

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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March 8, 2026

9:30 am

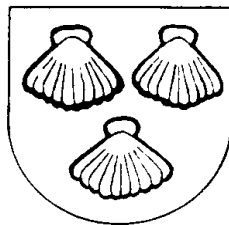
“The Way Around”

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj
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Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark
Organist: Clarice Snyder

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



Saint James United Methodist Church

Marriottsville, MD410-442-2020

stjamessec@verizon.net

Gathering

Prelude "Come, Thou Font of Ev'ry Blessing" Arr. Phillip Keveren **Offered by Rosemary L. Sutter**

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Welcome

Rev. Patricia Abell

Song of Preparation

"A Wilderness Wandering People"

We are a wilderness wandering people on a journey of the soul.
May we find our destination in our longing to be whole.
Our Holy God is calling to us.
With Jesus by our side may compassion be our compass;
may the Spirit be our guide, on The Way, on The Way, on The Way.

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Prayer for the Path

Jan Petrosch

**God of the Bending Road, be with us on The Way.
We find ourselves changed by the things we encounter and the people we meet.
We want to grow and yet sometimes the growing pains can be disorienting for everyone.
Help us as we navigate the twists and turns, and help us see that others are doing the same.
Amen.**

***Opening Hymn**

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

UMH 452

1. My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away,
O let me from this day be wholly thine!

2. May thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire!
As thou has died for me,
O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!

3. While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

4. When ends life's transient dream,
when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll;
blest Savior, then in love,
fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!

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Passing the Peace

Jan Petrosch

Proclaiming

Children's Message

Tainya Clarke

Scripture

**Psalm 32: 1-11 (NRSVUE)
Luke 13: 31-34 (NRSVUE)**

Jan Petrosch

Word in Music

“Lead Me, Guide Me”

Chancel Choir

Words and Music: Doris Akers, 1953, renewed, admin. by Unichappell Music, Inc.

Message

“The Way Around”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Responding

Song of Contemplation

[sung]

Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Be the air I breathe
Meet me in the stillness, Lord
Free me to receive

Jan Petrosch

**Prayer and Contemplation
Lord’s Prayer**

***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

UMH 95

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Going Forth

***Closing Hymn**

“I Need Thee Every Hour”

UMH 397

1. I need Thee every hour
Most gracious Lord
No tender voice like Thine
Can peace afford

Refrain
I need Thee O I need thee
Every hour I need thee
O bless me now my Savior
I come to thee

2. I need Thee every hour
Stay Thou near by
Temptations lose their power
When Thou art nigh

3. I need Thee every hour
In joy or pain
Come quickly and abide
Or life is vain

Refrain

Refrain

4. I need Thee every hour
Teach me thy will
And thy rich promises
In me fulfill

5. I need Thee every hour
Most Holy One
O make me thine indeed
Thou blessed Son

Refrain

Refrain

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*Please stand as able

Response: "We will follow on The Way."

Postlude

"What A Friend We Have In Jesus" Arr. Phillip Keveren

Offered by Rosemary L. Sutter

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A Daily Lenten Habit

Let us begin and end each day in prayer. Let us linger with Scripture not to master it, but to be shaped by it. Let us practice silence and meditation, allowing the Spirit to search, convict, and console us.

Guided Lenten Prayer for the Fast

Holy God, As we fast, empty us any selfishness or that which does not seek justice for our neighbors.

As we pray, fill us with your Spirit.

As we give, loosen our grip on fear and scarcity.

As we serve, teach us compassion without condition.

As we walk mindfully, make us aware of your presence in every step.

By Easter, raise us into new life; more faithful, more loving, more joyful in Christ. Amen.

Morning Prayer (5-10 minutes)

Invocation: Lord, Jesus Christ, I offer you this day. As I fast, shape my yearnings, guide my steps, and make me an instrument of your love. As I grow in my discipleship, increase my desire to serve others in your Name.

Scripture Reading: Follow the [Daily Lectionary Readings](#) for the Lenten Season

Monday, March 09, 2026: [Psalm 81; Genesis 24:1-27; 2 John 1:1-13;](#)

Tuesday, March 10, 2026: [Psalm 81; Genesis 29:1-14; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4;](#)

Wednesday, March 11, 2026: [Psalm 81; Jeremiah 2:4-13; John 7:14-31, 37-39;](#)

Thursday, March 12, 2026: [Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:10-21; Ephesians 4:25-32;](#)

Friday, March 13, 2026: [Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:22-31; Ephesians 5:1-9;](#)

Saturday, March 14, 2026: [Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 15:32-34; John 1:1-9;](#)

Silence (1-3 minutes) Breathe slowly and repeat: Christ, be my sufficiency.

Midday Practice (2-5 minutes)

Mindfulness Pause:

Stop. Breathe. Notice God's presence.

Ask: Where have I seen Christ today? How may I open my heart more to others?

Evening Examen (10-15 minutes)

Become aware of each breath as you inhale and exhale. Listen for the Spirit's leading.

1. Name moments of grace.
2. Examine where you loved well and where you resisted love.
3. Offer any failure to God's mercy.
4. Seek God's strength and power for tomorrow.

Resources:

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