

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.

20th Sunday after Pentecost
October 10, 2021



GATHERING AS JESUS' DISCIPLES

GATHERING MUSIC	Darlene Skene
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	Rev. Lynne Mentzer
GREETING OF PEACE	
INTROIT	Choir

PRAYING AS JESUS TAUGHT US

CALL TO WORSHIP	Carole Vandermark
L: Come, friends, new and old, rich and poor, for Jesus calls us all to worship.	
P: We come as family – diverse in personality yet one in Christ.	
L: Come, for Jesus yearns for us to grow in the Spirit.	
P: We come as seekers of his way, his truth, his promise of new life.	
L: Come, friends, let us worship and grow in ministry together.	
P: We come as servants – eager to follow Jesus into the needs of the world.	
Amen.	

*HYMN “God of Grace and God of Glory” No. 577 Darlene Skene

God of grace and God of glory, on they people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
Serving thee whom we adore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

O God, as the leaves change color outside our windows, we confess our resistance to change within ourselves. As we gather for word and worship, we confess our reluctance to live fully according to your example. Forgive our fear, strengthen our love, and make of us and your church whatever is your will. We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carole Vandermark

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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Hebrews 4:12-16

Carole Vandermark

ANTHEM

Choir

READING FROM THE GOSPEL Mark 10:17-27

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

SERMON

*HYMN "Would I Have Answered When You Called" No. 2137 Darlene Skene

Would I have answered when you called, "Come, follow, follow me!"?
Would I at once have left behind both work and family?
Or would the old, familiar round have held me by its claim
And kept the spark within my heart from bursting into flame?

Would I have followed where you led through ancient Galilee,
On roads unknown, by ways untried, beyond security?
Or would I soon have hurried back where home and comfort drew,
Where truth you taught would not disturb the ordered world I knew?

Would I have matched my step with yours when crowds cried, "Crucify!"
When on a rocky hill I saw a cross against the sky?
Or would I too have slipped away and left you there alone,
A dying king with crown of thorns upon a terrible throne?

O Christ, I cannot search my heart through all its tangled ways,
Nor can I with a certain mind my steadfastness appraise.
I only pray that when you call, "Come, follow, follow me!"
You'll give me strength beyond my own to follow faithfully.

SHARING THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silent Prayer

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. 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

ANTHEM

Choir

DOXOLOGY

UMH No. 95

**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

O God, we ask your blessing on these offerings, trusting in you to guide us in their use. Bless gifts and tithes, bless givers and receivers, and bless your church to grow within and beyond these walls, all to your glory. Amen.

GOING FORTH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

HYMN

"Take My Life and Let It Be" No. 399

Darlene Skene

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

POSTLUDE

Darlene Skene

*The flowers which grace our altar this morning are given to the glory of God
in honor of October birthdays.*

Announcements–October 10, 2021



New Members Class

Have you felt the nudge of the Holy Spirit urging you to make a deeper commitment in your faith? Have you felt a desire to learn more about our denomination and your place in this community of faith? A New Members Class is being planned. Please contact Pastor Lynne if you are interested in attending. We'll set a date and time depending in your input.

Community Arts Ministry Upcoming Programs

Bible Journaling: Colorful, creative reflections on scripture, prayers, daily devotions. Two Wednesdays, October 13 and 20 from 7 to 8:30 pm. Cost is \$15 per person, ages 14+. Bring a journaling bible or blank journal, and your favorite art supplies.

Halloween Treats and Pumpkin Decorating: Fun to make “scary” treats and pumpkins await your child’s creativity. Saturday, October 23 from 9 to 10:30 am. For children of all ages - \$5 per child. All ingredients and materials provided.

Call the church office or email communityartsministry@gmail.com to register.

Harvest Fair 2021

The Harvest Fair is back and scheduled for this Saturday, October 16th. Most or all of the fair will be taking place outside this year due to COVID concerns. Please stop by the table in Fellowship Hall today to volunteer.

- We are in desperate need of pop-up tents to borrow from Friday afternoon until Saturday afternoon.
- Volunteers are needed for each tent (baked goods, candy, silent auction, crafts, breakfast, lunch, books and puzzles, yard sale/flea market).
- Volunteers are needed to organize and run each tent area. Set up is from 5:00 to 8:00 on Friday evening and from 7:00 – 8:30 Saturday morning.

Please bring Silent Auction items, completed crafts, books and puzzles to church on Sunday, October 10th or Friday, October 15 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Yard Sale items and baked goods/candy can be brought in on Friday, October 15 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. We do not have storage space for the yard sale in advance of that Friday. Remember, we CANNOT take electronics, appliances, large furniture, used bedding or clothing.

See Lesley Fallu (fallu@comcast.net, 603-497-4060) or Brenda DuLong (bsdulong@gmail.com, 603-493-5495) for more information.

Conference Resource Day

“What Can We Still Do? The Climate Crisis and the Need for Action” with Bill McKibben hosted by Commonwealth East District on Saturday, October 16 from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. Register on the New England Conference website www.neumc.org/events. Zoom connection will be emailed in the registration confirmation email.

Knitters and Crocheters Needed

We are running low on prayer shawls. Cheryl Barb has kits in the HUB which include yarn and instructions. See Cheryl if you would like to help.

Greater Nashua CROP Hunger Walk

Join us on Sunday, October 24 at Temple Beth Abraham, 4 Raymond St. Nashua, NH to fight against the challenges of disease, disaster, displacement and other concerns that leave people hungry. Registration and kick-off begins at 12:30. Walk begins at 1:30.

To register as a walker and/or raise money, go to <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/nashuanh>
When you register to walk, click on “join a team” and choose St. James United Methodist Church.

Ushers Needed

If you would like to help with our Sunday worship services as an usher, please contact Dave Jenkins at 603-820-0685 or dewi-babs@comcast.net.

Travel Opportunity: Spiritual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Join the New England Conference Episcopal Office on an 11 day Spiritual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, starting at \$3,098 from Boston, MA departing on February 14, 2022. Visit the Conference website www.neumc.org/leadershiplearning/spiritualformation/holy-land for more information.

Note about passports: For those of you considering making the pilgrimage but do not yet have a passport, please note that the regular application process for U.S. passports is taking up to six months. The expedited process is still an option, but is taking longer than usual as well. Also note that your passport should be valid for at least 6 months beyond your travel dates.

This Week's Events at St. James – October 10, 2021		
Today, Sunday 10/10	9:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, 10/12	9:00 am	Clothes Closet
	9:30 am	Food Pantry
	7:00 pm	Church Council meeting
Wednesday, 10/13	10:30 am	Zoom Virtual Coffee Hour
	7:00 pm	Intro to Bible Journaling workshop
Thursday, 10/14	7:00 am	Write from the Heart workshop
Friday, 10/15	5:00 pm	Harvest Fair set-up and donation drop-off
	7:30 pm	Choir practice
Saturday, 10/16	9:00 am	Harvest Fair
	11:00 am	Conference Resource Day via Zoom
Next Sunday, 10/17	9:30 am	Laity Sunday worship