

*Sunday, February 7, 2021*  
*Fifth Sunday After the Epiphany*  
*Order of Service*

**Gathering Song**..... **“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”** (*Hymnal, #334*)  
*(being sung this morning by Doris Akers)*

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**..... **Cynthia**

**Leader:** O God, you have heard the anguish of our ancestors.

**Angie:** **Stony the road we tread.**

**Leader:** Their sounds echo time and remind us of our fore parents.

**Angie:** **Stony the road we tread!**

**Leader:** Many of our fore parents were brutally captured and forcibly enslaved.

**People:** **Stony the road we trod.**

**Leader:** Our ancestors were torn from their peaceful womb of their African homeland.

**People:** **Stony the road we trod. Now let us lift every voice and sing.**

**Hymn of Praise**..... **“Lift Every Voice and Sing”**  
*(sing along with Solomon Howard)*

- 1 Lift every voice and sing  
Till earth and heaven ring  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening skies  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun  
Let us march on till victory is won
- 2 Stony the road we trod  
Bitter the chastening rod  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died  
Yet with a steady beat  
Have not our weary feet

Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered  
Out from the gloomy past  
Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast

**3** God of our weary years  
God of our silent tears  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way  
Thou who has by Thy might Led us into the light  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee  
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand  
May we forever stand  
True to our God  
True to our native land  
Our native land

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

Foundation of All creation, we acknowledge that we do not always build on your solid rock, but too often on the shifting sands of worldly fads. We admit that we do not always sanctify our hearts and minds and bodies as holy temples of your Spirit. Additionally, by your grace you have emancipated our fore parents and lead us to this present day. We repent of our sins of renegeing upon your promises and ask your forgiveness. Grant us courage to sweep away the debris of unfaithfulness and dedicate ourselves anew to you this very day. In his name we make this prayer. **Amen.**

**The Invocation**

**Song of Meditation — “My Help”** (*featuring the Alfred Street Baptist Church Choir*)

**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. Just as your Word has been manna to those enslaved fore parents whom we remember today, so may it be a lamp unto our pathway. **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading #1** .....**Angie**  
(*Joshua 1:1–9, Common English Bible*)

**Orders from the LORD**

**1** After Moses the LORD’s servant died, the LORD spoke to Joshua, Nun’s son. He had been Moses’ helper. **2**”My servant Moses is dead. Now get ready to cross over the Jordan with this entire people to the land that I am going to give to the Israelites. **3** I am giving you every place where you set foot, exactly as I promised Moses. **4** Your territory will stretch from the desert and the Lebanon as far as the great Euphrates River, including all Hittite land, up to the Mediterranean Sea on the west. **5** No one will be able to stand up against you during your lifetime. I will be with you in the same way I was with Moses. I won’t desert you or leave

you. <sup>6</sup> Be brave and strong, because you are the one who will help this people take possession of the land, which I pledged to give to their ancestors.

<sup>7</sup> "Be very brave and strong as you carefully obey all of the Instruction that Moses my servant commanded you. Don't deviate even a bit from it, either to the right or left. Then you will have success wherever you go. <sup>8</sup> Never stop speaking about this Instruction scroll. Recite it day and night so you can carefully obey everything written in it. Then you will accomplish your objectives and you will succeed. <sup>9</sup> I've commanded you to be brave and strong, haven't I? Don't be alarmed or terrified, because the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

**Scripture Reading #2** ..... **Venita**  
(*1 Corinthians 9:16–23, Common English Bible*)

<sup>16</sup> If I preach the gospel, I have no reason to brag, since I'm obligated to do it. I'm in trouble if I don't preach the gospel. <sup>17</sup> If I do this voluntarily, I get rewarded for it. But if I'm forced to do it, then I've been charged with a responsibility. <sup>18</sup> What reward do I get? That when I preach, I offer the good news free of charge. That's why I don't use the rights to which I'm entitled through the gospel.

<sup>19</sup> Although I'm free from all people, I make myself a slave to all people, to recruit more of them. <sup>20</sup> I act like a Jew to the Jews, so I can recruit Jews. I act like I'm under the Law to those under the Law, so I can recruit those who are under the Law (though I myself am not under the Law). <sup>21</sup> I act like I'm outside the Law to those who are outside the Law, so I can recruit those outside the Law (though I'm not outside the law of God but rather under the law of Christ). <sup>22</sup> I act weak to the weak, so I can recruit the weak. I have become all things to all people, so I could save some by all possible means. <sup>23</sup> All the things I do are for the sake of the gospel, so I can be a partner with it.

**Scripture Reading #3** ..... **Charlotte**  
(*Mark 1:29–39, Common English Bible*)

### **Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law**

<sup>29</sup> After leaving the synagogue, Jesus, James, and John went home with Simon and Andrew. <sup>30</sup> Simon's mother-in-law was in bed, sick with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. <sup>31</sup> He went to her, took her by the hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she served them.

