

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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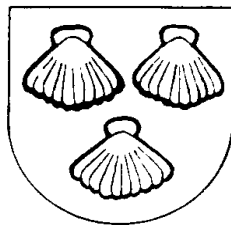


May 2, 2021

“Take Heart in Jesus as the Center”

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj | Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark
Director of Music Ministry: Antuan Hairston | Organist: Clarice Snyder
Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



Saint James
United Methodist Church
Marriottsville, MD

WE GATHER

Welcome and Preparation

Rev. Patricia Abell

Prelude "This Joyful Eastertide" (Hymn and Variation) Setting by Paul Bouman *Clarice Snyder*

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Call to Worship Beloved, God calls us to come together in love. *Debra Bostron*
Love is from God.
We all are called to live in God's love.
Love is from God.
When we live in God's love, our love overflows.
Love is from God.
Let us worship together in Love.

Threshold "You Are My King (Amazing Love)" (Refrain)

Amazing Love, how can it be, that you my King would die for me
Amazing Love, I know it's true, it's my joy to honor You.
In all I do I honor You.

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Opening Prayer *Debra Bostron*
God of love, you have invited us here to this time and space.
We lift our hearts in thanksgiving and joyful praise for the gift of your love.
God of life, you have invited us here to place all that we have and all that we are in you.
Through the power of your Holy Spirit, guide us to not only lift up our hearts in worship, but to offer our hearts in love. Amen.

Opening Hymn "Abide With Me" (verses 1,3,4, and 5) *UMH 700*

Verse 1

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Verse 4

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Verse 3

I need thy presence every passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

Verse 5

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Prayer of Confession

Debra Bostron

Voice 1: Beloved, let us love one another.

Voice 2: *But only if others deserve to be loved.*

All: Lord, have mercy.

Voice 1: Those who say, “I love God,” and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars.

Voice 2: *But we only hate the really bad people.*

All: Christ, have mercy.

Voice 1: Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

Voice 2: *The truth is, we have trouble believing anyone is worthy of God’s love, including ourselves.*

All: Lord, have mercy.

Voice 1: There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.

Voice 2: *But sometimes love just isn’t enough. We need walls and prisons and armies and guns to protect us.*

All: Christ, have mercy.

Voice 1: God, help us, through the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, to comprehend the power of your love.

Voice 2: *Open our hearts and our lives to the love that drives out fear, and transforms the world.*

All: Lord, we are ready to live in your love. (Silence).

Words of Assurance and Peace

Debra Bostron

Greet as many people as you can with the words: **“Live in the knowledge that God loves you”**

“You Are My King (Amazing Love)” (Refrain)

Amazing Love, how can it be, that you my King would die for me
Amazing Love, I know it’s true, it’s my joy to honor You.
In all I do I honor You.

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Children’s Message

Jelinda Blum

Scripture

1 John 4: 7-21; (CEB) Love and God

Barb Cook

⁷ Dear friends, let’s love each other, because love is from God, and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God. ⁸ The person who doesn’t love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how the love of God is revealed to us: God has sent his only Son into the world so that we can live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins.

¹¹ Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. ¹² No one has ever seen God. If we love each other, God remains in us and his love is made perfect in us. ¹³ This is how we know we remain in him and he remains in us, because he has given us a measure of his Spirit. ¹⁴ We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the savior of the world. ¹⁵ If any of us confess that Jesus is God's Son, God remains in us and we remain in God. ¹⁶ We have known and have believed the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them. ¹⁷ This is how love has been perfected in us, so that we can have confidence on the Judgment Day, because we are exactly the same as God is in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear expects punishment. The person who is afraid has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹ We love because God first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God" and hate their brothers or sisters are liars. After all, those who don't love their brothers or sisters whom they have seen can hardly love God whom they have not seen! ²¹ This commandment we have from him: Those who claim to love God ought to love their brother and sister also.

John 15: 1-8 (CEB) I am the true vine

¹⁵ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. ² He removes any of my branches that don't produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. ³ You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴ Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can't produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can't produce fruit unless you remain in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can't do anything. ⁶ If you don't remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned. ⁷ If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

Anthem

"I've Just Come from the Fountain" **TFWS 2250**

Chancel Choir

Refrain:

I've just come from the fountain,
I've just come from the fountain, Lord,
I've just come from the fountain,
His name's so sweet. O Lord,
I've just come from the fountain,
I've just come from the fountain, Lord,
I've just come from the fountain,
His name's so sweet.

1. O brother, do you love Jesus?
Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus.
Brother, do you love Jesus?
His name's so sweet. O Lord ...
(Refrain)

2. O sister, do you love Jesus?
Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus.
Sister, do you love Jesus?
His name's so sweet. O Lord ...
(Refrain)

3. O sinner, do you love Jesus?
Yes, yes, I do love my Jesus.
Sinner do you love Jesus?
His name's so sweet. O Lord ...
(Refrain)

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Message "Take Heart in Jesus as the Center" **Rev. Patricia Abell**

Prayers for God's People, the Church and the World **Debra Bostron**
Share your prayer requests at pastor.saintjames@verizon.net or stjamessec@verizon.net

The Lord's Prayer **Debra Bostron**

Offering Invitation **Rev. Patricia Abell**

Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" **UMH 94 Chancel Choir**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God All creatures here below Alleluia alleluia
Praise God the source of all our gifts
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit Alleluia alleluia alleluia

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Prayer of Thanksgiving **Rev. Patricia Abell**

Closing Hymn "The Lord of Life, A Vine is He" **WS 3155**

Verse 1

The Lord of Life a vine is He
And grafted to Him we must be
And thus we yield abundantly
Sweet fruit for all to taste and see

Verse 2

If we be joined to Him we know
His strength and power will help us grow
His Spirit's grace through us will flow
To prune and shape us as we go

Verse 3

The vine is He the branches we
For now and to eternity
His word sown deep in us will be
Both sun and rain sufficiency

Verse 4

The Lord of Life the Source Divine
Calls us to come with Him entwine
Will we unhearing dare decline
The call of Christ the One True Vine

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Benediction (John 15, 1 John 4)

Rev. Patricia Abell

God's love is at work right now in your life.

Christ walks with you even now as you show love to all.

The wind of the Spirit is blowing you out the door on the wings of love.

In God's love, with Christ's love, by the Spirit's love, go to be love in the world.

Go with God And, share faith, offer prayer, and gather hope. +

Postlude

"This Joyful Eastertide" (Variation) Setting by Paul Bouman

Clarice Snyder

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