

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Domestic Violence Awareness Month

World Communion Sunday

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: Around the world people gather to break bread and pour wine.

People: **We gather with them in heart and mind.**

Leader: Around the world the broken body is made whole.

People: **As part of that body we join in unity.**

Leader: Around the world the banquet of God is prepared for the table.

People: **We share in the banquet and come eagerly to be fed.**

Leader: Let us worship together, let us share God's body.

ALL: **Let us all break bread and drink wine together.**

Hymn of Praise **“Let Us Break Bread Together”**
(sing along with instrumental)

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the
rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.
[Refrain]

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees.
[Refrain]

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

Jesus, we ask that you take our prayers to the heart of God. We know the ways in which sin distances us from God. we confess our reticence to claim the sin in our lives. Today may we move past the prideful notions of our piety and look closer at what we don't do. We want to love as you commanded, but too often catch ourselves justifying the injustices of hunger, poverty, and prejudice. Forgive us so that the lessons we learn at the spirit's nudging may help bring the peace and love you seek in our families, the church, and the world. Help us to be more holy in our hearts. **Amen.**

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — “Trust Me” (*song by Richard Smallwood and Vision*)

The Prayer of Illumination (*Unison*)

Holy Spirit settle our hearts and minds as we read the scriptures today. Help us to hear them in a new way. May our meditations and actions be acceptable to God and may the peace of Christ be with us. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1

(*Exodus 20:1–4, 7–9, 12–20, Common English Bible*)

20 Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³ You must have no other gods before me.

⁴ Do not make an idol for yourself—no form whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth.

⁷ Do not use the LORD your God's name as if it were of no significance; the LORD won't forgive anyone who uses his name that way.

⁸ Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. ⁹ Six days you may work and do all your tasks,

¹² Honor your father and your mother so that your life will be long on the fertile land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ Do not kill.

¹⁴ Do not commit adultery.

¹⁵ Do not steal.

¹⁶ Do not testify falsely against your neighbor.

¹⁷ Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's house. Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

¹⁸ When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the horn, and the mountain smoking, the people shook with fear and stood at a distance. ¹⁹ They said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we’ll listen. But don’t let God speak to us, or we’ll die.”

²⁰ Moses said to the people, “Don’t be afraid, because God has come only to test you and to make sure you are always in awe of God so that you don’t sin.”

Scripture Reading #2

(Philippians 3:4b–14, Common English Bible)

⁴ though I have good reason to have this kind of confidence. If anyone else has reason to put their confidence in physical advantages, I have even more:

⁵ I was circumcised on the eighth day.

I am from the people of Israel and the tribe of Benjamin.

I am a Hebrew of the Hebrews.

With respect to observing the Law, I’m a Pharisee.

⁶ With respect to devotion to the faith, I harassed the church.

With respect to righteousness under the Law, I’m blameless.

⁷ These things were my assets, but I wrote them off as a loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ But even beyond that, I consider everything a loss in comparison with the superior value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I have lost everything for him, but what I lost I think of as sewer trash, so that I might gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him. In Christ I have a righteousness that is not my own and that does not come from the Law but rather from the faithfulness of Christ. It is the righteousness of God that is based on faith. ¹⁰ The righteousness that I have comes from knowing Christ, the power of his resurrection, and the participation in his sufferings. It includes being conformed to his death ¹¹ so that I may perhaps reach the goal of the resurrection of the dead.

¹² It’s not that I have already reached this goal or have already been perfected, but I pursue it, so that I may grab hold of it because Christ grabbed hold of me for just this purpose. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I myself don’t think I’ve reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. ¹⁴ The goal I pursue is the prize of God’s upward call in Christ Jesus.

Scripture Reading #3

(John 6:30–40, 48–51, Common English Bible)

³⁰ They asked, “What miraculous sign will you do, that we can see and believe you? What will you do? ³¹ Our ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*”

³² Jesus told them, “I assure you, it wasn’t Moses who gave the bread from heaven to you, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ The bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

³⁴ They said, “Sir, give us this bread all the time!”

³⁵ Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶ But I told you that you have seen me and still don’t believe. ³⁷ Everyone whom the Father gives to me will come to me, and I won’t send away anyone who comes to me. ³⁸ I have come down from heaven not to do my will, but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ This is the will of the one who sent me, that I won’t lose anything he has given me, but I will raise it up at the last day. ⁴⁰ This is my Father’s will: that all who see the Son and believe in him will have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down from heaven so that whoever eats from it will never die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

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.**

Psalter

All: My shepherd is the Lord, nothing indeed shall I want.

Leader: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures,

Leader: leads me beside still waters, restores my life,

People: leads me in right paths for the sake of the Lord’s name.

Leader: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

People: for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

All: My shepherd is the Lord, nothing indeed shall I want.

Leader: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

People: you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

Leader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

People: and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live.

All: My shepherd is the Lord, nothing indeed shall I want.

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 — “One Bread, One Body” (*sing along with John Foley & New Dawn*)

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the
earth, we are one body in this one Lord

Gentile or Jew
Servant or free
Woman or man
No more

One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the
earth, we are one body in this one Lord

Many the gifts, many the works
One in the Lord of all
One bread, one body, one Lord of all
One cup of blessing which we bless
And we, though many, throughout the
earth, we are one body in this one Lord
We are one body in this one Lord

Inspirational Message **Rev. Eugene Matthews**

“A Meal That Lasts”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

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

Selection — “Fill My Cup, Lord” — *sing along with Instrumental*)

Like the woman at the well I was seeking
For things that could not satisfy;
And then I heard my Savior speaking:
"Draw from My well that never shall run dry".

Fill my cup Lord, I lift it up, Lord!
Come and quench this thirsting of my soul;
Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more—
Fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole!

There are millions in this world who are
craving
The pleasure earthly things afford;
But none can match the wondrous treasure
That I find in Jesus Christ my Lord. **(Refrain)**
So, my brother, if the things this world gave
you
Leave hungers that won't pass away,
My blessed Lord will come and save you,
If you kneel to Him and humbly pray:
(Refrain)

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 have made from one every nation and people
to live on all the face of the earth,

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.
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.
He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth
and to make disciples of all nations,
and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

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.
Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world,
and strengthen it in every nation and among every people
to witness faithfully in your name.
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 October 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.



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>



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

130th 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.

Note from Finance: First, let us give a big thank you to all that have been giving. This is a reminder that there are several ways to get your offering to the church:

1. You can drop it off at the church, place in the mailbox (Cynthia and David Burley check it regularly) **(This will save you postage)**
2. You can mail it to the church (601 Eighth Street, Laurel, MD 20707)
3. You can use on-line giving (Give–St. Marks — <https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/stmarks/md>)
4. Reach out to member of finance, they will try to accommodate you.

Again, thank you. Just remember, even during the pandemic, the church building still has obligations that need to be met.



*“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)

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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