SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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December 19, 2021

"A Room With a View of Love"

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

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (CJS) *Offered by Clarice Snyder* "God Be With You, Mary" César Franck

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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 Jim Quindlen

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

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

May LOVE 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

LOVE waits for us at Advent. LOVE waits for us to CARE.

LOVE WAITS FOR OUR COMPASSION FREELY OFFERED, FREELY SHARED.

In this time of preparation and for the work of co-creation; for the birthing of a world WHERE FAITH SHAPES ALL WE DO. LOVE IS BORN IN US ANEW! Amen.

ONE: The **LOVE** of Christ be with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Opening Hymn "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" UMH 196

Verse 1 Verse 2

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

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A Cookie Moment Angel Donna Benson

Scripture Micah 5:2-5a (CEB) Jim Quindlen

² As for you, Bethlehem of Ephrathah, though you are the least significant of Judah's forces, one who is to be a ruler in Israel on my behalf will come out from you. His origin is from remote times, from ancient days.

³ Therefore, he will give them up until the time when she who is in labor gives birth. The rest of his kin will return to the people of Israel.

⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock^[a] in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. They will dwell secure,

because he will surely become great throughout the earth;

be will become one of peace.

When Assyria invades our land and treads down our fortresses, then we will raise up against him seven shepherds and eight human princes.

Luke 1:39-45 (CEB)

³⁹ Mary got up and hurried to a city in the Judean highlands. ⁴⁰ She entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² With a loud voice she blurted out, "God has blessed you above all women, and he has blessed the child you carry. ⁴³ Why do I have this honor, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. ⁴⁵ Happy is she who believed that the Lord would fulfill the promises he made to her."

Hymn

"My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

UMH 198

- 1. My soul gives glory to my God, My heart pours out its praise. God lifted up my lowliness In many marvelous ways.
- 3. From age to age to all who fear, Such mercy love imparts, Dispensing justice far and near, Dismissing selfish hearts.

- My God has done great things for me: Yes, holy is this name.
 All people will declare me blessed
 And blessings they shall claim.
- 4. Love cast the mighty from their thrones Promotes the insecure, Leaves hungry spirits satisfied, The rich seem suddenly poor.
- Praise God, whose loving covenant Supports those in distress, Remembering past promises With present faithfulness.

Words: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987 (Luke 1: 46b-55)
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Message

"A Room With a View of Love"

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 <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.

[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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Closing Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful" UMH 234

Verse 1 Refrain

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him,
Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.

Verse 2

True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, Lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb; Son of the Father, Begotten, not created; **Refrain**

Verse 3

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God,
All glory in the highest;
Refrain

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Benediction

Postlude "Vieux Noel, Noel Angevin" César Franck 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

Where do you see the light of Christ magnified in your person, your life, and the ways of your family and community?

Notice in the coming week one time each day when the light of Christ is made present for you by others.

Household Prayer: Morning

Thank you, good and gracious God, for the morning light, for another day in which to live out what it means that you have magnified my soul and the souls of those around me in this world. Teach me the meaning of "Let it be." Show me how to trust: in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Good and gracious God, we give you thanks that you have made incarnate in your world the breath of life, the life of hope. Keep us safe throughout the night that in the morning we may again rejoice and live in peace with all creation; in Jesus' name.. Amen.

RESOURCES:

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1 © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press. 14-19. Used with permission.

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