

# SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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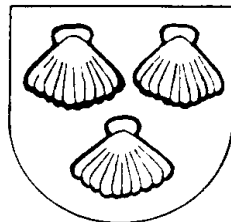
**May 8, 2022**

**“Trust and Belief”**

**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

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Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



**Saint James United Methodist Church**  
Marriottsville, MD

# WE GATHER

## Prelude

"Partita on "This Joyful Eastertide" arr. by Paul Bouman

***Offered by Clarice Snyder***

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## Welcome

***Rev. Patricia Abell***

## Introit

"Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth" TFWS 2050

***Chancel Choir***

CCLI Song # 3411430  
Henry Percy Smith | Jean Janzen  
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## Call to Worship

***Nancy Janson***

ONE: see what love has been given to us, that we should be called children of God.

**ALL: By this we know love: that Jesus Christ has come in flesh, and lived and died that God's love might be made plain among us.**

ONE: Therefore, let us not love in word only, but in action and in truth.

**ALL: By this we know love, through Jesus our risen Christ.**

## Opening Prayer

***Nancy Janson***

**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

***Nancy Janson***

**ALL: Ever patient and loving God, the excitement and joy of Easter have faded, and our doubts and fears are creeping in again. We somehow need to see to believe. We long for the peace that Jesus breathed on his disciples, but feel too vulnerable and afraid to ask. We long to affirm with Thomas: "My Lord and my God," but we sometimes lack the conviction. Forgive us our doubts, our fears, and our reluctance to witness to you and to the Risen Jesus. We pray for the courage and conviction of those first disciples— disciples who overcame their fear and doubt to become mighty witnesses. Lord, we believe; help our unbelief. Amen.**

Liturgist: The one who loves us and frees us will not leave us in despair and doubt, but will fill us with all joy and conviction. 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

## “How Can We Sinners Know”

UMH 372

1. How can we sinners know  
Our sins on earth forgiven?  
How can my gracious Savior show  
My name inscribed in heaven?

2. What we have felt and seen,  
With confidence we tell,  
And publish to the ends of earth  
The signs infallible.

3. We who in Christ believe  
That He for us hath died,  
We all His unknown peace receive  
And feel His blood applied.

4. We by his Spirit prove  
and know the things of God,  
The things which freely of his love  
He hath on us bestowed.

5. The meek and lowly heart  
That in our Savior was,  
To us that Spirit doth impart  
And sign us with His cross.

6. Our nature's turned, our mind  
transformed in all its powers  
And both the witnesses are joined  
The Spirit of God with ours.

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 372

Text: Charles Wesley

Music: Genevan Psalter; adapt. by William Crotch  
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## Children's Moment

*Donna Benson*

## Scripture

## Acts 9:7-20 (CEB)

*Nancy Janson*

<sup>7</sup> Those traveling with him stood there speechless; they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup> After they picked Saul up from the ground, he opened his eyes but he couldn't see. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was blind and neither ate nor drank anything.

<sup>10</sup> In Damascus there was a certain disciple named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, “Ananias!” He answered, “Yes, Lord.”

<sup>11</sup> The Lord instructed him, “Go to Judas' house on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying. <sup>12</sup> In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias enter and put his hands on him to restore his sight.”

<sup>13</sup> Ananias countered, “Lord, I have heard many reports about this man. People say he has done horrible things to your holy people in Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> He's here with authority from the chief priests to arrest everyone who calls on your name.”

<sup>15</sup> The Lord replied, “Go! This man is the agent I have chosen to carry my name before Gentiles, kings, and Israelites. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”

<sup>17</sup> Ananias went to the house. He placed his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord sent me—Jesus, who appeared to you on the way as you were coming here. He sent me so that you could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup> Instantly, flakes fell from Saul's eyes and he could see again. He got up and was baptized. <sup>19</sup> After eating, he regained his strength.

He stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. <sup>20</sup> Right away, he began to preach about Jesus in the synagogues. “He is God’s Son,” he declared.

**Scripture**

**John 20:24-31 (CEB)**

<sup>24</sup> Thomas, the one called Didymus,<sup>[a]</sup> one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!”

But he replied, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

<sup>26</sup> After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!”

