

# St. James United Methodist Church

646 Daniel Webster Highway, PO Box 895  
Merrimack, NH 03054



**Blessed are those  
who have not seen and yet  
have come to believe.**

Ministers: Rev. Lynne Mentzer and All the People!  
Director of Music: Darlene Skene  
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00 am – 2:00 pm  
Office Telephone: 424-7459 Parsonage: 424-2758  
Food Pantry: Donna Johnson 440-9597  
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Visit us on the web: stjames-umchurch.org  
Facebook: St. James UMC

Welcome to on-line worship from St. James United Methodist Church!

We are pleased to have you as part of our family of faith today and every Sunday.

Visit [www.stjames-umchurch.org](http://www.stjames-umchurch.org) and click on online worship at the top of the homepage. Turn your sound on and follow along with this bulletin.

The announcements are at the end of the bulletin.

Second Sunday of Easter  
April 11, 2021



**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

PRELUDE	Darlene Skene
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	Robin House
GREETING OF PEACE	
INTROIT	Darlene Skene
OPENING PRAYER	Marge Galvin

*from The Whole People of God Worship Resources*

**It is a joy to come before you, O God, in the light of the empty tomb. It is a joy to know that, even when we have doubts, still you have patience with us, and you gently wait for our faith to grow. Amen**

HYMN	“Surely the Presence of the Lord” No. 328	Darlene Skene
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Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;  
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.  
I can hear the brush of angels’ wings, I see glory on each face;  
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

CHILDREN’S TIME	Robin House
UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION	Marge Galvin

*from UM Discipleship Ministries*

**Resurrected God, send your Living Word through our locked doors and into our guarded hearts that we might be witnesses of your grace and couriers of your goodness. By the power of your Holy Spirit, grant us the trust to believe the Gospel not because we see it but because we have been seen by it and transformed through it. Amen.**

FIRST READING 1 John 1:1-2:2 Marge Galvin

READING FROM THE GOSPEL John 20:19-31 Robin House

Response: The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Robin House

HYMN "Without Seeing You" No. 2206 (vs. 1,3,4) Darlene Skene

**Refrain**

**Without seeing you, we love you; without touching you, we embrace;  
Without knowing you, we follow; without seeing you, we believe.**

We return to you deep within, leave the past to the dust;  
Turn to you with tears and fasting; you are ready to forgive.

**Refrain**

Forever we sing to you of your goodness, O God;  
Proclaiming to all the world of your faithfulness and love.

**Refrain**

For you are our shepherd, there is nothing that we need;  
In green pasture we will find our rest, near the waters of peace.

**Refrain**

### **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*from UM Discipleship Ministries*

**Holy God, we confess our doubts. We wonder whether you are listening to our prayers. Lord, we want to believe, help our unbelief! Give us faith, so that we can be your faithful people, believing in your power to save, believing that we can share this good news with everyone we meet. We ask all this in Jesus' name.**

**Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys and Concerns

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO GENEROUS GIVING AND LIVING

Generosity Team

\*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*from UM Discipleship Ministries*

**Holy God, as we look back over the past year, we realize that many of us can identify with Thomas' doubt. "Can we be the church, the body of Christ, when we can't see the body gathering in our sanctuary?" Yet Christ has opened our eyes to his risen body that can't be confined by walls and is not diminished by precautions and social distance. As we make our gifts and pledges to you, we affirm the Resurrection power that we have seen, and so we say again, "Alleluia!" In the powerful name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

**WE GO FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE**

\* BENEDICTION

Robin House

\* POSTLUDE

Darlene Skene

CLOSING HYMN

Sung Outside

"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love" No. 2223

The flowers which grace our altar this morning are given to the glory of God  
by Brenda DuLong in honor of Jacque Donovan

# Announcements–April 11, 2021



## ZOOM In for Virtual Coffee Hour Wednesday Mornings

At 10:30 AM each Wednesday morning, 16-20 church friends turn on their laptop computers and ZOOM in for our weekly virtual coffee hour. Invitations are e-mailed out to the entire church family no later than Tuesday afternoon – just click and join in on Wednesday morning. We check in with each other, share stories and God-moments, pray and laugh together. Won't you join us? If you haven't received your invitation by e-mail, please contact the church office. Hope to see you Wednesday!

## Hygiene Kits

We are now gearing up for our annual April collection drive of Hygiene Kits for **UMCOR**, United Methodist Committee on Relief. The contents of each kit have been selected with care, based on years of experience to make them as useful as possible, whenever and wherever they are sent. It is important that kits contain only the requested items-nothing more. Won't you please help by making a monetary contribution to pay for kits to be assembled.

The kits I've assembled cost \$5.00. This includes the \$1.00 for toothpaste. A check can be made out to St James with a memo for "Hygiene Kits".

Thank you in advance for your generosity. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Barb at [cherab@comcast.net](mailto:cherab@comcast.net), cell phone 494-1959.

## Sign Up for Altar Flowers

Starting today April 11, we have resumed weekly flower arrangements on the altar. Please call or email the church office if you would like to choose one or more Sundays to purchase the flower arrangement in memory or in honor of a loved one or to commemorate a special celebration. You may take the arrangement home after the worship service. Flower arrangements cost \$20.00 each. Make checks payable to St. James UMC and write "altar flowers" on the memo line.

This Week's Events at St. James – April 11, 2021		
Today, Sunday 4/11	9:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, 4/13	9:30 am	Food Pantry
	7:00pm	Church council meeting
Wednesday, 4/14	10:30 am	Zoom Virtual Coffee Hour
Saturday, 4/17	9:00 am	Clothes Closet
Next Sunday, 4/18	9:30 am	Worship