



May 30, 2021

# Trinity Sunday

## Order of Service

### Welcome

Whether you regularly worship at St. Mark's United Methodist or whether you're visiting with us, we encourage you to open your hearts and minds to what says the Lord. If you are a visitor, interested in becoming a member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church feel free to contact the church at **301.776.8885** | [emailstmarksimd@gmail.com](mailto:emailstmarksimd@gmail.com) | Pastor Matthews directly (**443.257.2730** | [reveugene@comcast.net](mailto:reveugene@comcast.net)). Our doors are always open, welcome.

**Gathering Song**..... **"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"** (*Hymnal, #334*)  
(*sing along with 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 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** ..... **Cynthia**

Leader: May the Lord grant us life and salvation.

**Sandy: O Lord, how majestic is thy name in all the earth.**

Leader: The Lord God created the moon, the stars and all things.

**Sandy: We praise and thank you, O Lord.**

Leader: Fill us with your Holy power.

**Sandy: Renew us in body and spirit this day by the power of your Word. Spirit of truth come. Come Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

**Hymn of Praise** ..... **“Holy, Holy, Holy”**  
*(sing along Cathedral Choristers)*

**1** Holy, holy, holy! Lord God  
almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall  
rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and  
mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed trinity!

**2** Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore  
thee,  
casting down their golden crowns  
around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down  
before thee,  
which wert, and art, and evermore  
shalt be.

**3** Holy, holy, holy! Though the  
darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinfulness thy  
glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none  
beside thee,  
perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

**4** Holy, holy, holy! Lord God  
almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name,  
in earth, and sky, and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and  
mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed trinity!

**Prayer of Confession and Assurance**

Almighty God, who created the world and deemed it good: we confess our failure in being wise stewards. You have gifted us with wholeness, and we have often fragmented this gift. O Holy Spirit who continues to descend upon us we confess we are more often ablaze with other passions. You attempt to bring unity to the church, but often we become confused over small things. This day we pray that you would provide us with the wisdom needed for these days and guide us through your presence as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer** *(song by Andrea Bocelli)*

**The Invocation**

**Song of Meditation** ..... **“Standing in the Need”**  
*(featuring John P. Kee)*

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

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the scriptures are read, and your WORD proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today, the voice of truth and grace. **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading #1** ..... **Sandy**  
(*Isaiah 6:1–8, Common English Bible*)

**The divine throne room**

**6** In the year of King Uzziah’s death, I saw the Lord sitting on a high and exalted throne, the edges of his robe filling the temple. <sup>2</sup> Winged creatures were stationed around him. Each had six wings: with two they veiled their faces, with two their feet, and with two they flew about. <sup>3</sup> They shouted to each other, saying:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of heavenly forces!  
All the earth is filled with God’s glory!”

<sup>4</sup> The doorframe shook at the sound of their shouting, and the house was filled with smoke.

<sup>5</sup> I said, “Mourn for me; I’m ruined! I’m a man with unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips. Yet I’ve seen the king, the LORD of heavenly forces!”

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the winged creatures flew to me, holding a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs. <sup>7</sup> He touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips. Your guilt has departed, and your sin is removed.”

<sup>8</sup> Then I heard the Lord’s voice saying, “Whom should I send, and who will go for us?”

I said, “I’m here; send me.”

**Scripture Reading #2** ..... **Charlotte**  
(*Romans 8:12–17, Common English Bible*)

<sup>12</sup> So then, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it isn’t an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness. <sup>13</sup> If you live on the basis of selfishness, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup> All who are led by God’s Spirit are God’s sons and daughters. <sup>15</sup> You didn’t receive a spirit of slavery to lead you back again into fear, but you received a Spirit that shows you are adopted as his children. With this Spirit, we cry, “Abba, Father.” <sup>16</sup> The same Spirit agrees with our spirit, that we are God’s children. <sup>17</sup> But if we are children, we are also heirs. We are God’s heirs and fellow heirs with Christ, if we really suffer with him so that we can also be glorified with him.

**Scripture Reading #3** ..... **Gemma**  
(*John 3:1–17, Common English Bible*)

**Jesus and Nicodemus**

**3** There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. <sup>2</sup> He came to Jesus at night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from

God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him.”

<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it’s not possible to see God’s kingdom.”

<sup>4</sup> Nicodemus asked, “How is it possible for an adult to be born? It’s impossible to enter the mother’s womb for a second time and be born, isn’t it?”

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, “I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it’s not possible to enter God’s kingdom. <sup>6</sup> Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Don’t be surprised that I said to you, ‘You must be born anew.’ <sup>8</sup> God’s Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don’t know where it comes from or where it is going. It’s the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

<sup>9</sup> Nicodemus said, “How are these things possible?”

<sup>10</sup> “Jesus answered, “You are a teacher of Israel and you don’t know these things? <sup>11</sup> I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don’t receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup> If I have told you about earthly things and you don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One. <sup>14</sup> Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up <sup>15</sup> so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won’t perish but will have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> God didn’t send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

### **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 — Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
    he came down from heaven,  
    was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
    and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
    is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in the one holy catholic\* and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
    for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. 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.**

### **Hymn of Preparation — “How Excellent Is Thy Name”**

*(featuring Soul Children of Chicago)*

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

## ***“Making A Believer Out of Me”***

**Praise and Prayer Concerns**

**Invitation / Altar Call**

**Invitation Selection — “How Great Thou Art”** *(featuring Mahalia Jackson)*

**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.



**CHOIR MEMBERS:** In preparation for our outdoor service on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be having choir rehearsal at **6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**.

**“A FRESH START (NOW)”** — Any person who would like to participate or discuss further the Ministry areas presented last week, please contact either Jaime, Nena or Rev. Matthews. **We desire to have many members as possible active in all of the various areas of Ministry.**

**Special Offering: Peace with Justice Sunday** enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs. The special offering benefits peace with justice ministries in the annual conference and through the General Board of Church and Society.

**ATTENTION:** Plans are being made to hold our first in-person **OUT-DOOR** Worship Service at St. Mark’s UMC on **Sunday, June 6, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.**, barring inclement weather. Members are requested to call or e-mail the church office to register in preparation for the service. Communion elements will be distributed on Saturday, June 5, 2021 (11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.) for those not planning to attend the service. All COVID-19 protocols will be observed. Feel free to bring your own lawn chairs, but chairs will be provided.

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

**“MIRACULOUS — Pastor and Wife’s Account of Illness and Recovery from COVID-19” – order your copy today:** Email or text your name and address to Sandy Johnson (sandra7767@msn.com or 410.530.0399). This information will be forwarded to Rev. DeFord. The book will be mailed to you, upon receiving, you should send your payment of **\$18.00** (cost of book, sales tax, and shipping fee) to Rev. George F. DeFord.

**Thinking Ahead:** If you have a birthday / anniversary in June, please email Cynthia.



**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))

Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Noble (BeBe) Smith, Marvin Hebron, Shelford Henry, Francis Desouza (Gemma’s son), Eric Smith, Brian Bailey, Rayvon Roy, Joyce Gibson, Tony Tingle, Mitchell Talley, LaKisha Thomas, James (Stoney) Carroll, Nena Hughes, Deysha Gibson, Gloria Thomas, Sharon Thomas, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, 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, Phillip Reese, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Hannah Polk, Delores Tyler

**Eunice Dumas**

1909 Sheffield Court  
Severn, MD 21144  
410.551.2435

**Umbrenda Fisher**

9160 Charlton Place  
Douglasville, GA 39135

**Laura Dotson**

7246 Guilford Road  
Clarksville MD 21029

**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