

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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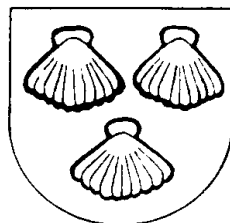
April 23, 2023

9:30 am

“Coming Out: Leaving Comfortable Places”

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 "I Know that my Redeemer Lives", "Draw us to You" settings by Michael Burkhardt
Offered by Clarice Snyder

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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

Antuan Hairston

Leader: Safe in our cozy cocoons we wondered...

***People:* ...does anything really need to change?**

While the world rushed on around us, we wondered...

...what if I'm just not ready for whatever comes next?

When we fold our true selves down in order to fit inside the old container, we wonder...

...am I truly honoring myself by staying in this shape?

When our worldviews are painfully challenged by new information, we wonder...

...could this discomfort indicate an opportunity for growth?

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

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

UMH 140

1. Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness
Great is thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand hath provided
Great is thy faithfulness Lord unto me

2. Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love

Refrain

3. Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Refrain

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Time for Children

Donna Benson

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

Hebrews 11: 1-3 (CEB)

Antuan Hairston

Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don't see. ² The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith.

³ By faith we understand that the universe has been created by a word from God so that the visible came into existence from the invisible.

Anthem

“My Redeemer Lives!” Arr. by Evelyn R. Larter

Chancel Choir

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Message

“Coming Out: Leaving Comfortable Places”

Rev. Patricia Abell

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer for God's People, Church, & World

Antuan Hairston

Response: Let us unite our hearts in prayer, saying, God of resurrection, **hear our prayer.**

*Please stand as able

Praying With Jesus

Liberating God, 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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Offering Prayer

*Closing Hymn

"Blessed Assurance"

UMH 369

1. Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
O what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation purchase of God
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

Refrain

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

2. Perfect submission perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy whispers of love

Refrain

3. Perfect submission all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest
Watching and waiting looking above
Filled with His goodness lost in His love

Refrain

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Benediction

Postlude

"Blessed Assurance" arr. by Harold DeCou

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Questions for Reflection

Butterfly Fact: Caterpillars carry their butterfly DNA in the form of "imaginal cells," tiny dormant building blocks of information that will eventually awaken and form a new creature.

What are some "imaginal cells" in your life?

In other words, what dreams, intuitions, or instincts have you followed into new life and transformation?

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus, your rising from tomb heralds the dawning of life eternal as the dawning of this day holds the possibilities of life anew. Open my eyes to the signs of your resurrection and confirm in my heart the power of your amazing love, that I may with confidence sing "Alleluia." Amen

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, you have upheld me with your love even when I have not been aware of your presence. As I rest from my labors let me sleep without fear of darkness or death and rise refreshed to begin a new day in humble service, through Jesus Christ. 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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