

Sunday, October 25, 2020

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

Breast Cancer Awareness Month 

 *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*



Laity 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.

Call to Worship **Cynthia**

Leader: On this day, we honor the tradition and the history of the United Methodist Church.

People: **As United Methodists, we are called to act with justice, to love tenderly, to walk humbly with God, and serve one another.**

Leader: In answering the call, we offer an expression of our faith and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives each day.

People: **In the tradition of the United Methodist Faith, we answer that call in many ways.**

Leader: Some are called to be preachers, others to be teachers. Some are called to be comforters, others to be healers. Some are called to lead, others to organize. Some are called to sing; all are called to pray.

People: **We give thanks this day for the laity that have come before us and in the tradition of the United Methodist Church, we affirm that we will use our skills, talents, and gifts to continue what they began.**

Hymn of Praise **“Blessed Assurance”**
(sing along with piano instrumental)

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance *(Unison)*

God, I stand before you equipped for every good work and not working. I haven't responded to itching ears about your sound doctrine. I haven't told your truth or shared your word, and I have allowed your people to wander away. Forgive, me Lord for my idleness. Now, right, now, I turn back to you and will speak your word of love, hope, and faith as I work in ministry fully to glorify your name. **Amen.**

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

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — “More Than Enough” *(featuring The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir)*

The Prayer of Illumination *(Unison)*

God, source of all light, by your Word, you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding, that our hearts and minds may be opened to know your truth and your way. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1

(Deuteronomy 34:1–12, Common English Bible)

Moses' Death

34 Then Moses hiked up from the Moabite plains to Mount Nebo, the peak of the Pisgah slope, which faces Jericho. The LORD showed him the whole land: the Gilead region as far as Dan's territory; ² all the parts belonging to Naphtali along with the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, as well as the entirety of Judah as far as the Mediterranean Sea; ³ also the arid southern plain, and the plain—including the Jericho Valley, Palm City—as far as Zoar.

⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses: “This is the land that I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob when I promised: ‘I will give it to your descendants.’ I have shown it to you with your own eyes; however, you will not cross over into it.”

⁵ Then Moses, the LORD's servant, died—right there in the land of Moab, according to the LORD's command. ⁶ The Lord buried him in a valley in Moabite country across from Beth-peor. Even now, no one knows where Moses' grave is.

⁷ Moses was 120 years old when he died. His eyesight wasn't impaired, and his vigor hadn't diminished a bit.

⁸ Back down in the Moabite plains, the Israelites mourned Moses' death for thirty days. At that point, the time for weeping and for mourning Moses was over.

⁹ Joshua, Nun's son, was filled with wisdom because Moses had placed his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to Joshua, and they did exactly what the LORD commanded Moses.

¹⁰ No prophet like Moses has yet emerged in Israel; Moses knew the LORD face-to-face! ¹¹ That's not even to mention all those signs and wonders that the LORD sent Moses to do in Egypt—to Pharaoh, to all his servants, and to his entire land— ¹² as well as all the extraordinary power that Moses displayed before Israel's own eyes!

Scripture Reading #2

(1 Thessalonians 2:1–8, Common English Bible)

Paul's ministry in Thessalonica

2 As you yourselves know, brothers and sisters, our visit with you wasn't a waste of time. ² On the contrary, we had the courage through God to speak God's good news in spite of a lot of opposition, although we had already suffered and were publicly insulted in Philippi, as you know. ³ Our appeal isn't based on false information, the wrong motives, or deception. ⁴ Rather, we have been examined and approved by God to be trusted with the good news, and that's exactly how we speak. We aren't trying to please people, but we are trying to please God, who continues to examine our hearts. ⁵ As you know, we never used flattery, and God is our witness that we didn't have greedy motives. ⁶ We didn't ask for special treatment from people—not from you or from others— ⁷ although we could have thrown our weight around as Christ's apostles. Instead, we were gentle with you like a nursing mother caring for her own children. ⁸ We were glad to share not only God's good news with you but also our very lives because we cared for you so much.

Scripture Reading #3

(Matthew 22:34–46, Common English Bible)

Great Commandment

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together.

³⁵ One of them, a legal expert, tested him. ³⁶ “Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

³⁷ He replied, “*You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.* ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: *You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.* ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.”

Question About David's Son

⁴¹ Now as the Pharisees were gathering, Jesus asked them, ⁴² “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?”

“David's son,” they replied.

⁴³ He said, “Then how is it that David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, called him Lord when he said, ⁴⁴ *The Lord said to my lord, ‘Sit at my right side until I turn your enemies into your footstool’?*

⁴⁵ If David calls him Lord, how can he be David's son?” ⁴⁶ Nobody was able to answer him. And from that day forward nobody dared to ask him anything.

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.**

Hymn of Preparation — “Wonderful Is Your Name” (*featuring by Korean Soul & Seoul Chillun*)

Inspirational Message..... **Sister LáAngel Hall, Moderator**

A Time of Prayer and Praise

Invitation / Altar Call

Selection — “Free. Free” (*featuring BeBe Winans*)

Announcements

Benediction / Selection — “Amen” (*Rev. Marvin Winans*)

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)**

Tuesday, October 27th (date change) (6:30–7:30 p.m.) — Church Conference Cluster. Zoom information: <https://bwcumc.zoom.us/j/96863786799>; Meeting ID: 96863786799; or dial in: +1.301.715.8592, 96863786799#

Saturday, October 31st (11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.) — Communion packets will be distributed on the church parking lot, please observe all protocols (i.e. wear masks and remain in your vehicle). Prayers of concern for the world, nation and upcoming General election will be offered at noon.

Sunday, November 1st — All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 15th — Annual Women's Day. Information forthcoming. If you can assist Erica, Chair, in the plans for this day please reach out.

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](https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/stmarks1md))
3. You can use on-line giving (Give–St. Marks — <https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/stmarks1md>)
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.

Vote



*“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)

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), 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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