

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

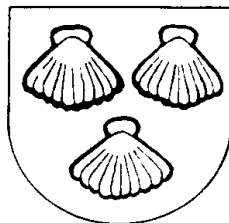
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April 7, 2024
9:30 am
“Freed”

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 stjamessec@verizon.net

🔑 Gathering At the Gate 🔑

Prelude "I know that my Redeemer Lives" G. F. Handel *Offered by Clarice Snyder*
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Welcome *Rev. Patricia Abell*

Gathering Song "This Is the Day of New Beginnings" (vs. 1 & 2) *UMH 383*

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. This is a day of new beginnings Time to remember and move on Time to believe what love is bringing Laying to rest the pain that's gone | 2. For by the life and death of Jesus God's mighty Spirit now as then Can make for us a world of difference As faith and hope are born again |
|--|---|

CCLI Song # 231043
Brian Arthur Wren | Carlton Raymond Young
Words: 1983, 1987 Hope Publishing Company; Music: 1987 Hope Publishing Company
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The Collective Story of Resurrection *Barbara Cook*

Dramatic Reading – based on Luke 24:13-32

Leader: Jesus vanished from the room as quickly as he had appeared on the road
but they were left with the awe and wonder of having their hearts transformed...

***All:* We open to the possibility that nothing is closed,
that our hearts can be opened anytime, anywhere,
and resurrection from death-dealing forces is possible.**

Leader: This is a Word of Hope for the people who long for it.

***All:* Thanks be to the Living Word.**

***Opening Hymn** "Abide With Me" *UMH 700*

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. Abide with me fast falls the eventide The darkness deepens Lord with me abide When other helpers fail and comforts flee Help of the helpless O abide with me | 2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day Earth's joys grow dim its glories pass away Change and decay in all around I see O Thou who changest not abide with me |
| 3. I need Thy presence every passing hour What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power Who like Thyself my Guide and Stay can be Through cloud and sunshine Lord abide with me | 4. I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness Where is death's sting? Where grave thy victory? I triumph still if thou abide with me |

5. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
Heav'n's morning breaks
And earth's vain shadows flee
In life in death O Lord abide with me

CCLI Song # 43190

The Key to Peace

Barbara Cook

In the name of Jesus Christ, you can know freedom.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you can know freedom.

🔑 Proclaiming Freedom 🔑

"Halle, Halle"

TFWS 2026

Halle, halle, halle-luya!
Halle, halle, halle-luya!
Halle, halle, halle-luya!
Halle-luya, halle-luya!

Words: Trad. Caribbean
Music: Trad. Caribbean

Children's Time

New Life Happens

Jelinda Blum

Scripture

Romans 8: 12-25

Barbara Cook

Hymn

"Amazing Grace"

UMH 378

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

3. Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

4. The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease
I shall possess within the veil
A life of joy and peace

6. When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun

Words: John Newton 1779
Music: 19th cent. USA melody; harm. By Edwin O. Excell 1900
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Acts 16: 16-34

Barbara Cook

Message

"Freed"

Rev. Patricia Abell

🔑 Responding to Freedom 🔑

Holy Communion

Prayer for God’s People, Church, & World

Offering

***Doxology**

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God All creatures here below
Alleluia alleluia
Praise God the source of all our gifts
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts
Praise the Spirit Holy Spirit
Alleluia alleluia alleluia

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Offering Prayer

🔑 Unlocking Freedom 🔑

***Closing Hymn**

“God of Freedom, God of Justice” (sung to the tune of UMH 577, CWM Rhondda)

1. God of freedom God of justice
You whose love is strong as death
You who saw the dark of prison
You who knew the price of faith
Touch our world of sad oppression
With Your Spirit's healing breath
With Your Spirit's healing breath

2. Rid the earth of torture's terror
You whose hands were nailed to wood
Hear the cries of pain and protest
You who shed the tears and blood
Move in us the power of pity
Restless for the common good
Restless for the common good

3. Make in us a captive conscience
Quick to hear to act to plead
Make us truly sisters brothers
Of whatever race or creed
Teach us to be fully human
Open to each other's needs
Open to each other's needs

Benediction

Rev. Patricia Abell

“I Love to Tell the Story”

**The Savior of our stories has brought his peace to you;
now go and tell the story, for others need it too.**

To ev'ry one who's hurting ring out the gospel call;
proclaim that Christ is risen and grants his peace to all.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Postlude

"Rejoicing" G. F. Handel

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Questions for Reflection

When Jesus appeared to the disciples, "he opened their minds to understand the scriptures" (Luke 24:45).
What is it to "understand" God's word? How does understanding feed your faith?
In the coming week, take note of one new understanding that comes to you from something you hear or read
or realize through another person.

Household Prayer: Morning

God of surprising revelations, I thank you for rest and renewal.
I thank you that when you come to your people, you speak peace and invite faith in you.
Make this new day a time when I will give more thanks for life than I did yesterday.
Give me ears to hear your will for me, hands that are open to others,
and eyes to see the beauty in your world; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

For all that has happened this day, O God, I give you thanks.
Even for the obstacles I faced, I thank you.
Especially when I wobbled in doubt, I thank you because I did not fall.
You came to hold me strong and help me take the next step.
Now give me rest, secure in your never-failing arms.
Let my dreams revolve around what is pleasing and good,
bringing me to a new day with zeal for your gifts; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Resources used:

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Saint James UMC is a Lighthouse Congregation of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.