

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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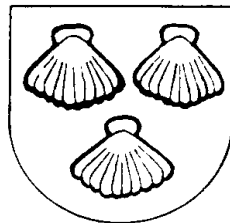


December 5, 2021

“A Place at the Table Brings Peace”

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 Second Sunday of Advent" Charles Alexis Chauvet (1837-1871)

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Welcome

Rev. Patricia Abell

Approaching the Threshold

"Come and Find the Quiet Center" (vs. 1)

TFWS 2128

Verse 1

Come and find the quiet center
In the crowded life we lead
Find the room for hope to enter
Find the frame where we are freed
Clear the chaos and the clutter
Clear our eyes that we can see
All the things that really matter
Be at peace and simply be

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Call to Worship

Mary Anne Espenshade

Today we offer the Light of PEACE to illumine a Door of Welcome.

May this light shine in our hearts, in our lives, and in our church.

May PEACE awaken us to possibilities and lead us to greater hospitality.

There *IS* room in this Inn, a House for the Holy.

Crossing the Threshold

"Come and Find the Quiet Center" (vs. 2)

TFWS 2128

Verse 2

Silence is a friend who claims us
Cools the heat and slows the pace
God it is who speaks and names us
Knows our being touches base
Making space within our thinking
Lifting shades to show the sun
Raising courage when we're shrinking
Finding scope for faith begun

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Opening Prayer

Peace waits for us at Advent. Peace waits for us to rest.

Peace waits for our acceptance of the truth that we are blessed.

In this time of preparation and for the work of co-creation; for the birthing of a world of gentleness and play, Peace is born in us each day! Amen.

ONE: The Peace of Christ be with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Opening Hymn

“People, Look East”

UMH 202

1. People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the guest, is on the way.

2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
One more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
That in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
One more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather,
Bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the star, is on the way.

4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth
Him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
With the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today:
Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

Martin Shaw, harmony

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A Cookie Moment

Eddie Candee

Scripture

Malachi 3:1-4 (CEB)

Mary Anne Espenshade

Look, I am sending my messenger who will clear the path before me;
suddenly the LORD whom you are seeking will come to his temple.
The messenger of the covenant in whom you take delight is coming,
says the LORD of heavenly forces.
² Who can endure the day of his coming?
Who can withstand his appearance?
He is like the refiner’s fire or the cleaner’s soap.
³ He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver.
He will purify the Levites
and refine them like gold and silver.
They will belong to the LORD,
presenting a righteous offering.
⁴ The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD
as in ancient days and in former years.

Luke 3:1-6 (CEB)

3 In the fifteenth year of the rule of the emperor Tiberius—when Pontius Pilate was governor over Judea and Herod was ruler^[a] over Galilee, his brother Philip was ruler^[b] over Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was ruler^[c] over Abilene, **2** during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas—God’s word came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. **3** John went throughout the region of the Jordan River, calling for people to be baptized to show that they were changing their hearts and lives and wanted God to forgive their sins. **4** This is just as it was written in the scroll of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

*A voice crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way for the Lord;
make his paths straight.
5 Every valley will be filled,
and every mountain and hill will be leveled.
The crooked will be made straight
and the rough places made smooth.
6 All humanity will see God’s salvation.”^[d]*

Anthem

“O Day of Peace that Dimly Shines”

UMH 729

Verse 1

O day of peace that dimly shines
Through all our hopes
And prayers and dreams
Guide us to justice truth and love
Delivered from our selfish schemes
May swords of Hate fall from our hands
Our hearts from envy find release
Till by God's grace our warring world
Shall see Christ's promised reign of peace

Verse 2

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb
Nor shall the fierce devour the small
As beasts and cattle calmly graze
A little child shall lead them all
Then enemies shall learn to love
All creatures find their true accord
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled
For all the earth shall know the Lord

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Message

“A Place at the Table Brings Peace”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Leading Into Prayer

“Come and Find the Quiet Center” (vs. 3)

TFWS 2128

Verse 3

In the Spirit let us travel
Open to each other's pain
Let our lives and fears unravel
Celebrate the space we gain
There's a place for deepest dreaming
There's a time for heart to care
In the Spirit's lively scheming
There is always room to spare

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

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

[A time of silence is kept after each petition.]

Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

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Holy Communion

Closing Hymn

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

UMH 218

Verse 1

It came upon the midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth good will to men
From heaven's all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

Verse 3

And ye beneath life's crushing load
Whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow
Look now for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing

Verse 2

Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing

Verse 4

For lo the days are hastening on
By prophet seen of old
When with the ever circling years
Shall come the time foretold
When peace shall over all the earth
its ancient splendors fling
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing

Benediction

Postlude

"From Whence Comes This Host of Angels" Leon Roques (1800's)

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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

Questions for Reflection

The prophet Malachi says that God is "like a refiner's fire and like fuller's soap" (Mal. 3:2).

Reflect on events of the past year.

How has God been working to refine and purify your life or your community of faith?

Household Prayer: Morning

Blessed are you, Lord God:

by your tender mercy the dawn breaks upon us.

Guide our feet this day in paths of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Blessed are you, Lord God:

for you have smiled on us this day and redeemed us from our sin.

*Give light to all who wait in darkness until we rest with you in perfect peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

RESOURCES:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1 © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press. 5-8. Used with permission.

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