

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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**Take my yoke upon you and learn of Me
for I am meek and lowly in heart
and ye shall find rest unto your souls**

Matthew 11:29

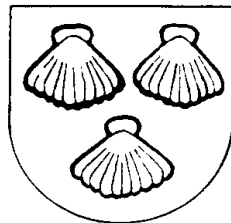
Knowing-Jesus.com



**July 9, 2023
10:00 am
“The Yoke”**

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

410-442-2020

WE GATHER

Prelude "Aria" Paul Manz *Offered by Clarice Snyder*

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Welcome *Rev. Patricia Abell*

Gathering Song "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" *UMH 334*

Verse 1

There's a sweet sweet Spirit in this place
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord
There are sweet expressions on each face
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord

Chorus

Sweet Holy Spirit
Sweet heavenly Dove
Stay right here with us
Filling us with your love
And for these blessings
We lift our hearts in praise
Without a doubt we'll know
That we have been revived
When we shall leave this place

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Call to Worship *Barbara Cook*

L: Christ calls those who are weary and heavy laden
P: In Christ, we find rest.
L: Christ calls us to take his yoke and learn from him.
P: In Christ, we see God's ways.
L: Christ is gentle and humble in heart.
P: In Christ we know God's love.

Opening Prayer *Barbara Cook*

Lord, as we walked through the doors to this place of worship, we brought with us our cares and concerns, our joys and our sorrows. Touch our hearts and heal us, Lord. Make us ready to become your faithful disciples. AMEN.

Prayer of Confession *Barbara Cook*

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful.

**We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.
We love with condition.
We judge and condemn.
We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes.
We do not turn to You as the source of our healing.**

Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Response: Alleluia! Amen

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

Opening Hymn

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

UMH 384

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit;
Let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

3. Come Almighty to deliver
Let us all Thy life receive
Suddenly return and never
Suddenly return and never
Never more Thy temples leave
Thee we would be always blessing
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing
Glory in Thy perfect love

4. Finish then thy new creation
Pure and spotless let us be
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee
Changed from glory into glory
Till in heaven we take our place
Till we cast our crowns before thee
Lost in wonder love and praise

CCLI Song # 40306

Charles Wesley | John Zundel

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Scripture

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 (CEB)

Barbara Cook

³⁴ The man said, “I am Abraham’s servant. ³⁵ The LORD has richly blessed my master, has made him a great man, and has given him flocks, cattle, silver, gold, men servants, women servants, camels, and donkeys.

³⁶ My master’s wife Sarah gave birth to a son for my master in her old age, and he’s given him everything he owns. ³⁷ My master made me give him my word: ‘Don’t choose a wife for my son from the Canaanite women, in whose land I’m living. ³⁸ No, instead, go to my father’s household and to my relatives and choose a wife for my son.’

⁴² “Today I arrived at the spring, and I said, ‘LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you wish to make the trip I’m taking successful, ⁴³ when I’m standing by the spring and the young woman who comes out to draw water and to whom I say, “Please give me a little drink of water from your jar,” ⁴⁴ and she responds to me, “Drink, and I will draw water for your camels too,” may she be the woman the LORD has selected for my master’s son.’

⁴⁵ Before I finished saying this to myself, Rebekah came out with her water jar on her shoulder and went down to the spring to draw water. And I said to her, ‘Please give me something to drink.’ ⁴⁶ She immediately lowered her water jar and said, ‘Drink, and I will give your camels something to drink too.’ So I drank and she also gave water to the camels. ⁴⁷ Then I asked her, ‘Whose daughter are you?’ And she said, ‘The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor’s son whom Milcah bore him.’ I put a ring in her nose and bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ I bowed and worshipped the LORD and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who led me in the right

direction to choose the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son. ⁴⁹ Now if you're loyal and faithful to my master, tell me. If not, tell me so I will know where I stand either way."

⁵⁸ They called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?"

She said, "I will go."

⁵⁹ So they sent off their sister Rebekah, her nurse, Abraham's servant, and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah, saying to her,

"May you, our sister, become
thousands of ten thousand;
may your children possess
their enemies' cities."

⁶¹ Rebekah and her young women got up, mounted the camels, and followed the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

⁶² Now Isaac had come from the region of ^[a] Beer-lahai-roi and had settled in the arid southern plain. ⁶³ One evening, Isaac went out to inspect the pasture, ^[b] and while staring he saw camels approaching. ⁶⁴ Rebekah stared at Isaac. She got down from the camel ⁶⁵ and said to the servant, "Who is this man walking through the pasture to meet us?"

The servant said, "He's my master." So she took her headscarf and covered herself. ⁶⁶ The servant told Isaac everything that had happened. ⁶⁷ Isaac brought Rebekah into his mother Sarah's tent. He received Rebekah as his wife and loved her. So Isaac found comfort after his mother's death.

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 (CEB)

¹⁶ "To what will I compare this generation? It is like a child sitting in the marketplaces calling out to others, ¹⁷ 'We played the flute for you and you didn't dance. We sang a funeral song and you didn't mourn.' ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ Yet the Human One ^[a] came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved to be right by her works."

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you've hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have shown them to babies. ²⁶ Indeed, Father, this brings you happiness.

²⁷ "My Father has handed all things over to me. No one knows the Son except the Father. And nobody knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wants to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Put on my yoke, and learn from me. I'm gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves. ³⁰ My yoke is easy to bear, and my burden is light."

Anthem "O Glorious Love" **Antuan Hairston and Reena Deberry**

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Message

“The Yoke”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Prayer for God’s People, Church, & World

Barbara Cook

Lord’s Prayer

***Doxology**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost Amen

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Offering Prayer

***Closing Hymn**

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

UMH 526

1. What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer
O what peace we often forfeit
O what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

2. Have we trials and temptations
Is there trouble anywhere
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer

3. Are we weak and heavy laden
Cumbered with a load of care
Precious Savior still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Do thy friends despise forsake thee
Take it to the Lord in prayer
In His arms He'll take and shield thee
Thou wilt find a solace there

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Benediction

Postlude

“Hold On (Keep your Hand on the Plow)” arr. by Calvin Taylor

Offered by Clarice Snyder

*Please stand as able

Questions for Reflection

What burdens are you carrying?
Where might God be offering you a more well-fitted yoke?
Where are your expectations of God and the church unmet?
Where do you sense God moving in hidden ways?

Household Prayer: MORNING

Loving God, open my eyes to the gift of this day; help me to trust you with all that it will hold. In the hours to come, as my plans are interrupted, tune my ear to the sound of your voice, my eye to the movement of your Spirit, my heart to the strength of your desire, that I might glimpse your hidden graces and be strengthened in your service, for I would be your instrument. Amen.

Household Prayer: EVENING

Merciful God, I come weary, grateful for the chance to meet you in the silence, eager to be washed again in your claim. Lift from me the burdens I do not easily yield. In your gracious provision, fit me with a better yoke that I might rest as a child secure and rise with a teachable spirit. Amen.

RESOURCES:

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