

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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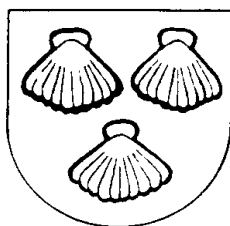


September 7, 2025
9:30 am
Life and Death in Creation
ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj
Director of Music Ministry: Kelli Young

Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark
Organist: Clarice Snyder

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



Saint James United Methodist Church

Marriottsville, MD 410-442-2020

stjamessec@verizon.net

Gathering

Prelude

"Christus Der Ist Mein Leben" (Christ is my life) arr. by Christopher J. Hoh

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Welcome

Rev. Patricia Abell

Gathering Song

"God Is Here Today"

TFWS 2049

God is here today
As certain as the air I breathe
As certain as the morning sun that rises
As certain when I sing
You'll hear my song

CCLI Song # 3170575
Arturo Gonzalez | C. Michael Hawn
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Call to Worship

Nancy Janson

One: Blessed be the One who creates all things.

ALL: The Holy One's love is new every morning.

ONE: This is the day the Creator has made.

ALL: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Creation Prayer of the Day

Nancy Janson

Grant us, O God, the courage to choose Jesus' way even at great cost, bearing our cross and releasing our possessions, for the liberation and healing of your world; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

UMH 159

Chorus

Lift high the cross the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name

1. Come Christians follow this triumphant sign
The hosts of God in unity combine

Chorus

2. Each newborn servant of the Crucified
Bears on the brow the seal of him who died.

3. O Lord once lifted on the glorious tree
As thou hast promised draw the world to thee

Chorus

Chorus

4. So shall our song of triumph ever be
Praise to the Crucified for victory

Chorus

CCLI Song # 5169
George William Kitchin | Michael Robert Newbolt | Sydney Hugo Nicholson
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Children's Message

Jelinda Blum

*Please stand as able

Proclaiming

Scripture

Jeremiah 18: 1-11 (NRSVue)
Luke 14:25-33 (NRSVue)

Nancy Janson

Word in Music

"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.

Refrain

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

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

Message

"Life and Death In Creation"

Rev. Patricia Abell

Responding

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Patricia Abell

*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
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.

UMH 95

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Offering Prayer

Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

ONE: Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

ALL: Holy and merciful God, we confess that we have failed to honor you by rightly claiming our kinship with all your creatures. We have walked heavily on your earth, overused and wasted its resources, taken for granted its beauty and abundance, and treated its inhabitants unjustly, holding future generations hostage to our greed. Have mercy on us and forgive us our sin. Renew in us the resolve to keep and conserve your earth as you desire and intend, with grateful and compassionate hearts, through your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

One: In Christ we are becoming a new creation.

ALL: We see God around us. We see God within us. We give thanks to our Creator.

One: Let us show the love God has instilled within us by greeting each other as a sign of God's justice of peace, love, forgiveness and grace. The peace of our Creator be with you.

ALL: People And also with you.

One: You are invited to share peace with your neighbor, and with those worshipping beyond the walls.

The Great Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Going Forth

***Closing Hymn**

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

UMH 160

1. Rejoice ye pure in heart
Rejoice give thanks and sing
Your festal banner wave on high
The cross of Christ your King
Rejoice rejoice
Rejoice give thanks and sing

2. Your clear hosannas raise
And alleluias loud
Whilst answering echoes upward float
Like wreaths of incense cloud
Rejoice rejoice
Rejoice give thanks and sing

3. Yes on through life's long path
Still chanting as ye go
From youth to age by night and day
In gladness and in woe
Rejoice rejoice
Rejoice give thanks and sing

4. At last the march shall end
The wearied ones shall rest
The pilgrims find their heavenly home
Jerusalem the blest
Rejoice rejoice
Rejoice give thanks and sing

5. Praise God who reigns on high
The Lord whom we adore
The Father Son and Holy Ghost
One God forevermore
Rejoice rejoice rejoice give thanks and sing

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Arthur Henry Messiter | Edward Hayes Plumptre
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Benediction

Rev. Patricia Abell

Postlude

"Exultation" G. Winston Cassler

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Questions for Reflection

Where have you seen relationships redefined by faith?
Who have you come to claim as a family member, against all odds?
Who do you still label “useless”?
What would it take for you to see that person as a sibling, sister or brother?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of all creation, you made the hands that stirred unthinking at the start of this day.
As the hours slip by, help me to be more mindful of the good they might do:

in the greetings they might offer,
in the burdens they might bear,
in the worry they might soothe.

Prompt me to keep them open—
not clinging to what you have entrusted
but freely offering, freely receiving,
in response to this day’s needs.

May each small motion be a sign of trust, a reminder that my life is in your hands. Amen

Household Prayer: Evening

God of every beginning, every ending,
as I remember the faces I saw this day, in moments ordinary and extraordinary—
as I recall reports of hardship far away—
help me to recognize family forgotten by my heart, sisters and brothers entrusted to me.
As I rest this night in your care, mend my courage and fire my imagination,
that I might be truly useful to you.
Plant me where you need me, in the name of the Christ. Amen

RESOURCES:

+ Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2 © 2013
Westminster John Knox Press

+ Season of Creation: A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes. Perennial Edition 2025

+ Season of Creation. Discipleship Ministries, 2019. Retrieved from <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/season-of-creation>

The Abingdon Worship Annual 2025, edited by Mary Scifres and by B. J. Beu

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