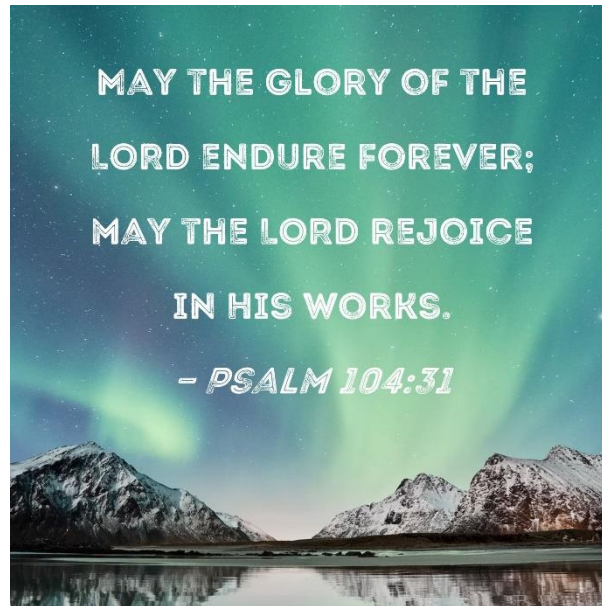


# SJUMC Online Worship Guide

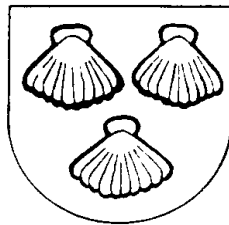
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**August 18, 2024**  
**10:00 am**  
**ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

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Administrative Assistant: Kenna Haj      |      Bell Choir Director: Laural Clark  
Director of Music Ministry: Antuan Hairston      |      Organist: Clarice Snyder  
Pastor: Rev. Patricia Abell



**Saint James United Methodist Church**

Marriottsville, MD

410-442-2020 [stjamessec@verizon.net](mailto:stjamessec@verizon.net)

Invitation and Gathering

Gathering Song

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (vs. 3)

UMH 139

3. Praise to the Lord who doth prosper  
thy work and defend thee  
Surely his goodness and mercy  
here daily attend thee  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
Who with his love doth befriend thee

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Call to Worship

Barbara Cook

One: Creation gathers in hives, herds, flocks, families, schools, swarms, pods, and packs.

**All: Every living thing needs community to survive.**

One: In community, we find protection, fellowship, reproduction, and biodiversity.

**All: God created living creatures to interact with others. Being together is good for us.**

One: Even solitary creatures like tigers, polar bears, or moose live parts of their lives with others.

**All: Introverts and extroverts all belong in community, and community looks different for different creatures.**

One: Online or in person, outside or inside, distanced or close together, the Holy Spirit is among us. Come together, creatures of promise, and find God in community and worship!

**All: Let our hallelujahs sound better in community! Let our hosannas reach upside down and inside out! Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Barbara Cook

Creator God, you created us to be partners with you, each other, and all creation,  
because when we exist together in harmony, our community flourishes.

Like the diversity of life around us,  
our differences benefit the whole group.

We need some late risers and some early birds, some quiet folks and some loud folks,  
some fast and some slow, some silly and some serious.

Our differences in age, race, orientation, gender, and ability  
help us see things and solve problems in new ways.

And like the rainbow, we are more beautiful with differences.

So we join together to praise you in all our diversity, a unified community, who celebrates our Creator  
who made us all.

Amen.

