

Sunday, May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Order of Service

Gathering Song..... **“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”** (*Hymnal, #334*)

There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the spirit of the Lord; There are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. Sweet holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

Greeting/Call to Worship..... **Sister Cynthia**

Leader: We gather in the name of God, our Creator and Redeemer.

People: **Sing to God a new song!**

Leader: With all creation, we rejoice in God’s mercy and care.

People: **Sing to God a new song!**

Leader: Befriended by Christ, we open our hearts to God’s love.

People: **Sing to God a new song!**

Leader: Led by the spirit, we lift our voices in worship and praise.

ALL: **Sing to God a new Song!**

Hymn of Praise **“All Creatures of Our God and King”**

1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
O praise ye! Al-le-lu-ia!
O brother sun with golden beam,
O sister moon with silver gleam,
O praise ye! O praise ye!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

2 O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain,
by which all creatures ye sustain,
O praise ye! Al-le-lu-ia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice!
O praise ye! O praise ye!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

3 O sister water, flowing clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
O brother fire who lights the night,
Providing warmth, enhancing sight,
O praise ye! O praise ye!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

4 Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfoldest blessings on our way,
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
let them God’s glory also show!
O praise ye! O praise ye!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

5 All ye men who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O praise ye! Al-le-lu-ia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care!
O praise ye! O praise ye!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

God of abiding love, your mercies are new every morning. Your abundant grace springs up to sustain us with your generosity as you provide for the needs of every living creature. Forgive us of the ways that we have not trusted you or lived according to your will. And give us the assurance of your pardon. We pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — “**Stand**” (*Donnie McClurkin*)

The Prayer of Illumination (*Unison*)

Show us your way, O Lord, teach us your paths, guide us in your truth, and teach us, for you are my Savior, and my hope in you all the day long. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1 (*Acts 17:22–31, New International Version*)

²² Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: “People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. ²³ For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴ “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

²⁹ “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. ³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. ³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

Scripture Reading #2 (*1 Peter 3:13–22, New International Version*)

¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷ For it is better, if it is God’s will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned spirits— ²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, ²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Scripture Reading #3 (*Matthew 6:24–34, New International Version*)

²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

Do Not Worry

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷ Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life^[a]?

²⁸ “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹ Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³ But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Doxology – “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” (*Recite in unison*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be low; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

The Affirmation of Faith — “The Apostles’ Creed” (*recite in unison*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried:
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

The Gloria Patri – “Glory Be to the Father” (*Recite in unison*)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

Children / Youth Moment**Sister Jaime**

Hymn of Preparation — “I Will Trust in the Lord” (*sing along with members*)

I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord,
I will trust in the Lord, till I die; I will trust in
the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in
the Lord, till I die.

Sister will trust in the Lord, Sister will trust in
the Lord, Sister will trust in the Lord, till you
die; Sister will trust in the Lord, Sister will
trust in the Lord, Sister will trust in the Lord,
till you die.

Brother will trust in the Lord, Brother will
trust in the Lord, Brother will trust in the
Lord, till you die; Brother will trust in the
Lord, Brother will trust in the Lord, Brother
will trust in the Lord, till you die.

Preacher will trust in the Lord, Preacher will
trust in the Lord, Preacher will trust in the
Lord, till you die; Preacher will trust in the
Lord, Preacher will trust in the Lord, Preacher
will trust in the Lord, till you die.

I’m going to treat everybody right, I’m going
to treat everybody right, I’m going to treat
everybody right, till I die, I’m going to treat
everybody right, I’m going to treat everybody
right, I’m going to treat everybody right, till I
die.

I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in the Lord,
I will trust in the Lord, till I die; I will trust in
the Lord, I will trust in the Lord, I will trust in
the Lord, till I die.

Inspirational Message..... **Rev. Eugene Matthews**

“The Antidote for Anxiety”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call..... **Rev. Eugene Matthews**

Selection — “I Know Who Holds Tomorrow” (*song by: Sangah Noona*)

I don't know about tomorrow,
I just live from day to day.
I don't borrow from its sunshine
For its skies may turn to gray.
I don't worry about the future,
'Cause I know what Jesus said,
And today I'll walk beside him
For He knows what is ahead.

Many things about tomorrow
I don't seem to understand
But I know who holds tomorrow
And I know who holds my hand.

I don't know about tomorrow;
It may bring me poverty.
But the one who feeds the sparrow,
Is the one who stands by me.
And the path that is my portion
May be through the flame or flood;
But His presence goes before me
And I'm covered with His blood.

Many things about tomorrow
I don't seem to understand
But I know who holds tomorrow
And I know who holds my hand.

Benediction

Announcements

130th Anniversary Shirts — I'm sure you have seen the email about the purchasing of our commemorative shirts. **Sizes:** Small to XL = **\$15**; 2X = **\$17**; 3X = **\$19**. **If you are interested in purchasing a shirt, please contact Millicent at the church email.**



Front



Back

Churches are to remain closed until **June 8th**.

Annual Conference will be held on **Saturday, September 12th**. (place has not been designated).

General Conference — **August 31, 2021–September 10, 2021**

Jurisdictional Conference — TBA



*“Proclaiming Christ to the generations...
Equipping disciples to transform the world”*

Special Prayers / Sick and Shut-In List: If you hear of anyone that is in need of special prayer or is taken to the hospital, please contact: Rev. Eugene Matthews (443.257.2730 (cell), 410.379.0600 (home), reveugene@comcast.net)

*Condolence to the family of the late
James (Jim) Thomas*

Rev. George F. DeFord, Sherman / Erica Roy, Janeen Thomas, Eunice Harding (Gemma's Mother), Tyrone / Pat Mundell, Samuel / James Briggs (Cynthia Burley's brothers), Barbara Matthews, Charles Burley, Richard Cager, Jr., Joan Moore, Larry Powell, Veronica Miller, Jeanette Reeves, Ernestine Gibson, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Laura Dotson, Mildred Awkward, Phillip Reese, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Eunice Parker, Hannah Polk, Delores Tyler

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