

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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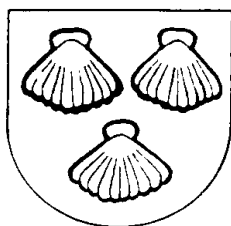
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August 16, 2020 – “Unraveling Injustice”

9:30AM ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell
Director of Music: Emma Baker

Organist/Pianist: Bonnie Inkman
Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark



Saint James
United Methodist Church
Marriottsville, MD

GATHER

Expanding Our Hearts



Welcome

Prelude

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

offered by Emma Baker, viola

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Rhythmic Call to Worship

led by Rev. Patricia Abell

ONE:

ALL:

Beat: X X X X X X X X

X X X X

Listen. I have a story to tell—
A story of a God who longed for justice.
A story of a God who pushed back the waters to make dry land.
A story of a God who REFUSED TO take “no” for an answer

LISTEN
LISTEN
LISTEN
LISTEN, LISTEN X X

X X X X
For God’s people were suffering.
God’s people were crying out.
God’s people were shackled and bound.
So God said to Moses, “Speak.”
“Let my people Go.”

X X X X
LISTEN, LISTEN
LISTEN, LISTEN
LISTEN, LISTEN
LISTEN, LISTEN
LISTEN, LISTEN

X X X X
And Moses spoke—
Over and over again.
Moses stood up for justice,
But over and over again, Pharaoh said no.
Power said no.
The path to justice is never easy.
The path to change is never a straight line.

X X X X
“Let my people Go.”
“Let my people Go.”
“Let my people Go.”
“Let my people Go.”
“Let my people Go.”
“Let my people Go.”
“Let my people Go.”

X X
So like Rosa,
And LIKE Martin,
and LIKE John,

X X
WHO SAT ON THE BUS,
WHO HAD A DREAM,
WHO CROSSED A BRIDGE;

X X X X

Moses kept trying.
God kept speaking.
Moses kept listening.
Hope kept breathing.
when power tried to unravel justice,
The people kept dreaming.
God longed for justice.
God *still* longs for justice.
So let us worship God—

WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE
WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE

ALL: For human injustice will never be strong enough to unravel God's dream that all might be free, And all might know love. Let us worship holy God. WE STAND IN YOUR LOVE

Hymn

“Stand Up and Praise the Lord”

UMH #662

Verse 1

Stand up and bless the Lord
Ye people of His choice
Stand up and bless the Lord your God
With heart and soul and voice

Verse 2

Though high above all praise
Above all blessing high
Who would not fear His holy name
And laud and magnify

Verse 3

O for the living flame
From His own altar brought
To touch our lips our minds inspire
And wing to heaven our thought

Verse 4

God is our strength and song
And His salvation ours
Then be His love in Christ proclaimed
With all our ransomed powers

Verse 5

Stand up and bless the Lord
The Lord your God adore
Stand up and bless His glorious name
Henceforth for evermore

CCLI Song # 86652

James Montgomery | Louis Bourgeois | William Crotch

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Prayer for Illumination

Josh Michael, Liturgist

God of unending surprises, This life is a tapestry of moments woven together, and we long to be weavers of love. Today we gather and pray that you would unravel our bias. Unravel our assumptions. Unravel whatever it is that keeps us from you. And as you do, clear space in our hearts for your Word. We are listening. We are praying. Amen

PROCLAIMING

Receiving God's Word

Scripture

Exodus 5: 1-2; 7: 8-23

Josh Michael, Liturgist

Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.’”

² Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go.” ...

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, ⁹ “When Pharaoh says to you, ‘Perform a wonder,’ then you shall say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh, and it will become a snake.’” ¹⁰ So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did as the Lord had commanded; Aaron threw down his staff before Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. ¹¹ Then Pharaoh summoned the wise men and the sorcerers; and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same by their secret arts. ¹² Each one threw down his staff, and they became snakes; but Aaron’s staff swallowed up theirs. ¹³ Still Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said.

The First Plague: Water Turned to Blood

¹⁴ Then the Lord said to Moses, “Pharaoh’s heart is hardened; he refuses to let the people go.

¹⁵ Go to Pharaoh in the morning, as he is going out to the water; stand by at the river bank to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that was turned into a snake. ¹⁶ Say to him, ‘The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you to say, “Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness.” But until now you have not listened. ¹⁷ Thus says the Lord, “By this you shall know that I am the Lord.” See, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall be turned to blood. ¹⁸ The fish in the river shall die, the river itself shall stink, and the Egyptians shall be unable to drink water from the Nile.’” ¹⁹ The Lord said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt—over its rivers, its canals, and its ponds, and all its pools of water—so that they may become blood; and there shall be blood throughout the whole land of Egypt, even in vessels of wood and in vessels of stone.’”

²⁰ Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord commanded. In the sight of Pharaoh and of his officials he lifted up the staff and struck the water in the river, and all the water in the river was turned into blood, ²¹ and the fish in the river died. The river stank so that the Egyptians could not drink its water, and there was blood throughout the whole land of Egypt. ²² But the magicians of Egypt did the same by their secret arts; so Pharaoh’s heart remained hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the Lord had said. ²³ Pharaoh turned and went into his house, and he did not take even this to heart.



Anthem

“Stand In Your Love”

Rev. Patricia Abell

CCLI Song # 7107821

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Witness to the Word

“Unraveling Injustice”

Rev. Patricia Abell

RESPONDING

Transformation of Our Lives



Prayers for God’s People, the Church and the World

You can share your prayer requests at pastor.saintjames@verizon.net or stjamessec@verizon.net

Prayer of Confession

Josh Michael, Liturgist

God, you have asked us to be like Moses –

Standing up for your people, standing up for justice.

But too often we are like Pharaoh –

Holding onto power, or holding onto privilege.

God, you ask us to be like Aaron –

Who stood by his brother to unravel systems of oppression.

But too often we align with Pharaoh –

Saying “no” to change and unraveling your vision for justice and peace.

Help us to be like Moses.

Forgive us for the harm we do to your planet, and for the harm we do to your children.

Help us to be like Moses.

Forgive us when we’re like Pharaoh. Amen

The Lord’s Prayer

Josh Michael, Liturgist

SENDING FORTH

Sharing Compassion for Our World

Verse 1

Lord whose love in humble service
 Bore the weight of human need
 Who upon the cross forsaken
 offered mercy's perfect deed
 We your servants bring the worship
 Not of voice alone but heart
 Consecrating to Your purpose
 Every gift that You impart

Verse 2

Still your children wander homeless
 Still the hungry cry for bread
 Still the captives long for freedom
 Still in grief we mourn our dead
 As O Lord your deep compassion
 Healed the sick and freed the soul
 Use the love your Spirit kindles
 Still to save and make us whole

Verse 3

As we worship grant us vision
 Till Your love's revealing light
 In its height and depth and greatness
 Dawns upon our quicken sight
 Making known the needs and burdens
 Your compassion bids us bear
 Stirring us to tireless striving
 Your abundant life to share

Verse 4

Called by worship to your service
 Forth in your dear name we go
 To the child the youth the aged
 Love in living deeds to show
 Hope and health good will and comfort
 Counsel aid and peace we give
 That your servants Lord in freedom
 May your mercy know and live

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 581

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-

Music: Attr. to B.F. White, 1844; harm. by Ronald A. Nelson, 1978

Tune: BEACH SPRING, **Meter:** 87.87 D

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Benediction Prayer

The Lord bless you and keep you;
 The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
 The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Postlude

"Let There Be Peace on Earth" *offered by Emma Baker, viola*

CCLI Song # 93690

Jill Jackson | Sy Miller

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