

SJUMC Online Worship Guide

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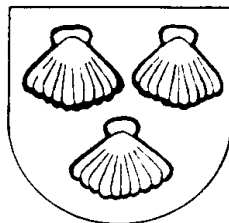
April 20, 2025

9:30 am

A New Cut

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 "The Strife is O'er (Victory)" settings by G. Winston Cassler and Wilbur Held

Offered by Clarice Snyder

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Welcome

Rev. Patricia Abell

Lighting the Prayer Candle

One: The light shines in the darkness.

All: We stand in this light, unshaken, knowing that the darkness has never overcome the light.

One: Let us recommit ourselves to walking in Jesus' ways of justice.

All: Empower us, Jesus, to boldly use the freedom and power given to us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

Call to Prayer and Praise

"An Easter Introit" D.G. Mason
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Chancel Choir

Call to Worship

Jan Petrosch

Beloved, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Our Savior is risen!

Our Savior is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Steadfast Love is risen!

Steadfast Love is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that God has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad! Alleluia!

Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, September 2024.

*Opening Prayer

Jan Petrosch

Alleluia! We praise you, O God, for the power of your saving love revealed in the resurrection of our Lord. As you have raised Jesus from the dead give to us the gift of everlasting life, that we may worship you forever; through Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Jan Petrosch

Christ, we come to the empty tomb, we see our own death, we see our own tomb, we see our own emptiness. And we remember how we have treated other people— members of our family, friends, and neighbors.

Lord, we come to your tomb, we see a hungry world before us, the pain of starving children, the guilt of war on our hands, and we know that collectively we share in those injustices.

Lord, we come to the empty tomb, we search within ourselves, and we cannot escape what we are, people caught up in the pain of our own wrongdoing, for some, a deep sense of loneliness and a frustration of what we would be but are not.

Lord, when we come to the empty tomb, we lay before you our pain, our emptiness and look to you for hope.

People of God, why do you seek the living among the dead in an empty tomb? Are you afraid, are you uncertain, and are you uncomfortable here?

Our wounds are deep, we have turned away from that man, we have broken with him and seek his fellowship.

Do not dwell on your wounds any longer for he has risen to heal you, he has risen to forgive you; he has risen to change us all and bind us together now. Christ has risen to forgive us.

Thanks be to God.

Excerpted from **Service of Holy Communion 2010**, posted on the [River of Life](http://www.riveroflife.org) website.

***Opening Hymn**

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

UMH 302

1. Christ the Lord is risen today Alleluia
Earth and heaven in chorus say Alleluia
Raise your joys and triumphs high Alleluia
Sing ye heavens and earth reply Alleluia

2. Love’s redeeming work is done Alleluia
Fought the fight the battle won Alleluia
Death in vain forbids him rise Alleluia
Christ has opened paradise Alleluia

3. Lives again our glorious King Alleluia
Where O death is now thy sting alleluia
Once he died our souls to save Alleluia
Where thy victory boasting grave alleluia

4. Soar we now where Christ has led Alleluia
Following our exalted Head Alleluia
Made like him like him we rise Alleluia
Ours the cross the grave the skies Alleluia

5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven Alleluia
Praise to thee by both be given Alleluia
Thee we greet triumphant now Alleluia
Hail the Resurrection thou Alleluia

6. King of glory soul of bliss Alleluia
Everlasting life is this Alleluia
Thee to know thy power to prove Alleluia
Thus to sing and thus to love Alleluia

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Charles Wesley
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Passing of the Peace

Jan Petrosch

Proclaiming

Children’s Moment

Edie Candee

Scripture

**Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 Psalter 839
John 20: 1-18 (NRSVue)**

Jan Petrosch

Word in Music

“Graves Into Gardens”

Chancel Choir

CCLI 37138219

Words and Music by Brandon Lake, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick and Tiffany Hammer

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Message

“A New Cut”

Rev. Patricia Abell

Response

Prayers of Intercession

Jan Petrosch

Response: God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord’s Prayer

Jan Petrosch

Meditation

“O Give Thanks” Marc Chopinsky

Chancel Choir

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***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

*Closing Hymn

1. Easter people raise your voices
Sounds of heaven in earth should ring
Christ has brought us Heaven's choices
Heavenly music let it ring
Alleluia alleluia
Easter people let us sing

Going Forth

“Easter People, Raise Your Voices”

UMH 304

2. Fear of death can no more stop us
From our pressing here below
For our Lord empowered us to
Triumph over every foe
Alleluia alleluia
On to victory now we go

3. Every day to us is Easter
With its resurrection song
When in trouble move the faster
To our God who rights the wrong
Alleluia alleluia
See the power of heavenly throngs

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Benediction

Rev. Patricia Abell

For Steadfast Love is risen!

Steadfast Love is risen indeed! Hallelujah! Amen.

Postlude

“Hallelujah Chorus” G. F. Handel

Offered by Clarice Snyder

Adapted for Congregation and Choir
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Questions for Reflection

What difference does it make to believe that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead? How does your faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ change the way you think about sin and death? How does it change the way you live?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of endless life, in the light of this new day
we see the dawning of your new creation.

Give us wonder and delight to enjoy this day that you have made;
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening and the day is almost over.
Help us to know that you are with us—
through the promise of your Word, in the sharing of a meal,
and by the power of your Spirit that burns within our hearts.
Bless and keep us, this night, and always. 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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