

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707

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"We come together at St. Mark's to praise God, celebrate His love for us, and grow together in Christ by equipping the people of God to implement and spread His Word to the world."

Rev. Eugene W. Matthews, Pastor

401.379.0600 | 443.257.2730 (cell) | reveugene@comcast.net

Rev. Dr. George F. DeFord, Pastor Emeritus

Bishop LaTrelle Millet Easterling

Baltimore/Washington Conference

Rev. Sarah Schlieckert

*District Superintendent
for the Southern Annapolis Region*

Welcome, as we gather here to worship!

Sunday, June 5, 2022

*Pentecost Sunday
Holy Communion*

Order of Service

Ushers: Cynthia Burley and Gemma Desousa-Ottley

Brother Charles Gregg, Worship Leader

PreludeRev. Henry Tindal

Lighting of the Candles Usher

Gathering Song.....St. Mark's Choir/Congregation

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

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 Brother Charles Gregg

Leader: Come, O Holy Spirit come.

People: Rejoice all the heavens.

Leader: Come, O Holy Spirit come.

People: Rejoice all the heavens.

Leader: Come almighty Spirit, Come.

All: Come, Come, O Holy Spirit come!!

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

Refrain

Every time I feel the spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.

1. Upon the mountain, my Lord spoke,
out his mouth came fire and smoke.
All around me looks so shine,
ask my Lord if all was mine. **(Refrain)**
2. Jordan river runs right cold,
chills the body, not the soul
Ain't but one train on this track,
runs to heaven and right back. **(Refrain)**

Prayer of Confession and Assurance *(Unison)*

Spirit of life, we confess that often we fail to honor life. Blow your life-giving breath through us. Spirit of love, we confess that lovelessness prevails in our lives. Shower us with the grace of your Son. Open our hearts to Jesus Christ, the word and wisdom for this world. Spirit of gentleness, we confess the hardness of our hearts. Whisper new imagination, new dreams into our minds. Bind us together and heal our divisions. Come Spirit come. **Amen.**

The Invocation..... **Brother Charles Gregg**
Song of Meditation **St. Mark's Choir**

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 Come Holy Spirit, come. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1 **Brother Charles Gregg**
(Acts 2:1-21, Common English Bible)

2 When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ They saw

what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

⁵ There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. ⁷ They were surprised and amazed, saying, "Look, aren't all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? ⁸ How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!" ¹² They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, "What does this mean?" ¹³ Others jeered at them, saying, "They're full of new wine!"

¹⁴ Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, "Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! ¹⁵ These people aren't drunk, as you suspect; after all, it's only nine o'clock in the morning! ¹⁶ Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ *In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
Your young will see visions.
Your elders will dream dreams.*

¹⁸ *Even upon my servants, men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.*

¹⁹ *I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.*

²⁰ *The sun will be changed into darkness,
and the moon will be changed into blood,
before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.*

²¹ *And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Scripture Reading #2 Brother Charles Gregg
(Romans 8:14–17, Common English Bible)

¹⁴ All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters.
¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ The same Spirit agrees with our spirit, that we are God's children. ¹⁷ 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.

Blessing of Offering..... Brother Charles Gregg
Selection St. Mark's Choir

Scripture Reading #3 Brother Charles Gregg
(John 14:8–17, 25–27, Common English Bible)

⁸ Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father; that will be enough for us."

⁹ Jesus replied, "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been with you all this time? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I have spoken to you I don't speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Trust me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or at least believe on account of the works themselves. ¹² I assure you that whoever believes in me will do the works that I do. They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask for in my name, so that the Father can be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ When you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.

I won't leave you as orphans

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and he will send another Companion, who will be with you forever. ¹⁷ This Companion is the Spirit of Truth, whom the world can't receive because it neither sees him nor recognizes him. You know him, because he lives with you and will be with you.

²⁵ "I have spoken these things to you while I am with you. ²⁶ The Companion, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my

name, will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I told you.

²⁷ "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you. I give to you not as the world gives. Don't be troubled or afraid.

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.**

Hymn of Preparation..... St. Mark's Choir

Inspirational Message..... Rev. Dr. George F. DeFord

“Endorsed By the Holy Spirit”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call Rev. Dr. George F. DeFord

Invitation Selection St. Mark's Choir

Holy Communion

Rev. Eugene W. Matthews, Celebrant

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

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.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*sung by choir*)

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

Pastor's Special Moment

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 June Members



Birthdays

Jannette Shuford-Reeves – 2nd

Jaylah Robertson: 5th

Rev. Eugene Matthews – 13th

Delores Stratford – 14th

Sharon Thomas – 17th

Cynthia Whitfield – 17th

Tyrone Mundell – 20th

Anniversaries

David and Cynthia Burley (52 yrs.) – 13th



Heavenly Birthdays



Gilbert Nicholson – 14th

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.



Ushers and Liturgist Needed: To current ushers, if you can't be on-duty on your Sunday, please notify Gemma DeSouza

The following Bible selections are provided for this week:

June 6th – June 12th

Day 157 — Luke 1:5–25

Day 158 — Luke 1:26–56

Day 159 — Luke 1:57–80

Day 160 — Matthew 1:1–25

Day 161 — Luke 2:1–20

Day 162 — Luke 2:21–39

Day 163 — Matthew 2:13–23

Ladies Roundtable — On hiatus (watch for start up date)

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.**

Thursday, June 9th (7:00 p.m.) —**Choir** rehearsal

Sunday, June 12th — Special Offering – Peace and Justice Sunday. United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. The offering is administered by the General Board of Church and Society and benefits peace with justice ministries in the Annual Conferences and around the world.



Exhibition Opened at **The Laurel Museum,**
817 Main Street, Laurel
Hours 12:00–4:00 p.m. Saturday/Sunday

Group Outing — I have reserved 20 orchestra seats to see “**Tina – The Musical**” at the National Theater (Washington, DC) on **Saturday, October 15th** at 2:00 pm. **Tickets: \$115 per ticket.** Reserve your ticket, you can make payments with all money being due by **September 11th**. As usual, we will try to provide transportation.

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.



Day of Prayer

Join in our time of Ecumenical Prayer,
sponsored by the Faith and Religion
Committee of the Howard County NAACP,
Branch #7020

@ Lake Kittamaqundi
Columbia, Maryland

GUEST SPEAKERS

Rev. Mary Ka Kanahan, Pastor
St. John United Church

Elder Christopher Wolf
Grace Community Church

Deacon Allen Greene
St. Paul Catholic Church

Rev. Dr. Ricky Harvey, Jr.
Assistant Pastor
St. John Baptist Church

Rabbi Gordon Fuller, Vice President
The Jewish Federation of Howard County

Closing Remarks: Howard County Executive Calvin Ball

"Treat others the way you would like to be treated;
wish for others what you wish for yourself."



**SAVE THE
DATE**

**SATURDAY
JUNE 11, 2022
AT 10:00 A.M.**



*"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)

Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Shawn Settles, Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Gail Edwards (Gemma's cousin), Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Larry Powell, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom); Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Francis Desouza (Gemma's son), Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone Mundell, Joan Moore, Ernestine Gibson, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Hannah Polk

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