

Bethel Presbyterian Church

May 31, 2026

An inclusive place of worship.

Trinity Sunday



Liturgist: Elder, Fredrica Williams; **Spiritual Leader:** Ruling Elder, Hernel Braham; **The Word:** Rev Tene Howard, Elder David Roebuck; **Organist:** Elder, Dollie Lowe; **Pianist:** open; **Scripture Reader:** Brother, Jim Howard, Brother, Marcus McArthur; **The Offering:** Deacon Babatunde Ayroinde, Elder Michael Lawrence, Brother Richard Wright

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE/GATHERING

Call to Worship

Liturgist

This is the day the Lord has made and we celebrate Trinity Sunday, remembering that every Lord's Day is consecrated to the triune God. On the first day of the week, God began creation. On the first day of the week, God raised Jesus from the grave. On the first day of the week, the Holy Spirit descended on the newly born church. *Let the people say....*

Every Sunday is special. Every Sunday is a day of the Holy Trinity. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Our help cometh from the Lord, maker of heaven and earth. Amen Ashe'

Hymn: AA#292

"All Hail the Power"

Congregation / Spiritual Leader

Welcome:

Liturgist

Call to Confession:

Liturgist

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. When we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us. Let us pray...

Prayer of Confession: *Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. In your mercy forgive us of our sins.*

Assurance of Pardon:

Elder David Roebuck

Hymn: AA#652

"Gloria Patria"

Passing of The Peace: Hymn: AA#498

"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Prayer for Illumination & Scripture Readings:

Bro. James Howard & Bro. Marcus McArthur

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen, Ashe'

Today's scriptures on Trinity Sunday from Revised Common Lectionary (Year A)

Reader 1: First reading

Genesis 1:1-2:24a

Reader 2: Second

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20

Hymn of Preparation: AA#291

"O how I love Jesus"

Spiritual Leader

Introduction of the Messenger:

The Word

Scripture

Sermon

Elder, David Roebuck

The Opportunity

Affirmation of Faith

Apostle Creed

Liturgist

I believe in God, the Father All Mighty, 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; he descended into hell; 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen, Ashe'

CHILDREN CIRCLE:

HYMN: AA#549 "THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE"

The Offering: Elder Mike Lawrence, Brother Richard Wright 2nd, Deacon Babatunde

Let Us Offer Our Gifts to God. In hope that the church can be a refuge for us and others, let us give our tithes and offerings to God.

[Bethel Online Giving](#)

Prayer of Dedication

God, who faithfully fortifies the world, bless our gifts and use them to protect all creation and allow us all to flourish in Your justice and love. Amen.

DOXOLOGY: AA#651 "Praise God"

Hymn of Comfort: AA#380

"No not One"

Elder Braham

Prayer List:

Elder Hernel Braham

Traveling mercy.....

Lifting up in Prayer: All servants of God names we called before, Elder Nick Stevens, Elder James Plummer, Elder, Hernel Braham, Elder, David Roebuck, Rev. T. Howard, Rev. Dr. Leonard Bethel, Rev. Fonda Dortch-Taylor, Elder Charlotte Wright family, Sister Yvonne Ruty, Sister Veronica Bethel, Pearl Lowe, Elaine Young, Minette Braham, Brother Stevie and Dosha McArthur, Brother, Lee McArthur, George Bowen, Brother John & Donna Cheatwood, Gus Spruill, Pius, Cory, Fred Cook, the Caretakers, others whose names not called, the hungry, homeless, victims of violence, finally the innocent caught in the middle of violence, and the crossfire of war...Lord have mercy on these innocent children and others impacted by violence. We give thanks to God for Aron Wright and others progress in recovery. Let it be Your will..... **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** "THE LORD'S PRAYER"

Acknowledgement: Honoring the fallen who served but not forgotten Leader-Elder, Michael Lawrence/Army Veteran: Frank McArthur Air Force Veteran

Reader-: Marcus McArthur:

Didn't you know, the date was May 1, 1865. One year after Arlington National Cemetery was founded in Virginia. Hidden in the dust bin of history, another cemetery 532 miles south mostly black people fresh out of slavery was becoming part of the founding of the day (now called Memorial Day) to honor fallen soldiers. Located in Charleston, SC, it was the final resting place of over 200 soldiers of color who died during the Civil War. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs document note that at least 25 places played a role in the early years of the holiday and one of the earliest and largest ceremonies documented by historians occurred in Charleston, South Carolina.

Confederate control of the badly damaged city had ended in February 1865, and Union troops had emancipated thousands of people there. Among the first tasks taken on was ensuring a proper burial for 257 soldiers found in mass graves near a racetrack at the Washington Race Course and Jockey Club, which had been used as a prison camp during the war.

After these soldiers had been re-interred in a new cemetery nearby, a crowd of roughly 10,000 people, including freedmen, missionaries, teachers, and soldiers, assembled at the racetrack and held a parade on May 1, 1865. The day featured thousands of schoolchildren carrying armloads of roses, women bearing flowers and wreaths, double-time marches by troops, choir performances of the "Star-Spangled Banner," and Bible recitations by local ministers. What happened some 152 years ago would remain buried for over a century until David Blight, a renowned Yale University professor, scholar and author, discovered that Blacks founded what is now known to millions of Americans as Memorial Day.

Let us pause for a moment in reflection to remember and pray... "Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in whose hands are the living and the dead: We give you thanks for all your servants who walked this earth, fought for freedom in country home and abroad for the betterment of humankind. Grant to them your mercy and the light

of your presence. May we always remember the sacrifice of those who served from our community now a distant memory. May their spirit live on within us that we shall never forget. We pray for the families that they may be lifted up in supreme happiness, joy and pride for lasting memories to share today with you and the generations to come. Well done servants of God rest in power. TAPS: Salute

Announcements:

Liturgist

- Bible Study and prayers of comfort Online Thursday at 7PM, will pause for summer break, date to be determined soon. Rev Tene Howard & Elder Hernel Braham co-leaders.
- Community outreach: Soup kitchen program 2nd Saturday monthly. The best Hot soup. Thanks to Mari Wright and the staff for their commitment. Contact Elder Charlotte Wright or Elder Michael Lawrence to get involved.
- Congratulations is in order to the 2026 graduates, families and supporters. Be proud and hold your head high. You deserve it and your accomplishments matter. Dream big and May God's blessings be with you this day and forevermore.
- Congratulations, Welcome Home for a short visit and update brother Jarel Pellew and bride(spouse) Carissia+?. I know you're still in honeymoon mode with new beginnings forthcoming. I am so disappointed that I was not here to greet you and Carissa to welcome you into the world of fatherhood in person. My prayers for you and your family will keep going up, letting the blessings shower down upon you. Thanks be to God, your Bethel church family in Plainfield New Jersey.
- Last Chance VOTE! Election day June 2nd. God bless

Closing Hymn: AA#297

"Take the Name of Jesus"

Elder Braham

BENEDICTION:

Rev. Tene Howard

Amen, Amen, Amen

Congregation

The coffee hour

"Let's talk about it"

Host Elder, Eric Williams and Brother Jim Howard