

Pentecost Sunday | May 24, 2026

A Joint Worship Service of
Trinity Episcopal,
Unity Fellowship of Columbia,
and Maryland Presbyterian



Before the Fire
Inspired by Acts 2:1-21
Soft pastel on vinyl fabric
By Lisle Gwynn Garrity

PROCESSIONAL

Praise the Spirit in Creation

Hymnal 1982, #506, verses 1-3



1 Praise the Spi - rit in cre - a - tion, breath of God, life's
2 Praise the Spi - rit, close com - pan - ion of our in - most
3 Praise the Spi - rit, who en - light - ened priests and pro - phets



1 or - i - gin: Spi - rit, mov - ing on the wa - ters,
2 thoughts and ways; who, in show - ing us God's won - ders,
3 with the word; his the truth be - hind the wis - doms



1 quick - ening worlds to life with - in, source of breath to
2 is him - self the power to gaze; and God's will, to
3 which as yet know not our Lord; by whose love and



1 all things breath - ing, life in whom all lives be - gin.
2 those who lis - ten by a still small voice con - veys.
3 power, in Je - sus God him - self was seen and heard.

WELCOME

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Siyahamba/ We are Marching

African American Heritage Hymnal, #164

We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
We are marching in the light of God.
 We are marching, marching,
 We are marching, oh, oh,
We are marching in the light of God.
 We are marching, marching,
 We are marching, oh, oh,
We are marching in the light of God.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos,
Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos.
Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos,
Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos.
 Siyahamba, oh, oh,
Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos.
 Siyahamba, oh, oh,
Siyahamb' ekukhanyeni kwenkos.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Unity Fellowship

Pulpit Assembly: We believe God is love and love is for everyone.

Congregation: **We believe it is impossible to love each other without a sense of mutual (equal) worth and respect for each other.**

Pulpit Assembly: We believe the scripture found in Romans 13:10 which reads, "Love worketh no ill to a neighbor, therefore love is the ful-filling of the law."

Congregation: **We believe the scripture found in 1st John 4:20 which reads, "It is impossible to love God whom we've never seen and hate our siblings who we see every day."**

Pulpit Assembly: We believe God is neither masculine of center nor feminine of center, God is one spirit. We are welcomed into the oneness of God.

Congregation: **We demand liberation theology for all, a theology that frees the oppressed therefore:**

Pulpit Assembly: Is not a hierarchy that is dominated by those masculine of center,

Congregation: **Not oppressive to those feminine of center,**

Pulpit Assembly: Not oppressive to those who are non-binary, gender nonconforming or any other expression of gender,

Congregation: **Not just European in scope,**

Pulpit Assembly: Must relate to people of color and their various cultures around the world,

Congregation: **Not oppressive to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and infinite expression yet to be seen/known,**

Pulpit Assembly: We acknowledge and condemn the violence inflicted on Indigenous People and Enslaved Africans by the oppressor and the use of Christian theology to justify stolen lands, bodies, culture, and identities,

Congregation: **We venerate our ancestors and honor their sacrifices. Their legacy lives on in us**

Pulpit Assembly: Encourages us to think and discern through human reason and experience.

Congregation: **We believe in the teachings of Jesus, but we do not dismiss all other faiths and beliefs as wrong or second to our way of believing.**

Pulpit Assembly: We believe God is greater than any religion, denomination, or school of thought.

Congregation: **We believe God is spirit, alive at work in Muslim Mosque, the Jewish Synagogue, the Christian church, Tribal ritual, and sacred spaces. God is everywhere present.**

Pulpit Assembly: We believe the Bible and all great spiritual writings or guides must be read taking into consideration the time of the writing, the traditions practiced at that time and the fact that we have the right to question and examine all Interpretations.

Congregation: **We believe a person's belief system:**

Pulpit Assembly: Must begin with healthy self-acceptance,

Congregation: **Must support spiritual growth,**

Pulpit Assembly: Must encourage physical, psychic and mental health.

Congregation: **We believe enlightenment and revelation are continuous and did not start or stop with the Bible writers.**

Pulpit Assembly: We believe to manifest love we must be involved in the affairs of society, fight for social justice, and provide for all according to our capability:

Congregation: **Feeding the hungry**

Pulpit Assembly: Clothing the naked

Congregation: **Providing education**

Pulpit Assembly: Visiting the sick and shut-in

Congregation: **Visiting the incarcerated**

All: **Housing the housing insecure**

Protecting and preserving human, animal, plant and marine life

Consoling and assisting with the transition of loved ones and the many other ways we might serve our human family.

PRAYERS FOR EACH OTHER AND THE WORLD

Resurrecting God, you overwhelmed
the death-dealing power of the Empire
and opened the gates of life everlasting.

War still rages. Hunger persists. Oppression still stings.

We lose hope in your resurrection.

In the power of the Holy Spirit,
may we be revived and proclaim
healing and peace to all creation.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S COMPASSION

Blessed Assurance

Hymn #839, v. 1

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of God's Spirit, washed in God's love.

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.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you!

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Theodore Allen Bass is brought forward by his parents and godparents.

Celebrant Name this child.

