Sunday, July 5, 2020 Fifth Sunday After Pentecost Holy Communion Order of Service

Gathering Song	"Sweet, Sweet Spirit" (<i>Hymnal, #334</i>)
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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:	Lord, we come into your presence with confidence and anticipation.	
People:	For we have experienced your presence and power in the past.	
Leader:	We have called to you for help and you have healed us.	
People	You have shown your light and dispersed the darkness in our lives.	
Leader:	You have turned our mourning into dancing.	
All:	We now draw near to you and unite in profound simplicity of Fait	h.
Hymn of Praise		

- Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.
- Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
- 3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (Unison)

God, with our schemes and vanity, we have made our lives so complicated. We have convinced ourselves that we have all the answers or can figure them out and have no need to look to you. In doing so often we have lost sight of you. In love, wisdom, and compassion, God forgive us and free us to walk in the joy of your presence. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — **Amazing Grace** (song by Wintley Phipps)

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......Sister Cynthia A. (Genesis 24:34–38, 42–49, 58–67, Common English Version)

³⁴ The man said, "I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵ The LORD has richly blessed my master, has made him a great man, and has given him flocks, cattle, silver, gold, men servants, women servants, camels, and donkeys. ³⁶ My master's wife Sarah gave birth to a son for my master in her old age, and he's given him everything he owns. ³⁷ My master made me give him my word: 'Don't choose a wife for my son from the Canaanite women, in whose land I'm living. ³⁸No, instead, go to my father's household and to my relatives and choose a wife for my son.'

⁴² "Today I arrived at the spring, and I said, 'LORD, God of my master Abraham, if you wish to make the trip I'm taking successful, ⁴³ when I'm standing by the spring and the young woman who comes out to draw water and to whom I say, "Please give me a little drink of water from your jar," ⁴⁴ and she responds to me, "Drink, and I will draw water for your camels too," may she be the woman the LORD has selected for my master's son.' ⁴⁵ Before I finished saying this to myself, Rebekah came out with her water jar on her shoulder and went down to the spring to draw water. And I said to her, 'Please give me something to drink.' ⁴⁶ She immediately lowered her water jar and said, 'Drink, and I will give your camels something to drink too.' So I drank and she also gave water to the camels. ⁴⁷ Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' And she said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son whom Milcah bore him,' I put a ring in her nose and bracelets on her arms. ⁴⁸ I bowed and worshipped the LORD and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who led me in the right direction to choose the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son. ⁴⁹ Now if you're loyal and faithful to my master, tell me. If not, tell me so I will know where I stand either way."

⁵⁸ They called Rebekah and said to her, "Will you go with this man?"

She said, "I will go."

⁵⁹ So they sent off their sister Rebekah, her nurse, Abraham's servant, and his men. ⁶⁰ And they blessed Rebekah, saying to her,

"May you, our sister, become thousands of ten thousand; may your children possess their enemies' cities."

⁶¹ Rebekah and her young women got up, mounted the camels, and followed the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

⁶² Now Isaac had come from the region of Beer-lahai-roi and had settled in the arid southern plain. ⁶³ One evening, Isaac went out to inspect the pasture, and while staring he saw camels approaching. ⁶⁴ Rebekah stared at Isaac. She got down from the camel ⁶⁵ and said to the servant, "Who is this man walking through the pasture to meet us?"

The servant said, "He's my master." So she took her headscarf and covered herself.⁶⁶ The servant told Isaac everything that had happened. ⁶⁷ Isaac brought Rebekah into his mother Sarah's tent. He received Rebekah as his wife and loved her. So Isaac found comfort after his mother's death.

Scripture Reading #2	. Sister Gemma
(Romans 7:15–25a, Common English Bible)	

¹⁵ I don't know what I'm doing, because I don't do what I want to do. Instead, I do the thing that I hate. ¹⁶ But if I'm doing the thing that I don't want to do, I'm agreeing that the Law is right. ¹⁷ But now I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it's sin that lives in me. ¹⁸ I know that good doesn't live in me—that is, in my body. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. ¹⁹ I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do. ²⁰ But if I do the very thing that I don't want to do, then I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it is sin that lives in me that is doing it.

²¹ So I find that, as a rule, when I want to do what is good, evil is right there with me. ²² I gladly agree with the Law on the inside, ²³ but I see a different law at work in my body. It wages a war against the law of my mind and takes me prisoner with the law of sin that is in my body. ²⁴ I'm a miserable human being. Who will deliver me from this dead corpse? ²⁵ Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then I'm a slave to God's Law in my mind, but I'm a slave to sin's law in my body.

This Generation

¹⁶ "To what will I compare this generation? It is like a child sitting in the marketplaces calling out to others, ¹⁷ 'We played the flute for you and you didn't dance. We sang a funeral song and you didn't mourn.' ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' ¹⁹ Yet the Human One came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved to be right by her works."

The Father and the Son

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you've hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have shown them to babies. ²⁶ Indeed, Father, this brings you happiness.

²⁷ "My Father has handed all things over to me. No one knows the Son except the Father. And nobody knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wants to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Put on my yoke, and learn from me. I'm gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves. ³⁰ My yoke is easy to bear, and my burden is light."

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 MomentSister Jaime

Hymn of Preparation — "Lord I Want to Be A Christian" (song by Joy Alexander)

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

"Both Saint and Sinner"

Praise and Prayer Concerns

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.

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.**

Benediction



Announcements

As the Re-entering Task Force works diligently, the church will remain closed.

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.

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.

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.





Annual Conference will be held on Saturday, September 12th. (place has not been designated).

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

Jurisdictional Conference — TBA



"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)

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, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Laura Dotson, Mildred Awkward, Phillip Reese, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Eunice Parker, Hannah Polk, Delores Tyler

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