

# SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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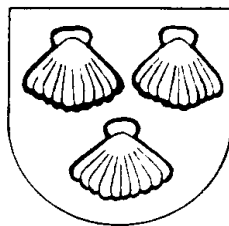


**December 1, 2024**  
**9:30 am**  
**Preparations**

## ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

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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](mailto:stjamessec@verizon.net)

**Prelude** "Savior of the Nations, Come" (UMH 214) J. S. Bach, Dietrich Buxtehude

**Offered by Clarice Snyder**

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**Welcome**

**Rev. Patricia Abell**

**Threshold Song**

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (vs. 1)

**UMH 196**

1. Come Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Let us find our rest in Thee  
Israel's strength and consolation  
Hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of every nation  
Joy of every longing heart

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Charles Wesley | Rowland Hugh Prichard

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**Call to Worship**

**Nancy Everstine**

ONE: Children of God, pay attention! The days are coming when God's peace will reign and all creation will flourish under the reign of our Creator.

**ALL: The days are surely coming!**

ONE: Children of God, prepare your hearts! The days are coming and are already here when God will come near and show us how to recognize God's reign among us.

**ALL: The days are surely coming and are already here!**

Children of God, be alert and listen! God has come near to build the kin-dom on the earth here and now. Will you join in?

**ALL: The days are surely coming and are already here! We come to prepare our hearts to pay attention, to listen, and to follow God's call to build the kin-dom of earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

*Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, June 2024.*

**Gathering Meditation**

The Day Is Surely Coming

**Nancy Everstine**

**Based on Jeremiah 33:14-16**

*Written by Valerie Bridgman in The Africana Worship Book, Year C (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2008), 23.*

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

**Congregation: While fear, anxiety, misinformation, and suspicion surround us on every side, we choose to watch and wait in hope, preparing our hearts to notice and cooperate with God's grace already at work in our midst.**

**Gathering Song**

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (vs. 2)

**UMH 196**

2. Born Thy people to deliver  
Born a child and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever

Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

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## Opening Prayer

*Nancy Everstine*

### God of our Expectation,

**We praise you for surely-coming days when you will execute Shalom: love, peace, health, and well-being for the people who walked in darkness. We await with assurance the surely-coming days when AIDS is cured, when every gun is beaten into tools for rebuilding, when every child has the opportunity to develop God-given gifts, and when every adult sees every child as a gift from God. We desire, O God of our Hope, surely-coming days when no city fears hurricanes, no country fears nuclear bombs, and no tribe fears annihilation by another. We thank you for the surely-coming days when no person fears another because God chose to create all people in the diversity of God's image. We thank you for our hope and for your surely-coming days. Amen.**

Written by Marilyn E. Thornton in *The Africana Worship Book, Year C* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2008), 162.

## \*Opening Hymn

“My Lord, What a Morning”

**UMH 719**

### **Refrain**

My Lord, what a morning  
My Lord, what a morning  
Oh, my Lord what a morning  
When the stars begin to fall.

1. You'll hear the trumpet sound,  
To wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand,  
When the stars begin to fall.

### **Refrain**

2. You'll hear the sinner moan,  
To wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand,  
When the stars begin to fall.

3. You'll hear the Christian shout,  
To wake the nations underground,  
Looking to my God's right hand,  
When the stars begin to fall.

### **Refrain**

### **Refrain**

Words and Music: Afro-American spiritual, adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1987  
Adapt. and arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

## Passing the Peace

*Nancy Everstine*

## Children's Time

*Jelinda Blum*

## Scripture

**Luke 21:25-36 (NRSVue)**

*Nancy Everstine*

## Hymn

“People, Look East”

**UMH 202**

1. People look east the time is near  
Of the crowning of the year

2. Furrows be glad though earth is bare  
One more seed is planted there

\*Please stand as able

Make your house fair as you are able  
Trim the hearth and set the table  
People look east and sing today  
Love the guest is on the way

Give up your strength the seed to nourish  
That in the course the flower may flourish  
People look east and sing today  
Love the Rose is on the way

3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim  
One more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather,  
Bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look east and sing today:  
Love, the star, is on the way.

4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth  
Him who brings new life to earth  
Set every peak and valley humming  
With the word the Lord is coming  
People look east and sing today  
Love the Lord is on the way

Words: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928  
Music: Trad. French carol; harm. By Martin Shaw, 1928  
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## Message

“Preparations”

*Rev. Patricia Abell*

## Prayer for God’s People, Church, & World

*Nancy Everstine*

## \*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

## Holy Communion

*Rev. Patricia Abell*

## \*Closing Hymn

“Until Jesus Comes”

**W & S 3050**

Until Jesus comes, until Jesus comes,  
I’ll be watching and waiting until Jesus comes.  
Until Jesus comes, until Jesus comes,  
I’ll be watching and waiting until Jesus comes.

Words and Music: Dean McIntyre  
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## Benediction

*Rev. Patricia Abell*

## Postlude

“Come thou Long Expected Jesus” arr. by Lee Dengler  
**Offered by Clarice Snyder**

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