SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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**October 26, 2025**

**9:30 am**

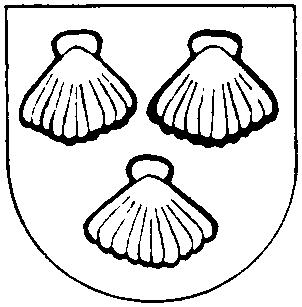
**Extending the Table**

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj | Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark

Director of Music Ministry: Kelli Young | Organist: Clarice Snyder

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell

[](about:blank)

Saint James United Methodist Church

Marriottsville, MD410-442-2020

[stjamessec@verizon.net](mailto:stjamessec@verizon.net)

**Gathering**

**Prelude**  "Praise to the Lord"  arr. by Jan Bender ***Offered by Clarice Snyder***

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**Welcome *Rev. Patricia Abell***

**Gathering Song**  “Gather Us In” (vs. 1 & 4) ***TFWS 2236***

1. Here in this place new light is streaming 4. Not in the dark of buildings confining  
Now is the darkness vanished away Not in some heaven light years away  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings But here in this place the new light is shining  
Brought here to you in the light of this day Now is the kingdom now is the day   
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken Gather us in and hold us forever   
Gather us in, the blind and the lame Gather us in and make is your own  
Call to us now and we shall awaken Gather us in all peoples together  
We shall arise at the sound of our name Fire of love in our flesh and our bones

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**Call to Worship** ***Barbara Cook***

ONE: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad.  
 **ALL: God is our hope and our salvation.**  
The Lord blesses the earth with rain.  
 **God crowns the year with bounty.**  
The Lord makes old men dream dreams.  
 **God makes young girls see visions.**  
Rejoice in the Lord and be glad.  
 **God is our hope and our salvation.**

**Prayer of the Day *Barbara Cook***

**Giver of dreams and visions, pour out your Spirit on our fellowship, for we need your presence in our lives. Show your promise in the heavens and set your signs on the earth and seas. Touch our spirits with the awe of your majesty, that we may humbly dwell within your courts in peace and harmony. Amen.**

**Prayer of Confession *Barbara Cook***

**Merciful God, prepare us for the marathon of life, even as seek the ease of a leisurely stroll. May we never tire of fighting the good fight, nor fall exhausted from running our race. May we never grow weary from keeping the faith. Speak your words of promise once more, O God, for we need to find your quiet center amid the noisy tumult of life. Bless us with dreams and guide us with visions,**

**that we may faithfully endure life’s trials and receive your righteous crown. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance *Barbara Cook***

ONE: Christ offers a crown of righteousness to those who love him and long for his appearance. Rejoice and be glad!   
 **ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**\*Opening Hymn** “In Unity We Lift Our Song” ***TFWS 2221***

1. In unity we lift our song 2. For stories told and told again  
of grateful adoration, to every generation,  
for brothers brave and sisters strong. To give is strength in times of pain,  
What cause for celebration! To give us consolation.  
For those whose faithfulness Our spirits to revive   
has kept us through distress, To keep our dreams alive,  
who've shared with us our plight, When we are far from home  
who've held us in the night, And evil seasons come;  
the blessed congregation. How firm is our foundation.

3. For sacred scriptures handed down, 4. For God our way, our bread, our rest,  
a blessed trust and treasure, Of all these gifts the Giver.  
which give us hope when hope is gone Our strength, our guide, our nurturing breast  
and make us weep with pleasure. Whose hand will yet deliver.  
And when our eyes grow blind Who keeps us till the day   
and death is close behind, When night shall pass away,  
we shall recite them still When hate and fear are gone  
whose words our hearts can fill And all our work is done,  
with hope beyond all measure. And we shall sing forever.

Words: Ken Medema Music: Martin Luther; harm. From The New Hymnal for American Youth

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**Passing of the Peace *Barbara Cook***

**Proclaiming**

**Children’s Message  *Tainya Clarke***

**Scripture Luke 18:9–14 (NRSVue) *Barbara Cook* John 17:21 (NRSVue)**

**Word in Music** “Beneath the Forms of Outward Rite” ***Chancel Choir***

Leo Sowerby arr. by Austin C. Lovelace

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**Message** “Extending the Table” ***Rev. Patricia Abell***

**Responding**

**Prayer for People, Church & World *Barbara Cook***

**Response:** Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**\*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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**Offering Prayer**

**Going Fort****h**

**\*Closing Hymn** “Go Forth for God” ***UMH 670***

1. Go forth for God 2. Go forth for God

Go to the world in peace Go to the world in love

Be of good courage Strengthen the faint

Armed with heavenly grace Give courage to the weak

In God's good Spirit Help the afflicted

Daily to increase Richly from above

Till in the kingdom God’s love supplies

We see face to face The grace and power we seek

Go forth for God Go forth for God

Go to the world in peace Go to the world in love

3. Go forth for God 4. Go forth for God

Go to the world in strength Go to the world in joy

Hold fast the good To serve God’s people

Be urgent for the right Every day and hour

Render to no one evil And serving Christ

Christ at length shall overcome Our every gift employ

All darkness with His light Rejoicing in the Holy Spirit’s power

Go forth for God Go forth for God

Go to the world in strength Go to the world in joy

CCLI Song # 3205512

John Raphael Peacey

Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551, harm. By C. Winfred Douglas, 1940, alt.

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**Benediction *Rev. Patricia Abell***

**Postlude**  "A Mighty Fortress" arr. by Jan Bender ***Offered by Clarice Snyder***

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***Questions for Reflection***

What is prayer? When we hear the prayers of the two men in the temple (Luke 18:9–14), what does Jesus’ appreciation of the tax collector’s prayer tell us about the purpose of prayer?

***Household Prayer: Morning***

Living God, you have made this day bright with the promise of your presence

as you crown each moment with hope.

Let your Holy Spirit pray in us now, that in all our tasks—

at home, at work, at school, and in our community—

we may express the joy you have in us. Be our peace, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***Household Prayer: Evening***

God of endings and beginnings, who calls us to work and to rest,

we thank you for the joys and struggles of this day.

Teach us to come to a fuller knowledge of your will in our lives,

that each moment might be a sign of your love for us.

Take us now into your arms that in your safekeeping,

we may sleep and be renewed.

We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

RESOURCES:

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

Westminster John Knox Press

+Abingdon Worship Annual 2025…

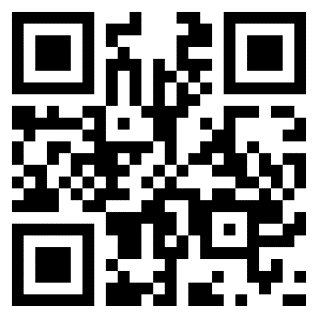
+Worship Design Studio, A Place at the Table. 2024.

+ Choosing Faith. Discipleship Ministries, 2025. Retrieved from

umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/choosing-faith/

+ Image: The Best Supper © Jan Richardson, 2008. Used with permission.

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*Saint James UMC is a Lighthouse Congregation of the Baltimore-Washington*

*Conference of the United Methodist Church.*