



Sunday, February 13, 2022
Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany
Black History Month
Order of Service

Cynthia Whitfield, Liturgist



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 | emailstmarkslmd@gmail.com | Pastor Matthews directly (443.257.2730 | reveugene@comcast.net). Our doors are always open, welcome.

Note: *As we continue with our virtual services, please consider turning on your cameras and using the chat to engage in the service.*

Gathering Song.....“Sweet, Sweet Spirit” (Hymnal, #334)

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: When God created man and woman, the freedom of persons was already established.

Deidre: **We are made in the image of God, African Americans and others.**

Leader: **BLACK LIVES MATTER!**

Deidre: **From one blood has God created all the races and nations on earth.**

Leader: **BLACK LIVES MATTER!**

Deidre: We are thankful for the lives of Rosa Parks, Medgar Evers, Fannie Lou Hamer, President Barak Obama, Vice President Kamala Harris and Martin Luther King, Jr.

Leader: BLACK LIVES MATTER!

Hymn of Praise **“We Shall Overcome”**
(sing along with Boys Choir of Harlem)

Prayer of Thanksgiving for Black Literature **Cynthia**

God of creative expression and giver of every good gift, we thank you for black authors, our storytellers who documented what has been done to us, what we have accomplished, and how we have accomplished it. From slave fiction, in poetry and drama, African Americans have captured the joys, pain, and triumphs and defeat of our people through their literary gifts. We remember Langston Hughes, James Baldwin, Ida B. Wells, James Weldon Johnson, Phyllis Wheatly and Maya Angelou. We praise you, O God, for those writers who so eloquently used their pens as well as their intellect. Thank you, God, for the insights they have shared with us. **Amen.**

The Invocation

The Lord’s Prayer *(song by Yolanda Adams)*

Song of Meditation — “Were It Not for Grace” *(featuring Larnelle Harris)*

The Prayer of Illumination **Cynthia**

O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind; in whom to dwell is to find peace and security; toward whom to turn is to find life and life eternal, we humbly beseech Thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldst be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, Thy saving health unto all nations. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1 **Tina**
(Genesis 45:1–8, New International Version)

Joseph Makes Himself Known

45 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all his attendants, and he cried out, “Have everyone leave my presence!” So there was no one with Joseph when he made himself known to his brothers. ² And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard him, and Pharaoh’s household heard about it.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still living?” But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come close to me.” When they had done so, he said, “I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ And now, do not be

distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

⁸ “So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt.

Scripture Reading #2 **Larry**
(*1 Corinthians 15:12–20, New International Version*)

The Resurrection of the Dead

¹² But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Scripture Reading #3 **Deidre**
(*Luke 6:17–26, New International Version*)

Blessings and Woes

¹⁷ He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸ who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹ and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now,
for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² Blessed are you when people hate you,
when they exclude you and insult you
and reject your name as evil,
because of the Son of Man.

²³ “Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have already received your comfort.

²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now,
for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you,
for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

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

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” Cynthia

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” Cynthia

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 — “But God” (featuring Larnelle Harris)

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

“But God”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call

Invitation Selection — “Dream On” (*featuring Larnelle Harris*)

Announcements

Benediction

Announcements

Pastor’s Hrs. — Tuesday and Thursday (11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.)

Millicent Hrs. — Tuesday and Thursday (10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.)

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.



The following Bible selections are provided for this week:

February 14th – February 20th

Day 45 – Exodus 19:1–25

Day 49 – Numbers 12:1–16

Day 46 – Exodus 20:1–22

Day 50 – Numbers 13:1–14:4

Day 47 – Exodus 32:1–29

Day 51 – Numbers 14:5–45

Day 48 – Exodus 40:1–38

Tuesday Men’s Bible Study (7:00 p.m.) **ON HIATUS** — Zoom information/call in: [Click Here To Join Zoom Meeting](#). Copy and paste into your browser if the link above does not work:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84876087048?pwd=K201NEwzWmplMFZMenVqTnJlL0d0QT09>; **Meeting ID:** 848 7608 7048, **Passcode:** 803201; **Phone Option** — One tap mobile: +13017158592,,84876087048#,,, *803201# US (Washington DC)

Wednesday Night Experience (7:15 p.m.) — This is our weekly Bible Study, based on the Wednesday reading in Upper Room. **Call in #267.807.9611;**
Access Code: 331960.

