

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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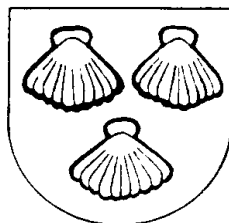
March 16, 2025

9:30 am

Conceal Me

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

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

Gathering

Prelude "Abide with Me" (tune - Welcome Guest) arr. by Raymond H. Haan

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Welcome

Nancy Everstine, CLS

Introit

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

Handbell Choir

arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson
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Lighting the Prayer Candle

Call to Prayer and Praise

"What Wondrous Love Is This?" (vs.2)

UMH 292

2. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the lord of life
to lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
to lay aside his crown for my soul.

Music: USA folk hymn; harm. by Paul J. Christiansen, 1955 (MH harm by Carlton R. Young)
Harm. © 1955, renewed 1983 Augsburg Publishing House

Call to Worship

Barbara Cook

ONE: God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

**ALL: God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble,
and our hope and joy on the days of celebration!**

Day after day, we seek God's face and the assurance of God's holy love:

**O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us!
Be our guide and our light instead!**

One thing we ask of God:

**That we may live in God's dwelling place all the days of our life,
and never cease to behold the beauty of God's home.**

Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving,
for God is among and within us!

Thanks be to God!

***Opening Prayer**

Barbara Cook

**Gracious Light-Bearer,
Into the shadows of our isolation
you speak words of life and community.
Challenger of our lives,
you call us from places we call home
to lead us more deeply into the world you love.**

**With your gentle, healing touch
you redeem the broken places of our lives
and you heal the wounded places of the earth.
Inspire our worship here this day,
so that we may be filled to overflowing
to share your reconciling love throughout the earth.**

***Opening Hymn**

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

UMH 141

1. Children of the heavenly Father
Safely in His bosom gather
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given

2. God His own doth tend and nourish
In His holy courts they flourish
From all evil things He spares them
In His mighty arms He bears them

3. Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever
Unto them His grace He showeth
And their sorrows all He knoweth

4. Though He giveth or He taketh
God His children ne'er forsaketh
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy

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Passing of the Peace

Barbara Cook

Proclaiming

Children's Moment

Jelinda Blum

Scripture

**Psalm 27 (NRSVue)
Luke 13: 31-35 (NRSVue)**

Barbara Cook

Word in Music

“Rock of Ages”

Handbell Choir

TOPLADY (Thomas Hastings, 1830_ Arr. Larry Sue (ASCAP)
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Message

“Conceal Me”

Nancy Everstine, CLS

Response

Prayers of Intercession

Barbara Cook

ALL: We pray that You would continue to be our refuge and our rock, and that we may always trust in Your unfailing love and faithfulness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Barbara Cook

Offertory

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

Handbell Choir

*Please stand as able

***Doxology**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

UMH 95

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

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Offering Prayer

Going Forth

***Closing Hymn**

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

UMH 189

1. Fairest Lord Jesus Ruler of all nature
O Thou of God and man the Son
Thee will I cherish Thee will I honor
Thou my soul's glory joy and crown

2. Fair are the meadows fairer still the woodlands
Robed in the blooming garb of spring
Jesus is fairer Jesus is purer
Who makes the woeful heart to sing

3. Fair is the sunshine fairer still the moonlight
And all the twinkling starry host
Jesus shines brighter Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast

4. Beautiful Savior Lord of all nations
Son of God and Son of Man
Glory and honor praise adoration
And forevermore be thine

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Benediction

Postlude

“Postlude In G minor” Andre Raison

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Questions for Reflection based on Psalm 27

- **Verse 4:**

How can you prioritize seeking God's face above all else during this Lenten season?

- **Verse 14:**

What does it mean to "wait for the Lord" and how can you practice patience during times of waiting?

Question for Reflection

In Luke 13:35 Jesus says, "And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

To what sort of "seeing" does Jesus refer? Is Jesus calling for more than a verbal declaration that he is the Messiah? How might I live so that I become a testimony that Jesus is truly the one who comes in the name of God?

Household Prayer: Morning

Dear God, I do not know all of the challenges that face me this day, but still I pray:
if I should be tempted by desire for earthly gain, remind me of my citizenship in heaven.
If I should be distracted by hunger, satisfy me with your Holy Spirit until I hunger no more.

Let me walk in the way of Christ so that my life testifies in deed and word,
"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord." Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Dear God, great is your mercy to me, even when I have not remembered you.
Where I have strayed from your path, forgive my sins and show me the way to salvation.

Grant me rest this night that I may rise refreshed in my commitment
to the way of my Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen

Resources: *Steadfast Love; Discipleship Ministries, 2025. umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/steadfast-love

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

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