

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

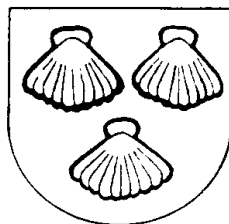
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January 5, 2025
9:30 am

“Arise, Shine...Let Your Light Shine” **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

Prelude "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" Dietrich Buxtehude

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Welcome

Rev. Patricia Abell

Gathering Song

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" (vs. 2)

UMH 240

2. Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn King

Call to Worship

Nancy Janson

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of God's goodness and grace has risen upon you.

ALL: In Jesus, the Christ, God has shown us love, giving light for our darkness and strength for all our days.

One: Arise, shine, for your moment has come, and the glory of God's love and mercy flows through you into the world.

ALL: We come to share the good news that Christ lives among us.

One: Arise, shine, for you are called to be God's people, and to bring good news and great joy to a world that yearns for wholeness and peace.

ALL: Let us worship the God who calls us.

Opening Prayer

Nancy Janson

Bright, shining Maker of visions and dreams, the good news of your love lights up the world with radiant glory. We see you in rain and snow, in sunrise and sunset, in the smiles and hugs and celebrations that greet the new year. Like the Magi who followed a star to welcome the newborn Christ, help us follow the star of your love and bring gifts of wholeness and peace to a world that is broken and in pain. Share with us the boundless riches of your grace, that we might be bearers of your goodness, in the name of Jesus, who is the Christ, now and in the days to come. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

UMH 220

1. Angels from the realms of glory
Wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth

Chorus

Come and worship
Come and worship
Worship Christ the newborn King

2. Shepherds in the field abiding
Watching o'er your flocks by night

3. Sages leave your contemplations
Brighter visions beam afar

God with us is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light

Chorus

Seek the great Desire of nations
Ye have seen his natal star

Chorus

4. Saints before the altar bending
Watching long in hope and fear
Suddenly the Lord descending
In His temple shall appear

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Passing of the Peace

Children's Time

Rev. Patricia Abell

Scripture

**Isaiah 60: 1-6 (NRSVue)
Matthew 2: 1-12 (NRSVue)**

Nancy Janson

Hymn

"The First Noel"

UMH 245

1. The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

2. They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night
Noel, noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

3. And by the light of that same star
Three Wise Men came from country far
To seek for a king was their intent
And to follow the star wherever it went
Noel, Noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay
Noel, Noel, noel, noel,
Born is the King of Israel

5. Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently upon the knee
And offered there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense
Noel, Noel, noel, noel
Born is the King of Israel

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Message

“Arise, Shine...Let Your Light Shine”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Prayer for God’s People, Church, & World

Nancy Janson

Response: God of Wisdom*, Glorious Light, **hear our prayer.**
(*Mercy, *Justice, *Peace, *Harmony)

Ministry Moment - Saint James Leadership 2025

***Doxology**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” to the tune of “What Child Is This?”

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

This, this is Christ the King
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste, haste to bring him laud
The babe the son of Mary

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Offering Prayer

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

“Gather Us In”

TFWS 2236

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

***Closing Hymn**

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

UMH 251

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

1. While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

2. The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed the Savior's birth

3. Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

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Benediction

Rev. Patricia Abell

Postlude

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star” Paul Manz Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Question for Reflection

In Epiphany when the magi make their great journey to see the Christ Child, we see Jesus drawing all creation to the divine life revealed in him, and we see the realization of God's dream of reconciled creation.

In our own way, we are each endowed by the Spirit with unique and precious gifts for sharing God's healing love in a good but often divided world.

What spiritual practices do you engage in that allow you to stay peaceful, courteous, and develop a respectful regard for difference?

How do you stay present and create openness for finding, revealing, and activating God's reconciling love in the world??

Household Prayer: Morning

Glorious God, each day provides opportunity to awaken to the radiance of your presence,
and to welcome your blessing into my life.

How often I forget that I am your home!

Help me to draw more closely to you, that I may manifest your love more deeply in the world.

May every bright place and darkened corner
grow ever more luminous as I bear your light this day. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy Jesus, I thank you for sharing your life with me today.
As darkness comes and blankets the earth, be with all who suffer from sickness, hunger, or lack of shelter.
Kindle in them the warmth of your presence, and surround them with your steadfast care.
I am grateful for the blessings of this day.
And in the light of your love I rest this night. Amen.

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