

Sunday, August 9, 2020

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

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: May your love and mercy be upon us today, O Lord!

People: **May your wisdom be in our hearts.**

Leader: May the joy of your salvation be upon us today, O Lord!

People: **May the power of your spirit be in our lives.**

Leader: Have mercy upon us, O God!

People: **Lead us in truth and righteousness.**

ALL: **May the power of the Holy Ghost fall on Us!**

Hymn of Praise “To God Be the Glory”
(sing along with instrumental)

1 To God be the glory, great things he hath done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives (**Refrain**)

3 Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see. (**Refrain**)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

Merciful God, at times it can be hard for us to admit that we do not have it all together. We do not want to face our sin and acknowledge that we have really messed up. Help us to be honest with you today, O Lord. Open our hearts so we may name the broken places in our lives; the hurtful words we have spoken, the unloving thoughts and actions that have wounded our relationships with you and others. Forgive us, make us clean, and restore our relationship with you and our neighbors. We believe that in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*Recite in unison*)

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — “**I Can Only Imagine**” (*song by: Tamela Mann*)

The Prayer of Illumination (*Unison*)

As we journey into the sacred story, help us along the path toward faithfulness. Create in our lives a place of faith, hope, and love in the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1

(*Genesis 37:1–4, 12–28, Common English Bible*)

Joseph dreams of power

³⁷ Jacob lived in the land of Canaan where his father was an immigrant. ² This is the account of Jacob's descendants. Joseph was 17 years old and tended the flock with his brothers. While he was helping the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives, Joseph told their father unflattering things about them. ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons because he was born when Jacob was old. Jacob had made for him a long robe. ⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of his brothers, they hated him and couldn't even talk nicely to him.

Joseph's brothers take revenge

¹² Joseph's brothers went to tend their father's flocks near Shechem. ¹³ Israel said to Joseph, “Aren't your brothers tending the sheep near Shechem? Come, I'll send you to them.”

And he said, “I'm ready.”

¹⁴ Jacob said to him, “Go! Find out how your brothers are and how the flock is, and report back to me.”

So Jacob sent him from the Hebron Valley. When he approached Shechem, ¹⁵ a man found him wandering in the field and asked him, “What are you looking for?”

¹⁶ Joseph said, “I'm looking for my brothers. Tell me, where are they tending the sheep?”

¹⁷ The man said, “They left here. I heard them saying, ‘Let's go to Dothan.’” So Joseph went after his brothers and found them in Dothan.

¹⁸ They saw Joseph in the distance before he got close to them, and they plotted to kill him.

¹⁹ The brothers said to each other, “Here comes the big dreamer. ²⁰ Come on now, let's kill him and throw him into one of the cisterns, and we'll say a wild animal devoured him. Then we will see what becomes of his dreams!”

²¹ When Reuben heard what they said, he saved him from them, telling them, “Let's not take his life.” ²² Reuben said to them, “Don't spill his blood! Throw him into this desert cistern, but don't lay a hand on him.” He intended to save Joseph from them and take him back to his father.

²³ When Joseph reached his brothers, they stripped off Joseph's long robe, ²⁴ took him, and threw him into the cistern, an empty cistern with no water in it. ²⁵ When they sat down to eat, they looked up and saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with camels carrying sweet resin, medicinal resin, and fragrant resin on their way down to Egypt. ²⁶ Judah said to his brothers, “What do we gain if we kill our brother and hide his blood? ²⁷ Come on, let's sell him to the Ishmaelites. Let's not harm him because he's our brother; he's family.” His brothers agreed. ²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they pulled Joseph up out of the cistern. They sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver, and they brought Joseph to Egypt.

Scripture Reading #2

(Romans 10:5–15, Common English Bible)

⁵ Moses writes about the righteousness that comes from the Law: *The person who does these things will live by them.* ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith talks like this: *Don't say in your heart, "Who will go up into heaven?"* (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ or *"Who will go down into the region below?"* (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? *The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart* (that is, the message of faith that we preach). ⁹ Because if you confess with your mouth "Jesus is Lord" and in your heart you have faith that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ Trusting with the heart leads to righteousness, and confessing with the mouth leads to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, *All who have faith in him won't be put to shame.* ¹² There is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives richly to all who call on him. ¹³ *All who call on the Lord's name will be saved.*

¹⁴ So how can they call on someone they don't have faith in? And how can they have faith in someone they haven't heard of? And how can they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, *How beautiful are the feet of those who announce the good news.*

Scripture Reading #3

(Matthew 14:22–33, Common English Bible)

Walking on the water

²² Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. ²⁴ Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. ²⁵ Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, "It's a ghost!" They were so frightened they screamed.

²⁷ Just then Jesus spoke to them, "Be encouraged! It's me. Don't be afraid."

²⁸ Peter replied, "Lord, if it's you, order me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ And Jesus said, "Come."

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, "Lord, rescue me!"

³¹ Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, "You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

³³ Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, "You must be God's Son!"

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 — “Woke up This Mornin”
(*sing along with Metropolitan Baptist Church*)

Inspirational Message **Rev. Eugene Matthews**

“The Price of a Dream

Praise and Prayer Concerns

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

Selection — “Just as I Am” — xxx

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. | 3 Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. |
| 2 Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. | 4 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. |

Announcements

Benediction

Announcements

Pray Daily at Noon

Please remember to pray daily at NOON. Some areas to include in your prayer, can include the pandemic, racial healing, government leaders, educational challenges, and most importantly for our sick and shut-ins and each other.



Re-entering Task Force working diligently, but the church will remain closed. Please don't forget to send your comments / suggestions on what you think the re-entry should be like.

Laurel 150th Anniversary/Emancipation Day Virtual 5K for Diabetes



Saturday, September 5, 2020 — Registration is open through September 4, 2020. Commemorative T-Shirts are not available if you register after August 18, 2020. All participants will receive a commemorative running bib and a finisher medal via mail. Registration is **Online Only** with a fee of \$25 plus an additional \$3 for shirts above XL.

For additional information and registration go to:

Register.bluecheetahtiming.com (listed as Laurel Sequential 5K on Emancipation Day) or **Active.com** (listed as Laurel 150th Anniversary Virtual 5K on Emancipation Day)

For additional information, please contact **Sister Jackie**.

The net proceeds will be divided between the City of Laurel for a Diabetes Initiative and St. Mark's UMC to benefit the University of Maryland Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology.

Saturday, September 12, 2020 — The **236th Annual Conference** session of the Baltimore-Washington Conference will be held online. This move to a virtual Annual Conference is made necessary by the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for social distancing as the church seeks to privilege life, especially among its vulnerable members. A practice run for voting members will be held prior to the September conference.

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

Jurisdictional Conference — TBA

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



*“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)

Nena Hughes, Deysha Gibson, Gloria Thomas, Sharon Thomas, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, 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, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Laura Dotson, Phillip Reese, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Eunice Parker, Hannah Polk, Delores Tyler

Eunice Dumas
1909 Sheffield Court
Severn, MD 21144
410.551.2435

Umbrenda Fisher
9160 Charlton Place
Douglasville, GA 39135

Ruth Miller
1206 Peachwood Lane
Bowie, MD 20716
240.245.4560

Mrs. Edlin Chambers
14904 4th Street
Laurel, MD
347.423.2764

Diane Cobb
410.802.1427