SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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May 7, 2023

9:30 am "Unwrap: Waking Up"

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

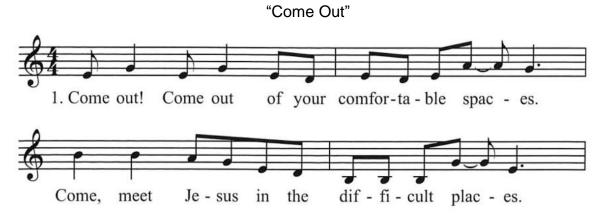
"Partita on "This Joyful Eastertide" arr. by Paul Bouman

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Welcome Rev. Patricia Abell

Introit



Words by Tanya Linn Bennett & Mark A Miller, music by Mark Miller © 2014 Mark A Miller & Tanya Linn Bennett. Used by Permission.

Call to Worship Nancy Janson

Leader: In the silence of the tomb, we wondered...

People: ...what force could be stronger than death? When our dreams died and our safety nets split, we wondered...

...what do I do now?

Stumbling through our days half-asleep, we wonder...

...will I ever awaken from this feeling of numbness?

When we hear resurrection stories, we wonder...

...is there a new beginning for me too?

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

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

UMH 420

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

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

3. Breathe on me breath of GodTill I am wholly ThineTill all this earthly part of meGlows with Thy fire divine

 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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Time for Children Rev. Patricia Abell

Hymn of Preparation

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

"Are Ye Able" (vs. 4)

Lord, we are able!

UMH 530

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 Public Domain

Scripture John 11: 1-44 (CEB) Nancy Janson

A certain man, Lazarus, was ill. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (² This was the Mary who anointed the Lord with fragrant oil and wiped his feet with her hair. Her brother Lazarus was ill.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, saying, "Lord, the one whom you love is ill."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This illness isn't fatal. It's for the glory of God so that God's Son can be glorified through it." ⁵ Jesus loved Martha, her sister, and Lazarus. ⁶ When he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed where he was. After two days, ⁷ he said to his disciples, "Let's return to Judea again."

⁸ The disciples replied, "Rabbi, the Jewish opposition wants to stone you, but you want to go back?"

⁹ Jesus answered, "Aren't there twelve hours in the day? Whoever walks in the day doesn't stumble because they see the light of the world. ¹⁰ But whoever walks in the night does stumble because the light isn't in them."

¹¹ He continued, "Our friend Lazarus is sleeping, but I am going in order to wake him up."

¹² The disciples said, "Lord, if he's sleeping, he will get well." ¹³ They thought Jesus meant that Lazarus was in a deep sleep, but Jesus had spoken about Lazarus' death.

¹⁴ Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died. ¹⁵ For your sakes, I'm glad I wasn't there so that you can believe. Let's go to him."

- ¹⁶ Then Thomas (the one called Didymus) said to the other disciples, "Let us go too so that we may die with Jesus."
- ¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Bethany was a little less than two miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁹ Many Jews had come to comfort Martha and Mary after their brother's death. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary remained in the house. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died. ²² Even now I know that whatever you ask God, God will give you."
- ²³ Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."
- ²⁴ Martha replied, "I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the last day."
- ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die.
- ²⁶ Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
- ²⁷ She replied, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, God's Son, the one who is coming into the world."
- ²⁸ After she said this, she went and spoke privately to her sister Mary, "The teacher is here and he's calling for you." ²⁹ When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to Jesus. ³⁰ He hadn't entered the village but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ When the Jews who were comforting Mary in the house saw her get up quickly and leave, they followed her. They assumed she was going to mourn at the tomb.
- ³² When Mary arrived where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother wouldn't have died."
- ³³ When Jesus saw her crying and the Jews who had come with her crying also, he was deeply disturbed and troubled. ³⁴ He asked, "Where have you laid him?"

They replied, "Lord, come and see."

- ³⁵ Jesus began to cry. ³⁶ The Jews said, "See how much he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "He healed the eyes of the man born blind. Couldn't he have kept Lazarus from dying?"
- ³⁸ Jesus was deeply disturbed again when he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone covered the entrance. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Remove the stone."

Martha, the sister of the dead man, said, "Lord, the smell will be awful! He's been dead four days."

⁴⁰ Jesus replied, "Didn't I tell you that if you believe, you will see God's glory?" ⁴¹ So they removed the stone. Jesus looked up and said, "Father, thank you for hearing me. ⁴² I know you always hear me. I say this for the benefit of the crowd standing here so that they will believe that you sent me." ⁴³ Having said this, Jesus shouted with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his feet bound and his hands tied, and his face covered with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go."

- 1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light
- 2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

3. Great God of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Words: Ancient Irish; trans. By Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versed aby Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt. Music: Trad. Irish melody; harm. By Carlton R. Young, 1963

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Message "Unwrap: Waking Up" Rev. Patricia Abell

Response to the Word

Affirmation from Romans 8:35, 37-39

UMH 887

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?

People: No!

In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us.

We are sure that neither death nor life,

Nor angels, nor principalities,

Nor things present, nor things to come,

Nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

Nor anything else in all creation,

Will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayer for God's People, Church, & World

Nancy Janson

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

Praying With Jesus

Life-giving 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.

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Refrain

Offering Prayer

Holy Communion

*Closing Hymn "Because He Lives" UMH 364

- God sent His Son they called Him Jesus He came to love heal and forgive He bled and died to buy my pardon An empty grave is there to prove My Savior lives
- 2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby And feel the pride and joy he gives But greater still the calm assurance This child can face uncertain days Because Christ lives **Refrain**

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow
Because he lives all fear is gone
Because I know he holds the future

And life is worth the living just because he lives

3. And then one day I'll cross the river I'll fight life's final war with pain And then as death gives way to victory I'll see the lights of glory And I'll know he reigns **Refrain**

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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

Butterfly Fact: A newly emerged butterfly often leaves behind a couple drops of reddish fluid as part of the "waking up" process. This fluid (called meconium) looks a little like blood, but it's just waste material.

Have you ever felt pain in the process of transformation?

Do we sometimes avoid changes because we want to avoid the pain that comes with it?

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus, as I serve you this day, let not my heart be troubled. Help me to believe with conviction that you are with me, and I am in you, and you are in God Amen

Household Prayer: Evening

Faithful God, my rock and my fortress, into your hands I commit my spirit. As darkness falls, let your face shine upon your servant, and keep me in your steadfast love. Amen.

RESOURCES:

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