

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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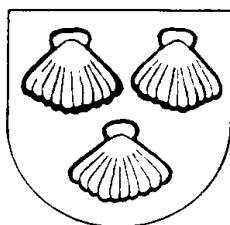
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January 18, 2026
9:30 am
“Give You As a Light”
ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

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 410-442-2020

stjamessec@verizon.net

Gathering

Prelude "We Gather Together" arr. by Calvin Taylor *Offered by Clarice Snyder*
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Welcome *Jan Petrosch*

Introit "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" *Handbell Choir*
Spiritual, arr. Bill Ingram
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Call to Worship *Jan Petrosch*

ONE: Children of God, who has God called you to be?

ALL: A light to all the nations!

When confusion, disunity, and misinformation threaten to undo us, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

When wars and rumors of wars in our communities and around the world overwhelm us, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

When the vulnerable are left without care or hope for flourishing, who are you called to be?

A light to all the nations!

Come! Let us worship God, who gives us as a light of good news to all the nations!

We come to worship God, who calls us and equips us to reflect God's glory and abundant life into all the world. Amen.

Opening Prayer *Jan Petrosch*
Guide our feet, Lord. Show us the light of grace when we would judge others too harshly. Warm our hearts with the glow of your love when we would spew icy words of spite. Illumine our souls with joyful delight when sadness tries to take over the day. Shine brightly on us today, Lord, until we reflect your glory as a witness to this world. Amen.

Written by Kwasi Kena, The Africana Worship Book Year A (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 84.

***Opening Hymn** "Ye Servants of God" *UMH 181*

1. Ye servants of God your master proclaim
And publish abroad his wonderful name
The name all victorious of Jesus extol
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all

2. God ruleth on high almighty to save
And still he is nigh his presence we have
The great congregation his triumph shall sing
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King

3. Salvation to God who sits on the throne
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb

4. Then let us adore and give him his right
All glory and power all wisdom and might
All honor and blessing with angels above
And thanks never ceasing and infinite love

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Charles Wesley | William Croft
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Prayer of Confession

Jan Petrosch

Gracious and loving God, hear our prayer. We know we do not always live as we ought: We turn away from you, from our neighbor, and from our true selves. We know we dim your light within us, with our pride, our self-righteousness, and our need for control. We know that you love us, that you do not abandon us, and that again and again you call us back to you, back to love, back to grace, back to your light. Forgive us, we pray, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Jan Petrosch

ONE: Let us proclaim the good news:

ALL: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Jan Petrosch

Proclaiming

Children's Message

Edie Candee

Scripture

Isaiah 49: 1-7 (NRSVue)

Jan Petrosch

Anthem

"Here I Am, Lord"

Handbell Choir and Vocalists

Dan Schutte

Setting by Arnold B. Sherman

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Message

"Give You As a Light"

Rev. Patricia Abell

Responding

Prayers of Intercession

Jan Petrosch

Lord's Prayer

Offertory

"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"

Handbell Choir

Douglas E. Wagner, based on the hymn tune 'ST. Brendan's', by Peter Scholtes

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***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

CCLI Song # 3063266

Gilbert H. Vieira | Ralph Vaughan Williams | Thomas Ken

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Going Forth

*Closing Hymn

"I Love to Tell the Story"

UMH 156

1. I love to tell the story
Of unseen things above
Of Jesus and His glory
Of Jesus and His love
I love to tell the story
Because I know 'tis true
It satisfies my longings
As nothing else can do

Refrain

I love to tell the story
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story
Of Jesus and his love

2. I love to tell the story
More wonderful it seems
Than all the golden fancies
Of all our golden dreams
I love to tell the story
It did so much for me
And that is just the reason
I tell it now to thee

Refrain

3. I love to tell the story
'Tis pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it
More wonderfully sweet
I love to tell the story
For some have never heard
The message of salvation
From God's own holy Word

Refrain

4. I love to tell the story
For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting
To hear it like the rest
And when in scenes of glory
I sing the new new song
'Twill be the old old story
That I have loved so long

Refrain

CCLI Song # 29413

Arabella Katherine Hankey | William Gustavus Fischer

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Benediction

Rev. Patricia Abell

Postlude

"I Love to tell the Story" (reprise)

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Arabella Katherine Hankey | William Gustavus Fischer

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Question for Reflection

The Holy Spirit enlivens each of us with unique gifts that nurture faith and serve the common good.

To identify those gifts we can ask ourselves such questions as,

When do I feel most alive? What do I love to do?

What things, tasks, or actions fill me with a sense of purpose?

What am I doing when time seems to stand still?

These questions help us discern the Spirit's movement in our lives.

Created in the image of God, each of us is uniquely gifted to reveal divine likeness.

When our deep joy is united with meaning and purpose, vocation is birthed.

How or where is God calling you??

Household Prayer: Morning

You inclined your ear and heard my cry,

and lifted me when I was low.

Strengthen me for service

as I carry your light in the world. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Jesus, fill me with your peace,

that I may be strengthened to the end and find my rest in you. 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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Saint James UMC is a Lighthouse Congregation of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.