

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

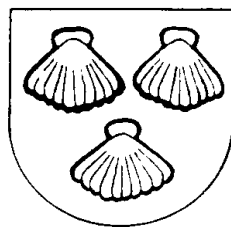
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August 13, 2023
10:00 am
“What Are You Seeking?”

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

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus”

Clarice Snyder

Lee Dengler

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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

CCLI Song # 18204

Doris Akers

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Call to Worship

Jim Quindlen

Beloved disciples, welcome. As we gather, what are you seeking?

We seek God's presence all around us.

Beloved disciples, if God's presence is all around us, what are you seeking?

We seek to recognize God's presence among us.

Beloved disciples, if God is among you, what are you seeking?

We seek God in the faces of family, friends, and neighbors.

Beloved disciples, if God is in the face of your neighbor, what are you seeking?

We seek God in the search and the work for peace and wholeness for all God's creation.

As we gather today,

may we meet God in our seeking and in our finding. Amen.

Prayer for the Day

Jim Quindlen

Lord, if it's you, we need to hear from you...

When we are alone; When we go away to pray; When we have little faith; When we are battered by the waves; When the wind is against us; When we get in the boat; When we're terrified by our ghosts; When we seek you on the mountain; When we cry out in fear; When we start walking on water; When we begin to sink; When we are far from land.

Lord, if it's you, speak to us...

Calm our fears; calm our storms; Strengthen our resolve; Remind us who you are;
Walk to us; Call to us; Save us; Reach out your hand and catch us; Quiet the wind around us.

Lord, if it's you, we worship you for “Truly you are the Son of God.” Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Jim Quindlen

Gracious Creator, we seek your blessing, knowing that we have not earned it.
In our faults, we seek your blessing. In our sins, we seek your forgiveness.
In our weakness, we seek your strength. In our sorrow, we seek your consolation.
In our trials, we seek your justice. In our pain, we seek your peace.
Hear our prayers, O God, and make our hearts new. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Rom 10, Matt 14)

Jim Quindlen

Response: Thanks Be to God!

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

Let us STAND in body or spirit and Welcome one another in friendship and peace. AND pass a “wave” of peace to the people worshipping at home!

***Hymn**

“Stand by Me”

UMH 512

1. When the storms of life are raging
Stand by me (stand by me)
When the storms if life are raging
Stand by me (stand by me)
When the world is tossing me
Like a ship upon the sea
Thou who rulest wind and fire
Stand by me (stand by me)

2. In the midst of tribulations
Stand by me (stand by me)
In the midst of tribulation
Stand by me (stand by me)
When the host of hell assail
And my strength begins to fail
Thou who never lost a battle
Stand by me (stand by me)

3. In the midst of faults and failures
Stand by me (stand by me)
In the midst of faults and failures
Stand by me (stand by me)
When I’ve done the best I can
And my friends misunderstand
Thou who knowest all about me
Stand by me (stand by me)

4. In the midst of persecution
Stand by me (stand by me)
In the midst of persecution
Stand by me (stand by me)
When my foes in war array
Undertake to stop my way
Thou who saved Paul and Silas
Stand by me (stand by me)

5. When I’m growing old and feeble
Stand by me (stand by me)
When I’m growing old and feeble
Stand by me (stand by me)
When my life becomes a burden
And I’m nearing chilly Jordan
O thou Lily of the Valley
Stand by me (stand by me)

Words: Charles Albert Tindley, ca 1906 (Mt. 8:23-27; Mk. 4-35041; Lk. 8:22-25)
Music: Charles Albert Tindley,ca 1906; arr. by William Farley Smith, 1989
Arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

37 Jacob lived in the land of Canaan where his father was an immigrant. ² This is the account of Jacob's descendants. Joseph was 17 years old and tended the flock with his brothers. While he was helping the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, Joseph told their father unflattering things about them. ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons because he was born when Jacob was old. Jacob had made for him a long^[a] robe. ⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of his brothers, they hated him and couldn't even talk nicely to him.

¹² Joseph's brothers went to tend their father's flocks near Shechem. ¹³ Israel said to Joseph, "Aren't your brothers tending the sheep near Shechem? Come, I'll send you to them." And he said, "I'm ready."

¹⁴ Jacob said to him, "Go! Find out how your brothers are and how the flock is, and report back to me." So Jacob sent him from the Hebron Valley. When he approached Shechem, ¹⁵ a man found him wandering in the field and asked him, "What are you looking for?"

¹⁶ Joseph said, "I'm looking for my brothers. Tell me, where are they tending the sheep?"

¹⁷ The man said, "They left here. I heard them saying, 'Let's go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan.

¹⁸ They saw Joseph in the distance before he got close to them, and they plotted to kill him. ¹⁹ The brothers said to each other, "Here comes the big dreamer. ²⁰ Come on now, let's kill him and throw him into one of the cisterns, and we'll say a wild animal devoured him. Then we will see what becomes of his dreams!"

²¹ When Reuben heard what they said, he saved him from them, telling them, "Let's not take his life." ²² Reuben said to them, "Don't spill his blood! Throw him into this desert cistern, but don't lay a hand on him." He intended to save Joseph from them and take him back to his father.

²³ When Joseph reached his brothers, they stripped off Joseph's long robe, ²⁴ took him, and threw him into the cistern, an empty cistern with no water in it. ²⁵ When they sat down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with camels carrying sweet resin, medicinal resin, and fragrant resin on their way down to Egypt. ²⁶ Judah said to his brothers, "What do we gain if we kill our brother and hide his blood? ²⁷ Come on, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites. Let's not harm him because he's our brother; he's family." His brothers agreed. ²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they pulled Joseph up out of the cistern. They sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver, and they brought Joseph to Egypt.

Matthew 14:22-33 (CEB)

²² Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. ²⁴ Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. ²⁵ Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, "It's a ghost!" They were so frightened they screamed.

²⁷ Just then Jesus spoke to them, "Be encouraged! It's me. Don't be afraid."

²⁸ Peter replied, "Lord, if it's you, order me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ And Jesus said, "Come."

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, "Lord, rescue me!"

³¹ Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, "You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

³³ Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, "You must be God's Son!"

Special Music

"King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Pastor Patricia Abell and Reena Deberry

Message

“What Are You Seeking”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Prayer of the People, Church & World

Jim Quindlen

Response: O Lord, attend to our cry, **give ear to our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Jim Quindlen

The Offertory

***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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Louis Bourgeois | Thomas Ken
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Offering Prayer

***Closing Hymn**

“Here I Am, Lord”

UMH 593

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord.
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

WORDS: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Is. 6:8), MUSIC: Dan Schutte, 1981; adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988
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Benediction

Postlude

“Hyfrydol”

Clarice Snyder

*Please stand as able

Questions for Reflection

“Why did Jesus send the disciples ahead while he stayed to pray alone?

How do times of turmoil and anxiety affect your trust in God? After Jesus caught Peter in the water, was Jesus’ question, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” a reproach? When we are facing a great difficulty, do we doubt God’s power? Do we doubt ourselves? Can you recall other biblical stories, or a story from your own life, when God reached out to rescue or to overcome doubt and fear with the gift of increased faith?

Household Prayer: MORNING

God of my destiny, thank you for a new day in which your purpose will unfold. Send me now as your servant to succor the suffering and as your disciple to declare the good news of your Son. Help me to remember during times of testing that your word goes ahead of me and upholds me. Amen

Household Prayer: EVENING

Son of God, this day has been crowded with work and service. This evening, bring me alone with you to the mountain to pray. Help me to know your reassuring presence with me through the night hours. May I come to you and rest in you. Amen

RESOURCES:

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