

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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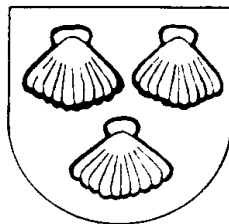
February 8, 2026

9:30 am

“Call to Action”

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, MD410-442-2020

stjamessec@verizon.net

Gathering

Prelude "The Kingsfold Trumpet" Alfred V. Fedak *Offered by Clarice Snyder*
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Welcome *Rev. Patricia Abell*

Gathering Song "Blessed Be the Name" *UMH 63*

Blessed be the name!
Blessed be the name!
Blessed be the name of the Lord!
Blessed be the name!
Blessed be the name!
Blessed be the name of the Lord!

USA campmeeting chorus
Arr. by Ralph E. Hudson, 1887

Call to Worship *Mary Anne Espenshade*

ONE: People of God, why are you here?

ALL: We gather to worship with our hearts and our lives.

People of God, who do you worship?

We worship God, who loves us and teaches us to love.

People of God, how do you worship?

We worship God by breaking the bonds of injustice and freeing the oppressed.

People of God, come, let us worship God, whose glory surrounds us!

May our worship demonstrate God's glory in our neighborhood, community, and the whole earth.

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, July 2025.

Opening Prayer *Mary Anne Espenshade*

God of compassion and justice, the worship you choose for us is to loose the bonds of injustice, to let the oppressed go free, to share bread with the hungry, to shelter the homeless poor. Then your light shall break forth like the dawn and your healing shall spring up quickly. So, in praise and wonder, we come to worship you not just with our words but with our hearts and our lives. Glory and honour be to you, O God, Creator of a new heaven and a new earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Written by Rev. Iona MacLean, First Presbyterian Church, Pictou, Nova Scotia, in **Change is Happening**,
<https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/>.

***Opening Hymn** "When Morning Gilds the Skies" *UMH 185*

1. When morning gilds the skies
My heart awaking cries
May Jesus Christ be praised
Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair
May Jesus Christ be praised

2. The night becomes as day
When from the heart we say
May Jesus Christ be praised
The powers of darkness fear
When this sweet chant they hear
May Jesus Christ be praised

3. Let all the earth around
Ring joyous with the sound
May Jesus Christ be praised
In heaven's eternal bliss
The loveliest strain is this
May Jesus Christ be praised

4. Be this while life is mine
my canticle divine
May Jesus Christ be praised
Be this the eternal song
Through all the ages long
May Jesus Christ be praised

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Edward Caswall | Joseph Barnby
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Prayer of Confession

Mary Anne Espenshade

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace. Forgive us, God. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your Spirit, so that, as forgiven and renewed people, we may reflect the love and life of Jesus Christ into our world.

Words of Assurance

Mary Anne Espenshade

Passing of the Peace

Mary Anne Espenshade

Proclaiming

Children's Message

Anaya Alexander

Scripture

Isaiah 58: 1-12 (NRSVue)

Mary Anne Espenshade

Word in Music

"Lead Me, Lord"

Chancel Choir

Samuel S. Wesley
Public Domain

Message

"Call to Action"

Rev. Patricia Abell

Responding

Prayer of Intercession

Mary Anne Espenshade

Lord's Prayer

***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

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Going Forth

*Closing Hymn

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

TFWS 2153

1. I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

2. I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

3. I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

4. I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

African-American Spiritual
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Benediction

Rev. Patricia Abell

Postlude

"Hold On (Keep your Hand on the Plow)" arr. by Calvin Taylor **Offered by Clarice Snyder**

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Questions for Reflection

Sometimes we are afraid to tell others about our experiences of the holy and about God's call in our lives, because we don't want to annoy or oppress others. There is a difference between witnessing through indoctrination and witnessing through acts of compassion.

How do you witness to others about your faith?

What does it mean to have the mind of Christ, and how do I live with the mind of Christ in my daily activities?

If I let my light shine, what will others see in me?

Will others see Jesus? Will they give glory to God?

Household Prayer: Morning

God, open my eyes to see the world through your compassion.

Open my mind to understand the world through your wisdom.

Open my heart to receive the world through your love. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord, if I have lived this day in the knowledge that perishes, correct my thoughts, rectify my judgments, and mend my foolish ways.

Give me the mind of Christ that I may see the world rightly and discern the blessings you bestow. 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.

*Please stand as able

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