

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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May 17, 2026

9:30 am

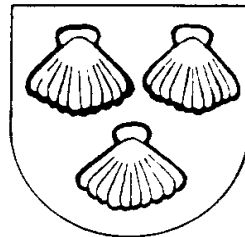
“Trusting the Promise in the Pause”

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj
Director of Music Ministry: Kelli Young

Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark
Guest Accompanist: Charles Higgs

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



Saint James United Methodist Church

Marriottsville, MD 410-442-2020

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Gathering

Prelude

"Aria"

Offered by Charles Higgs

Nicholas Bowden

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Welcome

Nancy Everstine, CLS

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

Leader: Like our father Abraham, we are a people of promise, often waiting in the wilderness for what we cannot yet see.

People: We do not waver in unbelief, but our faith grows stronger as we wait.

Leader: We serve the God who gives life to the dead and calls things into existence.

People: Though the promise seems long in coming, we trust in the God who is faithful.

Leader: Let us worship the One who justifies us by grace, not by our works.

All: We wait upon the Lord, we will be of good courage, and He shall strengthen our hearts!

Opening Prayer

Susan Mascaro

Heavenly Father, we come before You today not boasting in our own works but trusting completely in Your grace, just as Abraham did. Thank You for righteousness not being earned but given to us as a gift when we believe. Remove our striving and self-reliance, and fill us with the same unwavering faith that trusts Your promises even when hope seems impossible. As we worship, may we rejoice in the blessedness of having our sins covered and our lives transformed by Your grace. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"

UMH 312

1. Hail the day that sees Him rise Alleluia
To His throne beyond the skies Alleluia
Christ awhile to mortals given Alleluia
Reascends his native heaven Alleluia

2. There the glorious triumph waits Alleluia
Lift your heads, eternal gates Alleluia
Christ hath conquered death and sin Alleluia
Take the King of glory in Alleluia

3. See the heaven its Lord receives Alleluia
Yet He loves the earth He leaves Alleluia
Though returning to His throne Alleluia
Still He calls the world His own Alleluia

4. See! He lifts his hands above Alleluia
See! He shows the prints of love Alleluia
Hark! His gracious lips bestow Alleluia
Blessings on his church below Alleluia

CCLI Song # 95997

Charles Wesley | David Evans | Robert Williams | Thomas Cotterill

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Music: 1927 Oxford University Press

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Prayer of Confession

Susan Mascaro

Leader: We confess that we often seek righteousness through our own efforts, trying to earn Your favor rather than resting in Your grace.

All: Forgive us, Lord, for trying to do it on our own.

Leader: When the promise tarries, we stagger through unbelief, looking at the deadness of our circumstances rather than the power of Your Word.

All: Strengthen our faith to trust in Your timing.

Leader: Thank you, Jesus, for being delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. We trust not in our own works, but in the righteousness credited to us through faith alone.

All: 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

Tainya Clarke

Scripture

Romans 4: 13-25 (NRSVue)

Susan Mascaro

Word in Music

“Alleluia, Alleluia”

Chancel Choir

Words and Music: Donald Fishel, 1973
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Message

“Trusting the Promise in the Pause”

Nancy Everstine, CLS

Prayer of Intercession

Susan Mascaro

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

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

***Closing Hymn**

“Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven”

UMH 66

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,
to the throne thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore God's praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.

Refrain

2. Praise the Lord for grace and favor
To all people in distress;
Praise God, still the same as ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious now God’s faithfulness.

*Please stand as able

3. Father-like, God tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame God knows;
mother-like, God gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Widely yet God's mercy flows.

4. Angels in the heights, adoring,
You behold God face to face;
Saints triumphant, now adoring,
Gathered in from every race.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.

CCLI Song # 800443
Henry Francis Lyte | John Goss
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Benediction

Nancy Everstine

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune”

Offered by Charles Higgs

Nicholas Bowden
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Question for Reflection

How is your faith strengthened by knowing that we do not look for Jesus in only one place but find the Risen One everywhere, because he has ascended to the throne of God?
What chains bind you or the people of your community at this time in your life?
Where each day do you notice the freedom of Christ working to break the chains apart?

Household Prayer: Morning

Good and gracious God, we rise with the morning light to give you thanks for rest and dreams, for warmth and safety, for the delight we have again today in a life filled with your goodness. Keep us in your care this day that we may walk in your path, glad for our friends, praying for our enemies, and eager to hear your Word; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Merciful God, for all that we have done and failed to do this day we turn to you for respite. Forgive us for having shunned your desires; rejoice with us over moments that have filled us with joy. Bless your people in every land with peace. Protect us now through the night that we may wake again to praise your name. Let the Holy Spirit abide in this house. 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