

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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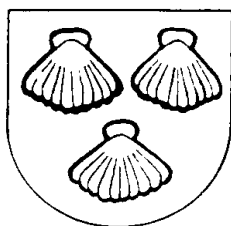


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September 20, 2020 – “Unraveled Plans for Children”

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

“Come, Thou Fount”

(in the setting of Peter Tchaikovsky’s Concerto, Op. 23), J. Wyeth (arr. by Cindy Berry)

offered by Bonnie Inkman, piano

Arr. 1989 by Pilot Point Music (ASCAP)
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Call to Worship

Josh Michael, Liturgist

ONE: When you dream, what do you dream of?

ALL: We dream of children who know love and churches with open doors. We dream of rest and sunny days.

ONE: When you dream, what do you dream of?

ALL: We dream of peace without walls, and equality for all people.

ONE: When you dream, what do you dream of?

ALL: We dream of milk and honey, food on tables, and an end to suffering. We dream of the Church of Jesus Christ serving all God’s people.

ONE: Family of God, This morning, we dream together. This morning, we worship together.

For there is nothing on heaven or on earth strong enough to unravel God’s dreams for us.

ALL: Let us worship Holy God.

Hymn

“A Mother Lined a Basket”

TFWS 2189

Verse 1

A mother lined a basket
to keep her baby dry,
then rocked him on a river,
lest he awake and cry.
She let a princess name him
her son that he might live.
God’s people had a leader.
She had such hope to give.

Verse 2

A mother sewed a jacket,
lined in the softest wool,
then dressed her little boy-child,
Her cup of blessing full.
She brought him to the temple
Where he would serve and live.
God’s people had a prophet.
She had such faith to give.

Verse 3

A mother laid her baby
in manger lined with straw;
then, in the shepherds' story,
his call from God foresaw.
She nurtured him and taught him
the way that he must live.
God's people had a savior.
She had such love to give.

Verse 4

Like Jochebed and Hannah,
and Mary, too, we know
the hardest part of loving
Is learning to let go,
so when we send our children
Out in the world to live,
Grant us such hope and faith, God,
And love enough to give.

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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.

Centering Moment

PROCLAIMING

Receiving God's Word

Scripture

Exodus 1: 22; 2: 1-10

Josh Michael, Liturgist

²² Then Pharaoh gave an order to all his people: "Throw every baby boy born to the Hebrews into the Nile River, but you can let all the girls live."

² Now a man from Levi's household married a Levite woman. ² The woman became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She saw that the baby was healthy and beautiful, so she hid him for three months. ³ When she couldn't hide him any longer, she took a reed basket and sealed it up with black tar. She put the child in the basket and set the basket among the reeds at the riverbank. ⁴ The baby's older sister stood watch nearby to see what would happen to him.

⁵ Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe in the river, while her women servants walked along beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds, and she sent one of her servants to bring it to her. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. The boy was crying, and she felt sorry for him. She said, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children."

⁷ Then the baby's sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Would you like me to go and find one of the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?"

⁸ Pharaoh's daughter agreed, "Yes, do that." So the girl went and called the child's mother.

⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I'll pay you for your

work.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ After the child had grown up, she brought him back to Pharaoh’s daughter, who adopted him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I pulled him out^[a] of the water.”



Anthem

“Holy Ground” *offered by Alejandra Ferguson*
Accompanied by Ryan Ferguson, piano

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Witness to the Word

“Unraveled Plans for Children”

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

Josh Michael, Liturgist

All: Gracious God, We do not know the plans you have for us. We do not know, so we place our children into “good schools.” We set aside money for days to come. We keep our fingers crossed and try to control the world around us. Having faith in the midst of uncertainty has never been easy for us. Forgive us for the moments when we refuse to trust you. Strengthen us so that when life unravels, we are strong enough to turn to you. That is our prayer of faith. Amen.

SENDING FORTH
Sharing Compassion for Our World

Closing Song

“Wonderful Words of Life”

UMH 600

Verse 1

Sing them over again to me
Wonderful words of life
Let me more of their beauty see
Wonderful words of life
Words of life and beauty
Teach me faith and duty

Chorus

Beautiful words wonderful words
Wonderful words of life
Beautiful words wonderful words
Wonderful words of life

Verse 2

Christ the blessed One gives to all
Wonderful words of life
Sinner list to the loving call
Wonderful words of life
All so freely given
Wooing us to Heaven

Verse 3

Sweetly echo the gospel call
Wonderful words of life
Offer pardon and peace to all
Wonderful words of life
Jesus only Savior
Sanctify forever

Chorus

Chorus

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Philip Paul Bliss
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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

“His Name is Wonderful” (Mieir)

offered by Bonnie Inkman, organ

CCLI Song # 1122230
Audrey Mieir
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**The flowers on the altar are given in honor of Doris Slack on her 92nd birthday! From her children and their families



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