SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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August 8, 2021

"Questions in Faith: What Is Hope?"

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

Prelude

"The Solid Rock (My Hope is Built)" (arr. by Harold DeCou) offered by Clarice Snyder, organ

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Welcome

Donna Benson, Certified Lay Servant

Introit

"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love" (vs. 1 & 4)

TFWS 2223

Verse 1

We are one in the Spirit We are one in the Lord We are one in the Spirit We are one in the Lord And we pray that all unity May one day be restored

Chorus

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

Verse 4

All praise to the Father
From whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus
His only Son
And all praise to the Spirit
Who makes us one

CCLI Song # 26997 Peter Scholtes

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Call to Worship Nancy Janson

- L: When we feel down-hearted...
 - P: Jesus says: "Rise!"
- L: When we wonder if we can continue on our journey...
 - P: Jesus says: "I am with you. You have nothing to fear."
- L: When we hunger and thirst in our souls for relief...
 - P: Jesus says: "Come, follow me."
- L: Lord of hope and possibilities, be with us today.
 - P: Open our hearts and spirits to feed upon your healing word. AMEN.

Opening Prayer Nancy Janson

God of Hope,
we come into your presence this morning
with confidence that you will meet us here.
Where there is sadness, bring joy;
Where there is tiredness, bring refreshment;
Where there is despair, bring a renewed sense of hope.
Let this place be a sanctuary,
a safe haven for us,
a home for holy words and songs and prayers
as we devote ourselves to you.
We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Opening Hymn "My Hope Is Built" UMH 368

Verse 1 Chorus

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness I dare not trust the sweetest frame But wholly lean on Jesus' name On Christ the solid rock I stand All other ground is sinking sand All other ground is sinking sand

Verse 2 Verse 3

When darkness veils His lovely face I rest on His unchanging grace In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil **Chorus**

His oath His covenant His blood Support me in the whelming flood When all around my soul gives way He then is all my hope and stay **Chorus**

Verse 4

When He shall come with trumpet sound
O may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

CCLI Song # 25417

Edward Mote | William Batchelder Bradbury

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Scripture Hebrews 11: 1-16 (NIV) Nancy Janson

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

- ³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.
- ⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.
- ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." [a] For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.
- ⁷ By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.
- ⁸ By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹ By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she^[b] considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹² And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.
- ¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. ¹⁴ People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Ephesians 1: 15-21 (NIV)

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit^[a] of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Anthem

"Fighting for Me"

Stephanie Clark, vocalist

Message "Questions in Faith: What Is Hope?" Donna Benson, CLS

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

Share your prayer requests at <u>pastor.saintjames@verizon.net</u> or <u>stjamessec@verizon.net</u> or write requests on prayer slips provided and place in the Giving Box.

ALL: O Creator God, may the waters that covered us at our birth once again remind us of our creation in you.

Remind us that we are vessels of the waters of hope and that your outpourings have power to heal and make whole our bruised world. Let the living waters of creation, womb, baptism, and Spirit encircle us that we may remember we are yours and be thankful. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Offering Invitation and Prayer

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

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

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Closing Hymn "Song of Hope" TFWS 2186

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain:

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

The Faith We Sing Number 2186
Text: Alvin Schutmaat | Music: Argentine folk melody
Tune: ARGENTINA, Meter: Irr. with Refrain

Benediction

Postlude

"Be Still" with "Be Still, My Soul" (arr. Mark Hayes) offered by Clarice Snyder, piano

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Please mail your tithes and offerings to Saint James UMC, 12470 Old Frederick Road, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Question for Reflection

"Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you" (Eph. 4:31–32).

Have you ever experienced bitterness, wrath, anger, wrangling, slander, or malice in yourself or from others? How do you overcome and find grace to forgive?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of the morning watches, my soul waits for you, and I hope in your word. Bread of life, nourish, strengthen, and accompany me throughout this day, that I may labor honestly, share with the needy, and imitate your love. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God of peace, I have struggled through the battle of life this day. If you should mark my iniquities, how can I stand?
But there is forgiveness with you.
Let your steadfast love cleanse, comfort, and keep me through this night. Amen.

RESOURCES:

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