

# *St. Mark's United Methodist Church*

*601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707*

*301.776.8885 | stmarkslmd@gmail.com*



*"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***

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***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, September 11, 2022*

*“Remembering 911”*

*Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost*

*Order of Service*

*Ushers:*

*Gemma DeSouza-Ottley and Joseph Daniels*

*Brother Anthony Latney, Worship Leader*

**Prelude .....Rev. 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 Anthony Latney**

Leader: O Lord, we come seeking your healing and deliverance.

**People: Great is your faithfulness.**

Leader: We know our destiny is in your hands.

**People: Great is your faithfulness.**

Leader: Our confidence is based on your love and mercy’

**People: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord.**



*“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

**Refrain:**

Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

- 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **[Refrain]**
- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **[Refrain]**

**Prayer of Confession and Assurance** (*Unison*)

Gracious Provider, despite the witness of your wonders, we find ourselves searching for healing. We suffer affliction and continue trying to heal ourselves. In our hearts we know that you are the source of all that is good, yet our heads lead us into confusion and doubt. Now we come to you in humility, begging you to strengthen our faith. Feed us this morning with the crumbs of your goodness that we might resist temptations and avoid evil. God restore us and forgive us of our sins. **Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer** (*sung*)

**The Invocation**..... **Brother Anthony Latney**  
**Song of Meditation** ..... **St. Mark’s Choir**

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

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed and do what you have

commanded. May we find the power and wisdom of God in the words we hear today.

**Scripture Reading #1** ..... **Brother Anthony Latney**  
(*Jeremiah 4:11–12, 22–28, Common English Bible*)

<sup>11</sup> At that time, this people and Jerusalem will be told:

A blistering wind from the bare heights;  
it rages in the desert toward my people,  
not merely to winnow or cleanse.

<sup>12</sup> This wind is too devastating for that.

Now I, even I, will pronounce my sentence against them.

<sup>22</sup> My people are foolish.

They don't even know me!  
They are thoughtless children  
without understanding;  
they are skilled at doing wrong,  
inept at doing right.

<sup>23</sup> I looked at the earth,  
and it was without shape or form;  
at the heavens  
and there was no light.

<sup>24</sup> I looked at the mountains  
and they were quaking;  
all the hills were rocking back and forth.

<sup>25</sup> I looked and there was no one left;  
every bird in the sky had taken flight.

<sup>26</sup> I looked and the fertile land was a desert;  
all its towns were in ruins  
before the Lord,  
before his fury.

<sup>27</sup> The Lord proclaims:  
The whole earth will become a desolation,  
but I will not destroy it completely.

<sup>28</sup> Therefore, the earth will grieve  
and the heavens grow dark  
because I have declared my plan  
and will neither change my mind  
nor cancel the plan.

**Scripture Reading #2** ..... **Brother Anthony Latney**  
(1 Timothy 1:12–17, Common English Bible)

**Thanksgiving**

<sup>12</sup> I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength because he considered me faithful. So he appointed me to ministry <sup>13</sup> even though I used to speak against him, attack his people, and I was proud. But I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and without faith. <sup>14</sup> Our Lord’s favor poured all over me along with the faithfulness and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> This saying is reliable and deserves full acceptance: “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners”—and I’m the biggest sinner of all. <sup>16</sup> But this is why I was shown mercy, so that Christ Jesus could show his endless patience to me first of all. So I’m an example for those who are going to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> Now to the king of the ages, to the immortal, invisible, and only God, may honor and glory be given to him forever and always! Amen.

**Tithes and Offering**

**Blessing of Offering**..... **Brother Anthony Latney**

**Selection** ..... **St. Mark’s Choir**

**Scripture Reading #3** ..... **Brother Anthony Latney**  
(Matthew 18:21–35, Common English Bible)

**Parable of the unforgiving servant**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Should I forgive as many as seven times?”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus said, “Not just seven times, but rather as many as seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup> Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> When he began to settle accounts, they brought to him a servant who owed him ten thousand bags of gold. <sup>25</sup> Because the servant didn’t have enough to pay it back, the master ordered that he should be sold, along with his wife and children and everything he had, and that the proceeds should be used as payment. <sup>26</sup> But the servant fell down, kneeled before him, and said, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I’ll pay you back.’ <sup>27</sup> The master had compassion on that servant, released him, and forgave the loan.

<sup>28</sup> “When that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred coins. He grabbed him around the throat and said, ‘Pay me back what you owe me.’

<sup>29</sup> “Then his fellow servant fell down and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I’ll pay you back.’ <sup>30</sup> But he refused. Instead, he threw him into prison until he paid back his debt.

<sup>31</sup> “When his fellow servants saw what happened, they were deeply offended. They came and told their master all that happened. <sup>32</sup> His master called the first servant and said, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you appealed to me. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn’t you also have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup> His master was furious and handed him over to the guard responsible for punishing prisoners, until he had paid the whole debt.

<sup>35</sup> “My heavenly Father will also do the same to you if you don’t forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

**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. Eugene W. Matthews**

***“Forgiving and Forgetting”***

**Praise and Prayer Concerns**

**Invitation / Altar Call ..... Rev. Eugene W. Matthews**

**Invitation Selection ..... St. Mark’s Choir**

**Welcome of Visitors**

**Announcements**

**Pastor’s Moment**

**Benediction**

# Announcements

**Reminder from Pastor Matthews:** With the new variants of Covid, please remember to wear your mask while you are in the sanctuary.

## 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:

### September 12<sup>th</sup> – September 18<sup>th</sup>

Day 255 — John 13:1–20	Day 258 — John 14:15–31
Day 256 — John 13:21–38	Day 259 — John 15:1–14
Day 257 — John 14:1–14	Day 260 — John 15:17–16:4
	Day 261 — John 16:5–33

**Today, Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** (following morning service) — Ms. Cynthia would like to have a brief meeting with the **women of St. Mark's**.

**Ladies Roundtable** (6:30 p.m.) — **Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**. Zoom information forthcoming.

**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, September 15<sup>th</sup>** (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir** rehearsal

**Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>** (10:00 a.m.) — **Annual Homecoming** — “**God Is Not Through With Us Yet**”. Preacher of the hour, Rev. Dr. Sonia L. King. **Please be present and bring a family member or friend.** If possible, a sacrificial offering is requested.

**Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>** — **World Communion Sunday** – United Methodists, in conjunction with other denominations and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. This universal and inclusive connection is the foundation of the **special offering** for World Communion Sunday.

**Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>** (6:00 p.m.) — **Annual Church Conference**. All reports are due in the Annapolis District office by October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Group Outing** — “**Tina – The Musical**” at the National Theater (Washington, DC) on **Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** at 2:00 pm. **Tickets: \$115**

**per ticket.** Money due today, **September 11<sup>th</sup>**. Please see me following the service this morning.

**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.



*“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))

All branches of the Military, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Shawn Settles, Jannette Shuford-Reeves, 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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