

Sunday, August 2, 2020

Ninth 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 Spirt, 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 have gathered to sing a fresh song and proclaim God’s marvelous deed.

People: God alone is worthy of our praise!!

Leader: We have gathered in fear and trembling before the judge of heaven and earth.

People: God alone is worthy of our praise!!

Leader: We have gathered to join our voices with all creation.

People God alone is worthy of our praise.

Leader: The God of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Rachel, and Elijah has heard our prayers.

ALL: Our God is an Awesome God!!

Hymn of Praise “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”
(sing along with instrumental)

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou
changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
all I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and
harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses
above join with all nature in manifold
witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and
love. **[Refrain]**

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide, strength for today and bright hope for
tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten
thousand beside! **[Refrain]**

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

Loving God, come to us in our worship and make your presence known in this hour. We come to you not as we ought, but as we are, with hearts unprepared for your coming and lives dusty with needs. And yet despite all of that you have welcomed us. Strengthen us with hope through the presence of your Holy Spirit to find the peace and power that comes through your presence. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — “Nobody Greater” (*song by: Vashawn Mitchell*)

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 our Savior, and our hope is in you all day long. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1

(*Genesis 32:22–31, Common English Bible*)

Jacob Wrestles with God

²² Jacob got up during the night, took his two wives, his two women servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed the Jabbok River’s shallow water. ²³ He took them and everything that belonged to him, and he helped them cross the river. ²⁴ But Jacob stayed apart by himself, and a man wrestled with him until dawn broke. ²⁵ When the man saw that he couldn’t defeat Jacob, he grabbed Jacob’s thigh and tore a muscle in Jacob’s thigh as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ The man said, “Let me go because the dawn is breaking.”

But Jacob said, “I won’t let you go until you bless me.”

²⁷ He said to Jacob, “What’s your name?” and he said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ Then he said, “Your name won’t be Jacob any longer, but Israel, because you struggled with God and with men and won.”

²⁹ Jacob also asked and said, “Tell me your name.”

But he said, “Why do you ask for my name?” and he blessed Jacob there. ³⁰ Jacob named the place Peniel, “because I’ve seen God face-to-face, and my life has been saved.” ³¹ The sun rose as Jacob passed Penuel, limping because of his thigh.

Scripture Reading #2

(*Romans 9:1–5, Common English Bible*)

The Tragedy of Israel’s Unbelief

9 I’m speaking the truth in Christ—I’m not lying, as my conscience assures me with the Holy Spirit: ² I have great sadness and constant pain in my heart. ³ I wish I could be cursed, cut off from Christ if it helped my brothers and sisters, who are my flesh-and-blood relatives. ⁴ They are Israelites. The adoption as God’s children, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the Law, the worship, and the promises belong to them. ⁵ The Jewish ancestors are theirs, and the Christ descended from those ancestors. He is the one who rules over all things, who is God, and who is blessed forever. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #3

(*Matthew 14:13–21, Common English Bible*)

Feeding the Five Thousand

¹³ When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. ¹⁴ When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. ¹⁵ That evening his disciples came and said to him, “This is an isolated place and it’s getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

¹⁶ But Jesus said to them, “There’s no need to send them away. You give them something to eat.”

¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish.”

¹⁸ He said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. ²¹ About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

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 — "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand"

(*sing along with Alfred Street Baptist Church*)

1 Time is filled with swift transition,
Naught of earth unmoved can stand,
Build your hopes on things eternal,
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

Refrain:
Hold to God's unchanging hand,
Hold to God's unchanging hand;
Build your hopes on things eternal,
Hold to God's unchanging hand.

2 Trust in Him who will not leave you,
Whatsoever years may bring,
If by earthly friends forsaken
Still more closely to Him cling. [**Refrain**]

3 When your journey is completed,
If to God you have been true,
Fair and bright the home in glory
Your enraptured soul will view. [**Refrain**]

“Wrestling With God”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call Rev. Eugene Matthews

Selection — “Break Thou the Bread of Life” — song by Fountainview Academy, sing along words provided)

Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
As Thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word!

Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, to me, to me,
As Thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
Thy holy Word the truth that saveth me;
Give me to eat and live with Thee above;
Teach me to love Thy truth, for Thou art love.

Spirit and life are they, Words Thou dost speak;
I hasten to obey, But I am weak;
Thou art my only help, Thou art my life;
Heeding Thy holy Word I win the strife.

Holy Communion Thanksgiving and Communion

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

The pastor takes the bread and cup, and the bread and wine are prepared for the meal.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical settings on pages 17-25 may be used if desired.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

Your Spirit anointed him

to preach good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
and to announce that the time had come
when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection

you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended,

he promised to be with us always,
in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,

he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Drink from this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,

in remembrance of me.”

And so,

in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ’s offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other,
and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

The pastor breaks the bread in silence, or while saying:

Because there is one loaf,
we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The pastor lifts the cup in silence, or while saying:

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The bread and wine are given to the people, with these or other words being exchanged:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The congregation sings hymns while the bread and cup are given.

When all have received, the Lord's table is put in order.

The following prayer is then offered by the pastor or by all:

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world
in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

Announcements

Benediction

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Go forth in peace.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all. **Amen.**



Happy Birthday and Anniversary August Members



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.



Thursday, August 6, 2020 (7:00 p.m.) — Council Meeting. All are welcome to listen in. Members of the Council, please email your reports to Millicent. Zoom information will be provided. In Nena's absence, this meeting will be chaired by Rev. Matthews and Jaime, Chair of SPRC.

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.

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.**



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*“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, Deysa 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

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