Godparents **We present Theodore Allen Bass to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Godparents **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Godparents **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Godparents **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Godparents **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Godparents **I do.**

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Godparents **I do.**

Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Godparents **I do.**

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this child in their life in Christ?

People **We will!**

Celebrant Let us join with these who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant. Do you believe in God the Father?

People **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

Celebrant Let us now pray for this child of God who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Intercessor Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant concludes.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water

All children are invited to come forward to get a closer look and help bless the water.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant continues as she empties the ewer into the font.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant and all the children touch the water as the Celebrant says,

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen!**

The Baptism

The Celebrant then pours water upon the candidate's head, saying

Theodore, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

Then the Celebrant places a hand on the child's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross with Chrism and saying

Theodore, you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen!**

The Celebrant lights a candle from the Paschal candle and presents to the child's family as a symbol of Christ's light. After explaining the candle the Celebrant says,

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your child the forgiveness of sin and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

People **Amen!**

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized!

People **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood. Thanks be to God!**

Any outburst of joy is appropriate at this time!

BAPTISMAL HYMN

We know that Christ is Raised

Hymnal 1982, #296, verses 1-2



1. We know that Christ is raised and dies no
2. We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing



more. Em - braced by death, he broke its
death. Re - born, we share with him an



fear - ful hold, And our de - spair he turned to
East - er life As liv - ing mem - bers of our



blaz - ing joy. Al - le - lu - ia!
Sav - ior Christ. Al - le - lu - ia!

LISTENING TO THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

I love to tell the story.

I love to tell the story.
T'will be my theme in glory,
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

John 20:19-23

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

READING FROM ACTS

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.
And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Minister Cole Terrance Randolph Williams I

SERMON HYMN:

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

African American Heritage Hymnal #326

1. 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.

Refrain: 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.

2. There are blessings you cannot receive
till you know him in his fullness and believe;
you're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." (Refrain)

SACRAMENT of COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

We gather at Jesus' table,
a place where his beloved have feasted for millennia,
where the divisions made by the empires of this world
cannot keep their stranglehold on us.
Here, we are raised up to God,
and in this small way,
practice living together as we will when Jesus returns.
Here, all that separates us from each other and from God has no power
Here, all who have ever eaten here and all who ever will
are knit together into one beloved community.
This is a table open to all by God herself.
No one can keep you away. Let us feast.

The Great Thanksgiving and Prayer

One: The Lord be with you!

All: **And also with you!**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O God, we sing your praises for the beauty of your creation.
 In the beginning, you formed every atom,
 every far-flung planet, every feather in a bird's wing,
 every inch of soil, every one of us, and called it whole.
 And when we fell away from that wholeness,
 and we needed you to guide us, you did.
 You sent prophets, liberators, poets, kings,
 and shepherds all to show us a path back to ourselves and you.
 We join in with all creation to sing your praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy
Presbyterian Hymnal #595

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you!
 San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra!

My heart knows how to say to you: you are ho - ly, Lord!
 Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res, Se - ñor!

In the fullness of time, you came too,
 to be God with Us in Jesus Christ.
 Holy are you, O God,
 The one who healed the sick,
 welcomed strangers, fed the hungry,
 defended the vulnerable,
 and turned our hearts to a realm
 where the smallest actions can move mountains,
 where the last are first, the poor are called righteous,
 and mourners dance with joy.

Your ministry threatened the powerful
and they tried to silence you by executing you on the cross,
but you died and rose again,
bearing wounds in your resurrected skin.

One: Great is the mystery of faith:

All: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Remembering all your acts of love and justice,
we set this table with the gifts you have given us
and rejoice as we are gathered up in your grace.
May our lives proclaim your work of resurrection.
Holy God, pour out your Spirit on us
and on this meal of bread and juice.
May we take courage from this reunion at the table,
and be nourished in mind, body, and spirit. Amen.

Friends, what we do here, we do in imitation of what Jesus first did. On the night before he died, as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave thanks, and broke it. He gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you. Do this to remember me." After supper, he took the cup of the common vine of the earth; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this cup is a promise God made available for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me." Whenever we eat and drink this meal we proclaim the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus until he comes again to turn the world right side up. Surely he will.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Today, we will take communion by intinction and by drinking from the cup. You may choose which one.

There are gluten-full and gluten-free breads. The cup is grape juice so all may partake.

*God's love is so deep and wide it does not know the boundaries of screens,
so please join the table from home by eating and drinking.*

Prayer After Receiving

Have all been fed?

Holy God, we give you thanks

for meeting us in the mystery of this sacrament,

for feeding us in body and in spirit,

for gathering us into one beloved community across eternity.

Send us from this table to be witnesses to the injustices around us

and give us eyes to see new life in the midst of it. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

Everytime I Feel the Spirit

African American Heritage Hymnal, #325

Refrain: Every time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.

Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart I will pray.

1. Upon the mountain when my God spoke,
Out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.
All around me, it looked so shine,
I asked my Lord if all was mine. [Refrain]

2. 'Ol Jordan River, chilly and cold,
It chills the body, but not the soul.
There ain't but one train that's on this track,
It runs to heaven and runs right back. [Refrain]

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**