

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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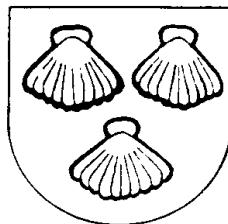
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**January 11, 2026
9:30 am
“Power of Presence”
ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj | Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark
Director of Music Ministry: Kelli Young | Organist: Clarice Snyder
Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



Saint James United Methodist Church
Marriottsville, MD 21104-4420
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Gathering

Prelude

"To Jordan came our Lord, the Christ" Dietrich Buxtehude **Offered by Clarice Snyder**

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Welcome

Rev. Patricia Abell

Threshold Song

"Baptized in Water"

TFWS 2248

1. Baptized in water sealed by the Spirit
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King
Heirs of salvation trusting His promise
Faithfully now God's praise we sing

2. Baptized in water sealed by the Spirit
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King
One with His rising freed and forgiven
Thankfully now God's praises we sing

3. Baptized in water sealed by the Spirit
Marked with the sign of Christ our King
Born of one Father we are His children
Joyfully now God's praise we sing

CCLI Song # 2700434

Michael Saward

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Call to Worship

Beth Shipley

ONE: Welcome to worship this day!

ALL: We have come seeking God's blessing and love.

ONE: They shall be given to you.

ALL: We have come seeking forgiveness and healing.

ONE: These will be offered to you. Open your hearts to receive God's Good News.

ALL: We open our hearts to all of God's words and ways for us. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Beth Shipley

God of strength, God of love, surround us with your love. Gather us in as your beloved children. Open our ears to hear your voice. Open our hearts to the power of your transforming love. May your waters of grace pour over us, renewing us for your work in the world. As Jesus heard you speak to him in his baptism, may we also hear you calling us your beloved, through Jesus Christ, your son, our brother. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

UMH 189

1. Fairest Lord Jesus Ruler of all nature
O Thou of God and man the Son
Thee will I cherish Thee will I honor
Thou my soul's glory joy and crown

2. Fair are the meadows fairer still the woodlands
Robed in the blooming garb of spring
Jesus is fairer Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing

3. Fair is the sunshine fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host
Jesus shines brighter Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast

4. Beautiful Savior Lord of all nations
Son of God and Son of Man
Glory and honor praise adoration
And forevermore be thine

Prayer of Yearning

Beth Shipley

God of Holy Expectation, when we read about those who serve you, like John, like Jesus, we yearn to feel your delight in us as well. Our voices can seem weak, our efforts in vain. Sometimes we feel like dimly burning wicks, just about to go out. Sometimes we are the ones sitting in darkness, even though you call us to help others find their way out of the darkness. Holy One, take us by the hand. Strengthen us in our weakness, that your holy work may be accomplished through us and that we may know your delight in the core of who we are. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Beth Shipley

Passing of the Peace

Beth Shipley

Proclaiming

Children's Message

Donna Benson

Scripture

**Isaiah 42: 1-9 (NRSVue)
Matthew 3: 13-17 (NRSVue)**

Beth Shipley

Hymn

"Spirit Song"

UMH 347

1. Oh let the Son of God enfold you

Chorus

With His Spirit and His love

Jesus oh Jesus

Let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul

Come and fill Your lambs

Oh let Him have those things that hold you

Jesus oh Jesus

And His Spirit like a dove

Come and fill Your lambs

Will descend upon your life and make you whole

2. Oh come and sing this song with gladness
As your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to His name
Oh give Him all your tears and sadness
Give Him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name

CCLI Song # 27824

John Wimber

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Message

"Power of Presence"

Rev. Patricia Abell

Response to the Word

May we follow Jesus into the waters of new life and know that the Spirit of God comes to us, too. Praise be to God, River of Forgiveness and Life, River of Justice flowing through us in hope and power for the world! Amen.

Responding

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Covenant Lord's Prayer

*Doxology

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
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

UMH 94

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Going Forth

*Closing Hymn

Verse 1

There's a sweet sweet Spirit in this place
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord
There are sweet expressions on each face
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord

"Sweet Sweet Spirit"

UMH 334

Chorus

Sweet Holy Spirit
Sweet heavenly Dove
Stay right here with us
Filling us with you love
And for these blessings
We lift our hearts in praise
Without a doubt we'll know
That we have been revived
When we shall leave this place

CCLI Song # 18204
Doris Akers
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Benediction

A surprised John asked Jesus,

Rev. Patricia Abell

"... and do you come to me?"

Jesus came to him with a surprising request.

Jesus comes to each of us, inviting us to bold and hopeful action.

So when God calls, when Jesus arrives,

we will answer the call and step forward.

We will bring hope to those suffering injustice,

and light to those in darkness,

Through the power of the Spirit,

we go to live our lives to the fullest. Amen.

Postlude

"This Little Light of Mine" arr. by Calvin Taylor

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Question for Reflection

In Romans 8:29 Paul wrote that God meant for Jesus to be “the firstborn within a large family.” What does that mean to you? What does your baptism have to do with it??

Household Prayer: Morning

God, you make old things pass away and declare new things to be.(Isa. 42:9)

As I am renewed in my baptism this morning,
help me to confirm my baptismal vows in my life today. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy One, you stretched out the heavens and spread out the earth, Isa. 42:5
and in that context I give you this small day that I have lived.

Now may I sleep, safe and secure in your covenant promise to me
that I am your beloved child, in whom you are well pleased.. Amen.

Resources:

* GLORY REVEALED. EPIPHANY, Year A Worship Series. UMC Discipleship Ministries, 2025.

*Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1 © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press.

*Abingdon Worship Annual 2026 ©2025

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