN	“Gather Us In” No. 2236 (vs. 1, 4)	Katie Rogers

Here in this place new light is streaming,
Now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in – the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
But here in this place the new light is shining,
Now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in – all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Robin House

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 145:1-9

Robin House

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Mark 3 (excerpts)

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

From Through Mark's Eyes by Puck Purnell

SERMON

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

HYMN

"I Come with Joy" No. 617 (vs. 1-4)

Katie Rogers

I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
In awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
The new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known; we see and praise him here,
We see and praise him here.

SHARING THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus said: "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who believe in me shall not thirst."

With Christians around the world and throughout the centuries, we hold these symbols of bread and wine -- simple elements that promise physical nourishment and spiritual transformation.

Let us pray together: Loving God, we thank you that you are as close to us as breath, that your love is constant and unending. We thank you for all that sustains life, and especially for Jesus Christ, who teaches us how to live out an ethic of justice and peace, and for the promise of transformation made manifest in his life, death and resurrection. We ask you to bless this bread and juice. Through this holy sharing, unite us as the body of Christ, that we may join with you in promoting the well-being of all creation. Amen.

We remember on the night when Jesus and the disciples had their last meal together, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks and gave it to the disciples, saying “This is my body, which is broken for you. Take and eat it, and as often as you do, remember me.”

In the symbol of the broken bread, we participate in the life of Christ and remember that we are his disciples.

In the same way he took the cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to the disciples, saying: “Drink this, all of you. This cup is the new covenant, poured out for you and for many. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

In the symbol of the cup, we participate in the new life Christ brings. Let us share the foundation of our faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

O God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on this bread and juice. Make them be for us the embodiment of Christ that we may embody his grace and peace in the world.

By your Spirit make us one in Christ, in community, and in ministry until all will feast at your table of salvation – for all honor and glory is yours, O God, forevermore.

Please join us in prayer: We give thanks, loving God, that you continually nourish us through your Son and Spirit. Strengthen our faith and increase our love for you and for one another, so that as we are fed by the seeds of grain and fruit, we will go out into the world to plant seeds of justice, transformation and hope in your holy name. Amen.

In our United Methodist tradition, all are welcome to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Here is your invitation:

Jesus welcomes everyone to have a seat at his table.

Everyone.

You're welcome, whether you're his committed follower
or just checking him out.

You're welcome, whether you agree with him
or question him.

You're welcome if you're repentant.

You're welcome if you're in need of grace.

You're welcome if you haven't any idea what that means.

You're welcome, whether you're feeling great today
or whether your life is a total mess.

You're welcome, no matter what you've done or left undone.

Come, there's a place for you at his table.

Come, your life matters at his table.

Come, share what's in your heart and what Jesus offers you
at his table – wherever you find it.

Eat the bread and drink the juice that you have prepared for yourself at home.

May the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you and within you, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

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

Katie Rogers

**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 DEDICATION

God of grace and glory, how can it be that you call us family? And how can it be that we so easily forget your claim on our lives? All that we have comes from you. All that we give, we give to you. And so we ask your blessing on these gifts and tithes, and on this faith community, that all we say and do and give will be to your glory. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

GOING FORTH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

HYMN

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" No. 89 (vs. 1,4)

Katie Rogers

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music lead us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

BLESSING

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

POSTLUDE

Katie Rogers

CLOSING HYMN

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" No. 2153

Sung Outside

Announcements–June 6, 2021



Clothes Closet Now Open on Tuesdays

Beginning this Tuesday, June 1, the Clothes Closet will be open on Tuesday mornings from 9am to noon. This will make it more convenient for food pantry patrons to visit the clothes closet while they are here.

After-Church Fellowship is Back!

We have resumed coffee fellowship after church with refreshments in the courtyard. In case of rain or extreme heat, we will gather in the fellowship hall.

June Committee Meeting Schedule

The June Church Council meeting, which usually takes place on the second Tuesday of the month, will be held on Thursday, June 10 (instead of the 8th).

The Board of Trustees will have two meetings in the month of June- on Tuesday, June 8 in addition to their regularly scheduled meeting on June 22.

Church Work Day

Thank you to everyone who came to our work day on May 8. We got a lot accomplished, but there's always more work to be done. Our trustees would like to have another work day on **Saturday, June 12 from 8 am to noon**. Bring work gloves and rakes.

This Week's Events at St. James – June 6, 2021		
Today, Sunday 6/6	9:15 am	Outdoor children's message and hymn sing
	9:30 am	Worship with communion
Tuesday, 6/8	9:00 am	Clothes Closet
	9:30 am	Food Pantry
	7:00pm	Trustees meeting
Wednesday, 6/9	10:30 am	Zoom Virtual Coffee Hour
Thursday, 6/10	7:00 pm	Church council meeting
Saturday, 6/12	8:00 am	Church work day
Next Sunday, 6/6	9:15 am	Outdoor children's message and hymn sing
	9:30 am	Worship



Vacation Bible School 2021

Friday, August 13 6:00 to 8:30 pm

Saturday, August 14 9 am to 3 pm

Help Needed - Engineer Joy as a VBS Volunteer!

Sing & Play Express: Music is on a DVD. Help the kids learn the songs.

Imagination Station: Demonstrate “sciency fun gizmos.” Help kids connect the fun experiments to Bible truths.

Chew Chew Snacks: Prepare snacks for the kids.

Loco Motion Games: Lead fun outdoor games.

Bible Adventures: Lead children through interactive learning activities that make the Bible stories come alive in sessions of Bible Adventures each day.

Skit Actors: Two people will act out skits at the beginning of each day as an introduction to the bible point of the day. This is a fun job for our teens. Skit actors can also serve as crew leaders.

Crew Leaders: Crew leaders guide the kids from one station to another and also help them complete any tasks they are having trouble with and help the station leaders hand out supplies.

Decorating Team: This year’s theme is Rocky Railway: Jesus’ Power Pulls Us Through. RR themed décor is needed. Think tunnels, railway station, train cars, etc.

Visit our online registration webpage for volunteers and participants: www.vbspro.events/p/9a8228 or contact the church office. There is also a link to the registration webpage on the St. James website www.stjames-umchurch.org.