### **Jesus' ministry spreads**

<sup>32</sup> That evening, at sunset, people brought to Jesus those who were sick or demon-possessed. <sup>33</sup> The whole town gathered near the door. <sup>34</sup> He healed many who were sick with all kinds of diseases, and he threw out many demons. But he didn't let the demons speak, because they recognized him.

<sup>35</sup> Early in the morning, well before sunrise, Jesus rose and went to a deserted place where he could be alone in prayer. <sup>36</sup> Simon and those with him tracked him down. <sup>37</sup> When they found him, they told him, "Everyone's looking for you!"

<sup>38</sup> He replied, "Let's head in the other direction, to the nearby villages, so that I can preach there too. That's why I've come." <sup>39</sup> He traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and throwing out demons.

**Doxology – “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

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”**

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”**

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.**

**Black History Moment ..... All About Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**Hymn of Preparation — “I Love the Lord”** *(featuring Whitney Houston)*

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

**“Go On”**

**Praise and Prayer Concerns**

**Invitation / Altar Call**

**Invitation Selection — “We Shall Overcome”** *(featuring Morehouse Choir Glee Club)*

# *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 (Pastor will Lead, Cynthia will respond)

*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** (*song this morning by Andrea Bocelli*)

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 February 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)**

**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](mailto:reveugene@comcast.net))

*Condolence to the family of  
Charles Edward Burley "Sug"*

*Celebration of Life*

*Entrusted to: Howell Funeral Home*

*10220 Guilford Rd, Jessup, MD 20794*

*Viewing: Friday, February 12, 2021, 3:00 pm–8:00 pm*

*Final Viewing: Saturday, February 13, 2021, 10:00 am–11:00 am*

*Celebration of Life: 11:00 am*

Aaron Burley, Eric Smith, Brian Bailey, Rayvon Roy, Joyce Gibson, Tony Tingle, Mitchell Talley, LaKisha Thomas, James (Stoney) Carroll, 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), 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

**Eunice Dumas**

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**Umbrenda Fisher**

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**Ruth Miller**

1206 Peachwood Lane  
Bowie, MD 20716  
240.245.4560

**Mrs. Edlin Chambers**

14904 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Laurel, MD  
347.423.2764

**Diane Cobb**

410.802.1427

**Eric Smith's story:** [https://www.spotfund.com/story/5700aa0f-3368-4593-92ac-1cbcad6fa551?created=true&fbclid=IwAR22RY6XyC06K4w5c6Sy-3x29Pn7pZ29akpYwLOMgiuJCoNSltaIeImQSWM&referral\\_id=032c0c58-c7d8-4ca8-a181-4d44d1b3b971](https://www.spotfund.com/story/5700aa0f-3368-4593-92ac-1cbcad6fa551?created=true&fbclid=IwAR22RY6XyC06K4w5c6Sy-3x29Pn7pZ29akpYwLOMgiuJCoNSltaIeImQSWM&referral_id=032c0c58-c7d8-4ca8-a181-4d44d1b3b971)

#BECAUSEOFTHEMWE CAN

# BHM CHALLENGE

- AFFIRM A BLACK CHILD
- DONATE TO AN HBCU OF YOUR CHOICE
- FIND A PERSON IN BLACK HISTORY THAT YOU SHARE A BIRTHDAY WITH
- SHARE A PHOTO OF AN ANCESTOR
- RESEARCH BAYARD RUSTIN
- WATCH THE "THEY'VE GOTTA HAVE US" DOCUMENTARY
- TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR OF THE NMAAHC
- BUY & READ A BOOK BY A BLACK AUTHOR
- RESEARCH BARBARA JORDAN
- FIND AN EVERY DAY ITEM CREATED BY A BLACK INVENTOR
- INTERVIEW AN ELDER
- RECREATE AN ICONIC BLACK PHOTO
- RESEARCH FLEET WALKER
- SUPPORT A BLACK BUSINESS
- DOWNLOAD 3 BLACK-OWNED APPS
- COOK A FAMILY RECIPE
- RESEARCH ELLA BAKER
- CALL YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE & TELL THEM TO AUTHORIZE THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT
- HELP SOMEONE REGISTER TO VOTE
- RESEARCH BROCK PETERS
- LEARN ABOUT HISTORIC BLACK LANDMARKS IN YOUR CITY
- DONATE TO A BLACK CHARITY/FOOD BANK
- RESEARCH PEG LEG BATES RESORT
- LEARN THE FULL VERSION OF LIFT EV'RY VOICE AND SING
- DONATE SUPPLIES TO A BLACK TEACHER
- OPEN UP AN ACCOUNT WITH A BLACK OWNED BANK
- RESEARCH IDA B. WELLS
- PLAN A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION WITH YOUR FAMILY ON THE 28TH

BECAUSE  
OF THEM  
WE CAN

28 DAYS, 28 WAYS TO CELEBRATE