

# SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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**April 16, 2023**

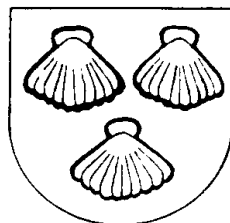
**9:30 am**

**“Tombs and Cocoons: Trusting the Dark”**

**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

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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" Wilbur Held *Offered by Clarice Snyder*

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"Christ lag in Todesbanden" (Hymnal reference 319) J. S. Bach

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**Welcome** *Rev. Patricia Abell*

**Introit** "Come Out"



1. Come out! Come out of your com-for-ta-ble spac-es.



Come, meet Je-sus in the dif-fi-cult plac-es.

words by Tanya Linn Bennett & Mark A Miller, music by Mark Miller  
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**Call to Worship** *Jim Quindlen*

*Leader:* In the dark of the womb we wondered...  
**People:** ...**what could be better than this warm and safe place?**  
Once we were birthed into this life, at times we wondered...  
...**could there be more than meets the eye?**  
In the dark of the tomb-times of our existence we wonder...  
... **is there life beyond these constraints?**  
When we hear the story of Jesus we wonder...  
... **is new life possible for me?**  
Then the love of the Divine reminds us,  
**"You too are my child.**  
**You can emerge to renewed life.**  
**Again and again."**  
**Amen.**

**Passing the Peace:** The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

## Opening Hymn

## “Hymn of Promise”

**UMH 707**

1. In the bulb there is a flower  
In the seed an apple tree  
In cocoons a hidden promise  
Butterflies will soon be free  
In the cold and snow of winter  
There's a spring that waits to be  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see

2. There's a song in every silence  
Seeking word and melody  
There's a dawn in every darkness  
Bringing hope to you and me  
From the past will come the future  
What it holds a mystery  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see

3. In our end is our beginning  
In our time infinity  
In our doubt there is believing  
In our life eternity  
In our death a resurrection  
At the last a victory  
Unrevealed until its season  
Something God alone can see

CCLI Song # 126529  
Natalie Sleeth

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## Time for Children

**Jelinda Blum**

## Hymn of Preparation

## “Are Ye Able” (vs. 4)

**UMH 530**

"Are ye able?" Still the Savior  
whispers down eternity,  
and heroic spirits answer,  
“Now, as then, in Galilee.”

Lord, we are able!  
Our spirits are Thine.  
Remold them, make us,  
Like Thee, divine.  
Thy guiding radiance  
above us shall be  
A beacon to God,  
to love, and loyalty.

Words: Earl Marlatt  
Music: Harry S. Mason  
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## Scripture

## Luke 1: 26-38 (CEB)

**Jim Quindlen**

<sup>26</sup>When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>When the angel came to her, he said, “Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!” <sup>29</sup>She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said, “Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. <sup>31</sup>Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. <sup>33</sup>He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom.”

\*Please stand as able

<sup>34</sup> Then Mary said to the angel, “How will this happen since I haven’t had sexual relations with a man?”

<sup>35</sup> The angel replied, “The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God’s Son. <sup>36</sup> Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled ‘unable to conceive’ is now six months pregnant. <sup>37</sup> Nothing is impossible for God.”

<sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. Let it be with me just as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

### John 19: 38 - John 20:1 (CEB)

<sup>8</sup> After this Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate if he could take away the body of Jesus. Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but a secret one because he feared the Jewish authorities. Pilate gave him permission, so he came and took the body away. <sup>39</sup> Nicodemus, the one who at first had come to Jesus at night, was there too. He brought a mixture of myrrh and aloe, nearly seventy-five pounds in all. <sup>40</sup> Following Jewish burial customs, they took Jesus’ body and wrapped it, with the spices, in linen cloths. <sup>41</sup> There was a garden in the place where Jesus was crucified, and in the garden was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid.

<sup>42</sup> Because it was the Jewish Preparation Day and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus in it.

Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

#### Hymn

“Now the Green Blade Riseth”

**UMH 311**

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

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

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

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

CCLI Song # 1476522

John Macleod Campbell Crum | Martin Shaw

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#### Message

**Rev. Patricia Abell**

#### Response to the Word

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**UMH 882**

\*Please stand as able

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son,  
our Lord, who was:  
Conceived by the Holy Spirit;  
born of the Virgin Mary;  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate;  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day, He rose again;  
He ascended to heaven,  
sits at the right hand of God the Father,  
and will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the Communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

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

**Jim Quindlen**

**Response:** Keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

**Praying With Jesus**

**Cocoon of Creation, in whom is heaven,  
may your name be lifted in the chambers of our hearts.  
May the joy of transformation come,  
may your plans for us be unfurled here on earth  
as it is in the flight of heaven's glory.  
For the strength we need, feed us.  
For the forgiveness we desire, and need to give, invite us.  
Save us from the temptation  
of all that would keep us from you,  
and deliver us from those things that seek to harm.  
Unwrap your perfect kinship  
of love, power, and glory forever.  
Amen.**

**\*Doxology**

**"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

**UMH 94**

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\*Please stand as able

## Offering Prayer

### \*Closing Hymn

"Thine Be the Glory"

UMH 308

1. Thine be the glory  
Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory  
Thou o'er death hast won  
Angels in bright raiment  
Rolled the stone away  
Kept the folded grave clothes  
Where Thy body lay

2. Lo Jesus meets thee  
Risen from the tomb  
Lovingly He greets thee  
Scatters fear and gloom  
Let the church with gladness  
Hymns of triumph sing  
For our Lord now liveth  
Death hath lost its sting

#### **Refrain**

#### **Refrain**

Thine be the glory  
Risen conquering Son  
Endless is the victory  
Thou o'er death hast won

3. No more we doubt Thee  
Glorious Prince of life  
Life is naught without Thee  
Aid us in our strife  
Make us more than conquerors  
Through Thy deathless love  
Bring us safe through Jordan  
To Thy home above

#### **Refrain**

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## Benediction

### Postlude

"Christ lag in Todesbanden" Wilbur Held **Offered by Clarice Snyder**

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### **Questions for Reflection**

*According to the gospel, Christ's wounds were not erased by the resurrection. In fact, he invites Thomas and the other disciples to touch his wounds to bring the disciples back to faith. How might we in the church use our wounds to help others come to faith?*

### **Household Prayer: Morning**

*Holy One, you have made known to me the ways of life and have promised to fill me with the gladness of your presence. Keep me mindful of your guidance and your promise as I travel through this day, that my heart may be glad. Amen..*

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

*Thank you, God, for giving me your counsel today. Tonight, as I sleep, may the dreams of my heart also serve to instruct me in your ways. In you I have a good heritage, and my heart, my soul, and my body rest in you. Amen.*

### RESOURCES:

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

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