Passing the Peace

Barbara Cook

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom pow'r and love  
Our God is an awesome God  
(sing 2 times)

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Rich Mullins  
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**Scripture**

**Psalm 104: 1,14-15,24-25, 31 (CEB)**

**Barbara Cook**

**Hymn**

“How Great Thou Art”

**UMH 77**

1. O Lord my God  
When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds  
Thy hands have made  
I see the stars  
I hear the rolling thunder  
Thy power throughout  
The universe displayed

**Chorus**

**Chorus**

Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art  
How great Thou art  
Then sings my soul  
My Savior God to Thee  
How great Thou art  
How great Thou art

2. When through the woods  
And forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds  
Sing sweetly in the trees  
When I look down  
From lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook  
And feel the gentle breeze

**Chorus**

3. And when I think  
That God His Son not sparing  
Sent Him to die  
I scarce can take it in  
That on the cross  
My burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died  
To take away my sin

**Chorus**

4. When Christ shall come  
With shout of acclamation  
And take me home  
What joy shall fill my heart  
Then I shall bow  
In humble adoration  
And there proclaim  
My God how great Thou art

**Chorus**

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**Message**

“Community Produces Life”

*Rev. Patricia Abell*

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Rev. Patricia Abell*

One: Children of the Creator, friends of Jesus, and followers of the Way, come, let us affirm our understanding of every living thing’s needs.

**All: Though creation is limited, and bound by space and time, we believe in a limitless, boundless God who knows our unique needs and cares for all.**

One: We believe God calls all dwelling places good, from caves to coral, barns to bayous, apartments to aquifers.

**All: Every living thing needs shelter. Shelter protects life!**

One: We believe God causes the grass to grow for the cattle and plants for people to cherish, to bring forth food from the earth.

**All: Every living thing needs food. Food energizes life!**

One: We believe God designed all life on earth to exist in precisely balanced cycles of precipitation and evaporation, growth and decay, death and resurrection.

**All: Every living thing needs water. Water hydrates life!**

One: We believe God’s breath hovered over the face of deep chaos. God created light, darkness, land, and life as they breathed out the words, “Let there be...”

**All: Every living thing needs air. Air sustains life!**

One: We believe in God’s holy community, the Trinity, three in one. We believe God designed us as cohabitants of this exquisite garden, for cooperation not conquest, for sustainability not selfishness.

**All: Every living thing needs community. Community produces life!**

**All: We believe in the magnificent design of Earth’s evolving resilience. May we honor and follow the example of creation.**

**Prayer of the People, Church & World**

*Barbara Cook*

**Lord’s Prayer**

*Barbara Cook*

**Offering**

**\*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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**Offering Prayer**

\*Please stand as able

## \*Closing Hymn

## “We Sing of Your Glory”

TFWS 2011

1. We sing of your glory  
We praise you again  
For you are eternal  
Amen. Amen.

2. We sing of your power  
And honor again  
For you are eternal  
Amen. Amen

3. We sing of surrender  
To you God again  
Your power is eternal  
Amen. Amen.

4. Glory in the highest  
on earth sing again  
Glory alleluia  
Amen. Amen.

**Text:** Trad. Latin American; English trans by S.T. Kimbrough, Jr. (Deut. 32:11, 18; 33:27; Ps. 57:1; 66:2; 96:1-2)

**Music:** Trad. Latin American; harm. by Carlton R. Young  
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## Benediction

*Rev. Patricia Abell*

### Question for Reflection

“Likewise when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name . . . and prays toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place, and do according to all that the foreigner calls to you” (1 Kgs. 8:41–43).

Are there people of other nationalities, ethnic groups, or faith traditions in your workplace, neighborhood, community, or congregation? What are some ways in which you and your congregation can express the welcome of God to those who are different from you?

### Household Prayer: Morning

I praise you, Lord, and give you thanks for the gift of this new day.  
Fill me with your Holy Spirit. Let your songs fill my heart.  
Give me a wise and discerning mind to walk in your way,  
making the most of the time as I go out among your people. Amen.

### Household Prayer: Evening

Gracious and merciful God,  
I have gone out and come in today seeking to do your will,  
yet there is so much that I do not understand or discern.  
I commit to you my questions, concerns, and anxieties.  
Grant me peaceful sleep  
as I rest in your wisdom and steadfast love. Amen.

### Resources:

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Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 2  
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*Saint James UMC is a Lighthouse Congregation of the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.*