

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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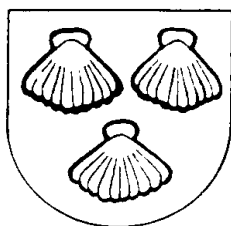


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September 13, 2020 – “Unraveled Despair”

9:30AM ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell		Organist/Pianist: Bonnie Inkman
Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj		Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark



Saint James
United Methodist Church
Marriottsville, MD

GATHER

Expanding Our Hearts



Welcome

Prelude

“Be Thou My Vision” (Irish folk melody, arr. M.S. Kelsey)

offered by Bonnie Inkman, piano

CCLI Song # 30639

Eleanor Henrietta Hull | Mary Elizabeth Byrne

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Call to Worship

Debra Bostron, Liturgist

ONE: So much in life is unpredictable.

ALL: Life begins and ends.

ONE: The weather changes.

ALL: Love surprises us.

ONE: Doors close.

ALL: Others open.

ONE: Life is unpredictable, but what we can count on is finding God in this space;

ALL. For this is God’s house, and we are all welcome.

ONE: So bring your questions and concerns, your doubts and wonderings, for in the midst of this unpredictable life, we can predict this:

ALL: Love lives here. Let us worship God.

Centering Moment

Hymn

“My Faith Looks Up To Thee” (vs. 1, 3 & 4)

UMH 452

Verse 1

My faith looks up to Thee
Thou Lamb of Calvary
Saviour divine
Now hear me while I pray
Take all my guilt away
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine

Verse 3

While life’s dark maze I tread
And grief’s around me spread
Be Thou my guide
Bid darkness turn to day
Wipe sorrow’s tears away
Nor let me ever stray
From Thee aside

Verse 4

When ends life's transient dream
When death's cold sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll
Blest Saviour then in love
Fear and distrust remove
O bear me safe above
A ransomed soul

CCLI Song # 43334
Lowell Mason | Ray Palmer
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Prayer for Illumination

Debra Bostron, 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

John 20: 19-29

Debra Bostron, Liturgist

¹⁹ It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." ²² Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

²⁴ Thomas, the one called Didymus,^[a] one of the Twelve, wasn't with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples told him, "We've seen the Lord!"

But he replied, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won't believe."

²⁶ After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you."

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!"

²⁸ Thomas responded to Jesus, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus replied, "Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don't see and yet believe."



Anthem

“You Raise Me Up”

offered by Matt Butt, soloist

CCLI Song # 4434612

Brendan Graham | Rolf Lovland

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Witness to the Word

“Unraveled Despair”

Rev. Patricia Abell

RESPONDING

Transformation of Our Lives



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

Share your prayer requests at pastor.saintjames@verizon.net or stjamessec@verizon.net

Prayer of Confession

Debra Bostron, Liturgist

**All: Gracious God, You ask us to follow you, and we respond with logistical questions –
*How long? Where to? Will we return?***

**You ask us to love each other, and we respond with excuses –
*I don’t know how. We don’t see eye to eye.***

**You ask us to dream and we get stuck in our own heads –
*Change will never come. Is it worth it?***

**You ask us to believe, and like Thomas, we ask for proof –
*Unless I see the nails in his hands, I cannot believe.***

Forgive us for our small-minded ways.

Open our eyes as you open our hearts.

Unravel our doubt. Unravel our disbelief.

Lead us to rest in you. Gratefully we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

Sharing Compassion for Our World

Closing Song

“Living for Jesus” (vs 1, 3 & 4 with refrain)

TFWS 2149

Verse 1

Living for Jesus a life that is true
Striving to please Him in all that I do
Yielding allegiance glad-hearted and free
This is the pathway of blessing for me

Chorus

O Jesus Lord and Savior
I give myself to Thee
For Thou in Thy atonement
Didst give Thyself for me
I own no other master
My heart shall be Thy throne
My life I give henceforth to live
O Christ for Thee alone

Verse 3

Living for Jesus wherever I am
Doing each duty in His holy name
Willing to suffer affliction or loss
Deeming each trial a part of my cross

Verse 4

Living for Jesus through earth’s little while
My dearest treasure the light of His smile
Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem
Bringing the weary to find rest in Him

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Thomas Obediah Chisholm
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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

“It Is No Secret (What God Can Do)” (Stuart Hamblen)

offered by Bonnie Inkman, organ

CCLI Song # 32022
Stuart Hamblen

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