

*Sunday, September 20, 2020*  
*Sixteenth 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:** From the rising of the sun to the setting of the same.

**People:** **The name of the Lord is to be praised!**

**Leader:** The Lord is high above all nations.

**People:** **The name of the Lord is to be praised!**

**Leader:** The Lord’s glory is above the heavens.

**People:** **The name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**Leader:** God even raises the poor from the dust.

**People:** **And God lifts the needy from the ash heap.**

**All:** **The name of the Lord is to be praised! Praise the Lord!**

**Hymn of Praise** ..... **“Praise Him”**  
(*sing along with Anthony Brown w/Fellowship Chorale, First Baptist of Glen Arden*)

**Prayer of Confession and Assurance** (*Unison*)

Lord, we confess we have often lived for ourselves alone, squandering what we have received by your grace, with no thought for the needs of others. We are prone to abusing any power we may have over the lives of others. Forgive us we pray. May our confessions not be in words alone, O Christ, but in working for true justice and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ.  
**Amen.**

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

**The Invocation**

**Song of Meditation** — **“Lord You Are Good”** (*song by Israel Houghton*)

**The Prayer of Illumination** (*Unison*)

In grateful response to your presence and your love, we wait to receive the interpretation of the WORD from your Holy Scripture. Speak to us Lord Jesus. **Amen.**

## **Scripture Reading #1**

*(Exodus 16:2–15, Common English Bible)*

<sup>2</sup>The whole Israelite community complained against Moses and Aaron in the desert. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, “Oh, how we wish that the LORD had just put us to death while we were still in the land of Egypt. There we could sit by the pots cooking meat and eat our fill of bread. Instead, you’ve brought us out into this desert to starve this whole assembly to death.”

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, “I’m going to make bread rain down from the sky for you. The people will go out each day and gather just enough for that day. In this way, I’ll test them to see whether or not they follow my Instruction. <sup>5</sup>On the sixth day, when they measure out what they have collected, it will be twice as much as they collected on other days.” <sup>6</sup>So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “This evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt. <sup>7</sup>And in the morning you will see the LORD’s glorious presence, because your complaints against the LORD have been heard. Who are we? Why blame us?” <sup>8</sup>Moses continued, “The LORD will give you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning because the LORD heard the complaints you made against him. Who are we? Your complaints aren’t against us but against the LORD.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole Israelite community, ‘Come near to the LORD, because he’s heard your complaints.’” <sup>10</sup>As Aaron spoke to the whole Israelite community, they turned to look toward the desert, and just then the glorious presence of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses, <sup>12</sup>“I’ve heard the complaints of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘At twilight you will eat meat. And in the morning you will have your fill of bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’”

<sup>13</sup>In the evening a flock of quail flew down and covered the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the desert surface were thin flakes, as thin as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” They didn’t know what it was.

Moses said to them, “This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

## **Scripture Reading #2**

*(Philippians 1:21–30, Common English Bible)*

<sup>21</sup>Because for me, living serves Christ and dying is even better. <sup>22</sup>If I continue to live in this world, I get results from my work. <sup>23</sup>But I don’t know what I prefer. I’m torn between the two because I want to leave this life and be with Christ, which is far better. <sup>24</sup>However, it’s more important for me to stay in this world for your sake. <sup>25</sup>I’m sure of this: I will stay alive and remain with all of you to help your progress and the joy of your faith, <sup>26</sup>and to increase your pride in Christ Jesus through my presence when I visit you again.

## **Live Worthy of the Gospel**

<sup>27</sup>Most important, live together in a manner worthy of Christ’s gospel. Do this, whether I come and see you or I’m absent and hear about you. Do this so that you stand firm, united in one spirit and mind as you struggle together to remain faithful to the gospel. <sup>28</sup>That way, you won’t be afraid of anything your enemies do. Your faithfulness and courage are a sign of their coming destruction and your salvation, which is from God. <sup>29</sup>God has generously granted you the privilege, not only of believing in Christ but also of suffering for Christ’s sake. <sup>30</sup>You are having the same struggle that you saw me face and now hear that I’m still facing.

### **Scripture Reading #3**

*(Matthew 20:1–16, Common English Bible)*

**20** “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard.

<sup>3</sup> “Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. <sup>4</sup> He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I’ll pay you whatever is right.’ <sup>5</sup> And they went.

“Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. <sup>6</sup> Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?’

<sup>7</sup> “‘Because nobody has hired us,’ they replied.

“He responded, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

<sup>8</sup> “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.’ <sup>9</sup> When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. <sup>10</sup> Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. <sup>11</sup> When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> ‘These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.’

<sup>13</sup> “But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn’t I agree to pay you a denarion? <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Don’t I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I’m generous?’ <sup>16</sup> So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last.”

### **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 — “Lord, Help Me to Hold Out”** (*sing along with Detroit Mass Choir*)

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

***“Live as Triumphal People”***

**Praise and Prayer Concerns**

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

**Selection — “God Will Take Care of You”** — *sing along with Instrumental*)

1 Be not dismayed whate’er betide,  
God will take care of you;  
Beneath his wings of love abide,  
God will take care of you.

*Refrain:*

God will take care of you,  
Through ev’ry day,  
O’er all the way;  
He will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.

2 Through days of toil when heart does fail,  
God will take care of you;  
When dangers fierce your path assail,  
God will take care of you. [*Refrain*]

3 All you may need he will provide,  
God will take care of you;  
Nothing you ask will be denied,  
God will take care of you. [*Refrain*]

4 No matter what may be the test,  
God will take care of you;  
Lean, weary one, upon his breast,  
God will take care of you. [*Refrain*]

**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.



**Wednesdays (7:15 p.m.) — Wednesday Night Experience.** Call-in Information: **712-770-4010 (Access code: 331960)**

**Requesting a Mail-in Ballot — YOU WILL YOU'RE YOUR DRIVERS LICENCE —**

**<https://www.elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html>**



**HELP YOUR COMMUNITY —**

**Please complete the 2020 Census by September 30, 2020.** It's Safe, Easy, and Important!!! if you have misplaced your 2020 Census form, go to **[my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov)** for more information.

**Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> — Annual Homecoming.** Speaker will be **Rev. Dr. Rebecca Iannicelli**, *Annapolis District Superintendent, The United Methodist Church, Baltimore-Washington Conference.* Please don't forget as you are able to make a sacrificial donation for this Sunday.

**Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>** (10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., weathering permitting) — Rev. Matthews along with the help of some team members will greet you on the church parking lot where you can receive a communion packet to use for **World Communion Sunday (October 4<sup>th</sup>)** and a special gift that Rev. Matthews has obtained for each member of our congregation. **Note:** You are asked to wear a mask and not to exit your vehicle, no one will be permitted to park and socialize. We are asking this for your safety, the safety of the team members and in accordance with the COVID-19 guidelines of social distancing.

**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> — 130<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary.** Speaker will be **Rev. George F. DeFord.** Sacrificial donation of \$1.00 for each year.

**130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 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.



*“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](mailto:reveugene@comcast.net))

Nina Settles, John Hall, Ronald Smith, Marva Thomas, 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

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