

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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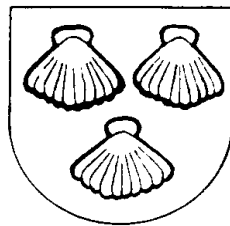


May 1, 2022

“Peace and Power”

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 Easter Sequence” and “Awake, My Heart, with Gladness” *offered by Clarice Snyder*

Arr. by Wilbur Held

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Welcome

Rev. Patricia Abell

Introit “Dona Nobis Pacem” UMH 376 *Chancel Choir*

Dona nobis pacem, pacem.
Dona nobis pacem.

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Call to Worship

Mary Anne Espenshade

Even in the midst of our questions.

We will praise the Lord.

Even with fears of what might be.

**We will praise God for God’s mighty deeds,
according to God’s surpassing greatness.**

We come with faith that is growing in spite of this.

Praise God with song and dance.

Let us offer worship and praise to the living God, the Risen Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Let everything that breathes praise God.

Praise God, Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

Mary Anne Espenshade

God of the Resurrection, you open the tomb and invite us to sing and dance in the new life you give us. In Jesus Christ, whose wounds are not erased but glorified in resurrection, touch our wounds that they may be transformed into channels of healing for others. Holy Spirit, breathe into us the power to forgive so that all may have new life. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Mary Anne Espenshade

ALL: God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice.

When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, forgive us and give us the power to forgive.

When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join with the weak to make us all strong.

When we are confined by our hurts, touch us with your wounded hands and set us free.

When we are locked behind our doubts and fears, pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. Amen.

Liturgist: Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing into us new life. Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven!

ALL: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Alleluia!

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Opening Hymn

“Christ is Risen”

UMH 307

1. Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days.
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder;
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.
2. Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
From the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning,
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
Not a servant, but a friend;
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.
3. Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
never more shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!

4.

Words: Brian Wren, 1984

Music: Polish Carol; arr. by Edith M.G. Reed, 1926

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Children’s Moment

Jelinda Blum

Scripture

Acts 5:27-32 (CEB)

Mary Anne Espenshade

²⁷ The apostles were brought before the council where the high priest confronted them: ²⁸ “In no uncertain terms, we demanded that you not teach in this name. And look at you! You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching. And you are determined to hold us responsible for this man’s death.”

²⁹ Peter and the apostles replied, “We must obey God rather than humans! ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God has exalted Jesus to his right side as leader and savior so that he could enable Israel to change its heart and life and to find forgiveness for sins. ³² We are witnesses of such things, as is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Scripture

John 20: 19-23 (CEB)

¹⁹ It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” ²² Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

Congregational Hymn

“Breathe on Me, Breathe of God”

UMH 420

Verse 1

Breathe on me breath of God
 Fill me with life anew
 That I may love what Thou dost love
 And do what Thou wouldst do

Verse 3

Breathe on me breath of God
 Till I am wholly Thine
 Till all this earthly part of me
 Glows with Thy fire divine

Verse 2

Breathe on me breath of God
 Until my heart is pure
 Until with thee I will one will
 To do and to endure

Verse 4

Breathe on me breath of God
 So shall I never die
 But live with thee the perfect life
 Of thine eternity

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Message

“Peace and Power”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Prayer for God’s People, Church, & World

Response: As you sent Christ, now send us.

Lord’s 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! Alleluia!

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Offering Prayer**Holy Communion****Closing Hymn**

“Now the Green Blade Riseth”

UMH 311

Verse 1

Now the green blade riseth
from the buried grain
Wheat that in the dark earth
many days has lain
Love lives again
that with the dead has been
Love is come again
Like wheat that springeth green

Verse 3

Forth He came at Easter
like the risen grain
Jesus who for three days
in the grave had lain
Quick from the dead
my risen Lord is seen
Love is come again
Like wheat that springeth green

Verse 2

In the grave they laid him
Love who had been slain
Thinking that he never
Would awake again
Laid in the earth
Like grain that sleeps unseen
Love is come again
Like wheat that springeth green

Verse 4

When our hearts are wintry
Grieving or in pain
Jesus' touch can call us
Back to life again
Fields of our hearts
That dead and bare have been
Love is come again
Like wheat that springeth green

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Benediction

Postlude

“Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bands”

offered by Clarice Snyder

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12470 Old Frederick Road, Marriottsville, MD 21104

Questions for Reflection

We have been wounded in this life, and our society often teaches us to hide our wounds and vulnerabilities.

What might happen if, like Christ, we invited those shut down by life to explore our wounds?

Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious God, you are the God who is and was and is to be.

Thank you that Christ has freed us to be a kingdom of priests serving you and your world.

Give me a deeper sense, as I move through this day,
of what it means to say that you are my “Alpha and Omega,” my A to Z. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Jesus, tonight I remember that your gospel gives me the power to forgive any and all, through the gift of your Holy Spirit, and that includes forgiving myself.

Breathe your peace into me so that even if I pierced you today,
I can still see you coming to embrace me with your freedom and love this night. Amen.

RESOURCES:

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