<sup>28</sup> Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

<sup>30</sup> Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. <sup>31</sup> But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

**Congregational Hymn**

“Only Trust Him” (vs. 1, 2 and 3)

**UMH 337**

1. Come, every soul by sin oppressed,  
there's mercy with the Lord;  
and he will surely give you rest,  
by trusting in his Word.

**Refrain**

Only trust him, only trust him  
Only trust him now.  
He will save you, he will save you,  
He will save you now

2. For Jesus shed his precious blood  
rich blessings to bestow;  
plunge now into the crimson flood  
that washes bright as snow.

**Refrain**

3. Yes, Jesus is the truth, the way  
that leads you into rest  
Believe in him without delay  
And you are fully blest.

**Refrain**

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 337

**Text:** John H. Stockton

**Music:** John H. Stockton  
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**Message**

“Trust and Belief”

**Rev. Patricia Abell**

**Prayer for God’s People, Church, & World**

## **Blessing the Women: A Prayer for Mother's Day**

Loving God,

You knit us together in our mother's womb and breathe us into being.  
Thank you for the gift of life and for bringing us into this world through our mothers.  
We recognize the risk they took to carry us, nourish us, and protect us within their bodies.

Thank you for the women in our life,  
for our mothers and for those who have been like mothers to us.  
We are grateful for their tenderness when we were helpless or hurt,  
We are grateful for their encouragement and wisdom when we were unsure,  
We are grateful for their correction and perseverance so we would stay true,  
We are grateful for the way they guided us into Your saving embrace.

Too often we took their love and sacrifice for granted. Forgive us.  
Help us to live in such a way that our words and actions bring honor to them and to You.

Merciful One, gather us all to the safety of your breast.  
For many, this day is full of joy and celebration, but for others, it is an especially painful day.  
Pour out your healing, consolation, and peace  
on those who are grieving the loss of their mother or the loss of their child,  
on families separated by distance or disagreement,  
on families plagued by disappointment, abandonment, addiction, or abuse.

Compassionate One, shelter us all beneath Your outstretched arms.  
Bring your healing, consolation, and peace  
to women whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled,  
to women who choose not to be mothers,  
to mothers and guardians who are exhausted as they labor to balance work and raising children,  
to mothers and guardians who are overwhelmed as they struggle  
to bring up children in the midst of poverty, disease, or war.  
The need is deep. Come quickly. Our hope is in You.

***The Pastor will invite all the girls and women in the room to stand as they are able. Those who are seated are asked to place a hand of blessing upon those who are standing.***

Gracious God, thank You for every woman and girl here today  
and for every one we have brought with us in our hearts.  
Reveal Your purpose and plan for their life.  
Bless them and protect them.  
Deepen their love and trust of You.  
Strengthen them, empower them, and anoint them with Your Holy Spirit  
that their faith, influence, and achievement would bring You honor and glory.  
Receive our thanks and praise again for these women and women in the making  
for they are precious to us and to You.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

## 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!

CCLI Song # 3063266  
Gilbert H. Vieira | Ralph Vaughan Williams | Thomas Ken  
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### Offering Prayer

### Closing Hymn

"Amazing Grace"

**UMH 378**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Amazing grace how sweet the sound<br>That saved a wretch like me<br>I once was lost but now am found<br>Was blind but now I see        | 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear<br>And grace my fears relieved<br>How precious did that grace appear<br>The hour I first believed     |
| 3. Through many dangers toils and snares<br>I have already come<br>'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far<br>And grace will lead me home | 4. The Lord has promised good to me<br>His word my hope secures<br>He will my shield and portion be<br>As long as life endures                    |
| 5. Yea when this flesh and heart shall fail<br>And mortal life shall cease<br>I shall possess within the veil<br>A life of joy and peace  | 6. When we've been there ten thousand years<br>Bright shining as the sun<br>We've no less days to sing God's praise<br>Then when we'd first begun |

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John Newton  
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### Benediction

### Postlude

"(Variation V) Partita on "This Joyful Eastertide" arr. by Paul Bouman

***Offered by Clarice Snyder***

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**Questions for Reflection**

*Thomas doubted the resurrection until he saw the nail holes and put his  
finger in the wound of the risen Christ's hands and side.*

*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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