Sunday, February 27th (during morning service) — **Service of Songs** — With music being such an important part of our heritage, in this service we would like you to request favorite hymns or gospel songs to be played or sung. Min. Tindal has agreed to help us out with this service, if you have a song or a group would like to perform a song, he's willing to meet you at the church to do a recording. If there is a special message behind your request, you can also share that with us. If you are recording a song, please forward your recording to either Jaime or myself. We will honor as many requests as possible. All requests need to be made by **Friday, February 25th** to be included in the service.

Link for **Sacred Grounds Pledge**: <https://support.nwf.org/page/37119/survey/1>

Kudos to the panel who participated in the “Food and Faith at St. Mark’s and the Grove”



Exhibition Opening **Friday, February 18th** at **The Laurel Museum**, 817 Main Street, Laurel, MD;
Hours 12:00–4:00 p.m. Saturday/Sunday

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 and place it in church mailbox
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>)

Again, thank you. Just remember, even during the pandemic, the church building still has obligations that need to be met.

ST. MARK'S, IT'S TIME TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS!!

Because of COVID 19, the 2022 Winter Shelter is being held at the Comfort Inn in Beltsville. Men, women, and children are being housed in the shelter. Below is a Donations List of items that are needed for the shelter residents. Since we are not worshipping in the Sanctuary, the items can be brought to St. Mark's on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** from **11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.** The final drop-off will be **Saturday, February 19th** (11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.). Please remember how God has blessed you, and now it is time for you to bless others in need!!

DONATIONS LIST for Winter Shelter

Non-Perishable Food

Juice Boxes
Individual Cereal
Snack Items (Bulk - Popcorn, Chips, Cookies, Crackers, Candy Bars, etc.)

Cleaning Supplies:

Disinfectant Wipes
Fabric Softener'
Dryer Sheets
Lysol Spray
Cleaning Solutions (Spray Bottles)
Laundry Detergent (Pods)
Clorox Bleach

Baby Supplies:

Baby Food (Size 4,5,6 & Pull-ups)
Baby wipes
Pampers
Baby lotion, soaps, powder
Baby Tylenol/pain relief
Baby Lotion
Children's underwear boys and girls
 Toddler (2T-6T)
 Little Kid (4-6X)
 Big Kid or Tween (7-16)

Hygiene Kits (Male & Female)

Deodorant
Razors
Shaving Cream
Comb-Brush
Toothpaste / Toothbrush
Axe Body Spray
Liquid Soap
Shampoo
Lotion
Feminine Hygiene pads

Transportation

Uber / Lyft
Smartrip Metro Cards

Retail Gift Cards

Walmart
Target
Macy's
Big Lots
Best Buy
Gift Cards
Visa
Master
Amex
Discover

Food Gift Cards

McDonald's,
Wendy's,
Subway
Popeye's
KFC
Chipotle
Duncan Donuts
Olive Garden

Grocery Store Gift Cards

Sam's Club
Costco
Bj's



*“Proclaiming Christ to the generations...
Equipping disciples to transform the world”*

Special Prayers / Sick and Shut-In List: If you hear of anyone that needs special prayer or is taken to the hospital, please contact:

Rev. Eugene Matthews (443.257.2730 (cell), 410.379.0600 (home),
reveugene@comcast.net)

Millicent George, James Wilson Sr., Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Larry Powell, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom); Hayden Harris (Gemma's cousin), Floyd Hughes Sr., Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Shelford Henry, Francis Desouza (Gemma's son), Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Jeanette Reeves, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone / Pat Mundell, Joan Moore, Ernestine Gibson, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Hannah Polk

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