

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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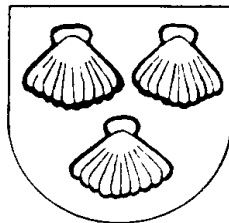
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April 26, 2026
9:30 am
“Knowing That Voice”
ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj | Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark
Director of Music Ministry: Kelli Young | Guest Accompanist: Nelda Clelland
Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



Saint James United Methodist Church

Marriottsville, MD410-442-2020

stjamessec@verizon.net

Gathering

Prelude "Selections from 'Water Music'" *Offered by Nelda Clelland*
G. Handel
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Welcome *Rev. Patricia Abell*

Gathering Song "My Tribute" *UMH 99*

Chorus

To God be the glory, To God be the glory,
To God be the glory, For the things He has done.
With His blood He has saved me,
With His power He has raised me,
To God be the glory, For the things He has done.

Words and Music by Andrae' Crouch
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Call to Worship *Susan Mascaro*

ONE: Easter people, we gather to worship and to listen, to learn the sound, the feel, the cadence of the Shepherd's voice.

ALL: We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to discern, to learn how to recognize our Shepherd's voice amidst the chaos and noise of our lives.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

We gather to worship and to find shelter, to learn to trust our Shepherd's voice to guide us to safety and provide for us in all things.

We come seeking our Shepherd's voice.

Come, let us worship as we listen for the voice of Jesus who guides us, protects us, provides for us, and draws us together in community.

**We come to worship as the family of Christ, a flock seeking and following our Shepherd's voice.
Amen.**

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

Opening Prayer *Susan Mascaro*

Loving Shepherd, you know our names; you care for us. When we face darkness and death, journey beside us. When we hunger for your love, fill us with your presence. When we are fearful, feed us at your table. May we dwell in the house of goodness and mercy all the days of our lives. Amen.

Adapted from Mary Petrina Boyd and posted on Ministry Matters, <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>. Re-posted on the re:Worship blog at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2015/04/opening-prayer-psalm-23.html>.

***Opening Hymn** "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" *UMH 138*

1. The King of love my Shepherd is
Whose goodness faileth never
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever

2. Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul he leadeth
And where the verdant pastures grow
With food celestial feedeth

3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me

4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee dear Lord beside me
Thy rod and staff my comfort still
Thy cross before to guide me

*Please stand as able

5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight
Thy unction grace bestoweth
And O what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth

6. And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never
Good Shepherd may I sing thy praise
Within thy house forever

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Henry Williams Baker
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Prayer of Confession

Susan Mascaro

God of wisdom, we confess the foolishness of our ways, and our failure to follow you in your paths of right relationships – with you and with others. We have gone astray; we feel lost. We have upheld our own interests first, to the detriment of others. We have failed to be generous with the poor and abandoned our efforts to bring about justice. We feel the stains of our sins, God; have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. Wash the sinfulness out of us and help us to live more faithfully as your servants. We seek your unfailing Lordship and ask for your guiding hand on our lives. You are the immortal, invisible One; to you be honor and glory forever; amen.

Words of Assurance

Susan Mascaro

Passing the Peace

Susan Mascaro

The peace of Christ be with you **People: And also with you.**

Proclaiming

Children’s Message

Anaya Alexander

Scripture

Psalter 754 - Psalm 23

UMH 754

Liturgist: The Good Shepherd comes that we may have life and have it abundantly.

Pastor/Organ side: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Liturgist/Piano side: **The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures,**

Pastor/Organ side: leads me beside still waters, restores my life,

Liturgist/Piano side: **leads me in right paths for the sake of the Lord’s name.**

Pastor/Organ side: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

Liturgist/piano side: **for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

Pastor/organ side: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

Liturgist/piano side: **you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

ALL: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live.

Scripture

1 Peter 2: 19-25, John 10: 1-10 (NRSVue)

Susan Mascaro

Word in Music

“My Shepherd Is Lord”

Chancel Choir

Harrison Oxley © 1984 The Royal School of Church Music

Message

“Knowing That Voice”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Prayer of Intercession

Susan Mascaro

Response: Open our eyes to your mercy in the world.

***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

CCLI Song # 3063266 | Gilbert H. Vieira | Ralph Vaughan Williams | Thomas Ken
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Going Forth

***Closing Hymn**

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

UMH 381

1. Savior like a shepherd lead us
Much we need thy tender care
In thy pleasant pastures feed us
For our use thy folds prepare
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
Thou hast bought us thine we are
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
Thou hast bought us thine we are

2. We are thine thou dost befriend us
Be the guardian of our way
Keep thy flock from sin defend us
Seek us when we go astray
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
Hear O hear us when we pray
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
Hear O hear us when we pray

3. Thou hast promised to receive us
Poor and sinful though we be
Thou hast mercy to relieve us
Grace to cleanse and power to free
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
We will early turn to thee
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
We will early turn to thee

4. Early let us seek thy favor
Early let us do thy will
Blessed Lord and only Savior
With thy love our bosoms fill
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
Thou hast loved us love us still
Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus
Thou hast loved us love us still

CCLI Song # 24078
Dorothy Ann Thrupp | William Batchelder Bradbury
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Benediction

Rev. Patricia Abell

Postlude

“Old Hundredth”

Offered by Nelda Clelland

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Question for Reflection

Psalm 23 affirms that God supplies our every need.
How do our lives change when we trust this great promise of God?

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy God, you have called a people to be your family out of every tribe, language, and nation,
to love and serve you daily in a world of beauty, complexity, and diversity.

Help us to honor and respect the dignity of difference
as we seek to be one with you and each other this day and always. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

O Shepherd of all, you have brought us to the close of another day;
for this gift and the blessings we now name, we give you thanks. . . .

All that we have and all that we are come from you;
and so, trusting in the goodness of your divine care, let us lie down this night in peace, that tomorrow we may
rise to greet you in resurrection joy. Amen.

Resources: Stories That Matter @ UMC Discipleship Ministries

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/stories-that-matter>

Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1 © 2012 Westminster John Knox Press

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