

St. James United Methodist Church

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



Ministers: Rev. Lynne Mentzer and All the People!
Director of Music: Darlene Skene
Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 8:00 am – 2:00 pm
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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 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.

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2021



GATHERING AS JESUS' DISCIPLES

GATHERING MUSIC	Darlene Skene
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	Rev. Lynne Mentzer
GREETING OF PEACE	
INTROIT	Darlene Skene

PRAYING AS JESUS TAUGHT US

CALL TO WORSHIP Noreen Hoisington

L: The people of God have assembled to worship.

P: We worship in this sanctuary and we worship on-line.

L: We worship in the beauty of nature and in the busyness of the day.

P: We worship through scripture and through a child's happy scribbles.

L: We worship when we recognize the face of God in the faces around us.

P: We worship when we see the holy in the ordinary.

L: The people of God have assembled to worship.

P: Let us worship God with unending praise!

HYMN "Morning Has Broken" No. 145 (vs. 1-3) Darlene Skene

Morning has broken like the first morning;
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning;
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

BLESSING FOR DARLENE SKENE

L: Church family, let's be together in prayer:

P: "Come, We That Love the Lord."

L: O God of us all, today we ask your blessing to rest on our sister Darlene. Bless her heart that she might be at peace as she prepares for surgery.

P: "Spirit of god, Descend Upon (Her) Heart."

L: Bless her body to respond to the surgeon's skill and her nurses' care.

P: "Heal (Her), Hands of Jesus."

L: Bless her spirit to trust in your presence with her before, during and after this procedure.

P: "Filled With the Spirit's Power."

L: Bless her with family and friends to pray for her--

P: "Blest Be the Tie That Binds."

L: And to call, text, and look in on her--

P: "Sent Forth by God's Blessing."

L: And to bring her food, because --

P: "We Are the Church."

L: O God, we ask your blessing on Darlene this day and always.

Darlene: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand."

P: "God Will Take Care of You." "Alleluia."

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 23

Noreen Hoisington

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 10:11-14

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

SERMON

HYMN

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" No. 381 (vs. 1,2,4)

Darlene Skene

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou has bought us, thine we are.

We are thine, thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.

Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

SHARING THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

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

OFFERING

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 CONFESSION AND DEDICATION

Gracious God, we confess that we don't always like being compared to sheep. Sheep seem foolish and easily misled; yet, we must also confess that too often that is how we are. Forgive us and lead us in your ways, we pray, in our living and giving, that we might follow Jesus and grow in faithfulness and generosity. In Jesus' name, Amen.

GOING FORTH IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

HYMN

"He Leadeth Me" No. 128 (vs. 1-3)

Darlene Skene

He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;
His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.**

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom, some times where Eden's bowers bloom,
By waters still, o'er troubled sea, still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
Content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

Refrain

BLESSING

Rev. Lynne Mentzer

POSTLUDE

Darlene Skene

CLOSING HYMN

Sung Outside

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" No. 57 (vs. 1-3)

*The flowers which grace our altar this morning are given to the glory of God
by SPRC in honor of Darlene Skene.*

Announcements–April 25, 2021

Organist Absence

Darlene Skene is planning to have shoulder surgery on May 12. Today is her last performance before her medical leave. Amy Marelo will be our substitute organist for the month of May and Katy Rogers will fill in during the month of June. Let's all pray that Darlene has a successful surgery and quick and complete healing.

St. James Budget

A budget summary and narrative budget have been sent via email. A more detailed line item budget is available by request. Inquire with a finance committee member or the church office.

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. 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. 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. A check can be made out to St James with a memo for "Hygiene Kits". If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Barb at cherab@comcast.net, cell phone 494-1959.

Men's Breakfast

All men are invited to join the St. James United Methodist Men for breakfast at 8:00 am this Saturday, May 1 at Joey's Diner, 1 Craftsman Lane in Amherst

"Deep and Wide" Conference Resource Day with Leonard Sweet

May 22, 2021 from 10 am - 12 pm. We will travel together simultaneously deep (local) and wide (global) in looking at the importance of four key metaphors for the future:

1. Do Little Large: Small is All. The Particular is of Universal Significance. Can you taste your church's terroir?
2. Sozo Jesus (Sozo means "save" or "heal").
3. Mandorla Sweet Spot (Jesus always comes in surround sound). Can you hear the double ring?
4. Deep Breathing exercises (Holy Spirit Breathings and Breathology)

Clergy and Laity are encouraged to join in this online session. Visit www.neumc.org for details and to register.

This Week's Events at St. James – April 25, 2021		
Today, Sunday 4/25	9:30 am	Worship
Tuesday, 4/27	9:30 am	Food Pantry
	7:00pm	Trustees meeting
Wednesday, 4/28	10:30 am	Zoom Virtual Coffee Hour
Saturday, 5/1	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast at Joey's Diner
	9:00 am	Clothes Closet
Next Sunday, 5/2	9:30 am	Worship with Communion