

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

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, November 13, 2022

Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost

Ushers:

Ralph Laguerre and Thomas Matthews

Order of Service

Sister Erica Roy, Worship Leader

Prelude Brother Warren Campbell

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 Sister Erica Roy

Leader: For making us as your creatures,

People: **we thank you, our God.**

Leader: For calling us as your servants,

People: **we obey you, our Lord.**

Leader: For adopting us, as your children,

People: **we love you , our Creator.**

All: **We honor you as our Lord and Savior.**

“Amazing Grace”

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
2. ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come; ‘tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
4. `The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures; he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.
5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease, I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.
6. When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

Loving and merciful God, forgive us, we pray, for being ruled by the powerful appetites and instincts by which we survive in this world. Grant us instead the mind and will to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Jesus through whose resurrection we have life in the world to come. **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer (*sung*)

The Invocation.....**Sister Erica Roy**
Song of Meditation **St. Mark’s Choir**

The Prayer of Illumination (*In Unison*)

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the scriptures are read, and the word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts and let all else slip away. May there be one voice we hear today – the voice of truth and grace. May the word burn in our hearts as the Bread of life continue to feed our souls daily. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1**Sister Erica Roy**
(*Isaiah 12:1–6, New International Version*)

Songs of Praise

12 In that day you will say:

“I will praise you, Lord.

Although you were angry with me,
your anger has turned away
and you have comforted me.

² Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust and not be afraid.

The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense;
he has become my salvation.”

³ With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

⁴ In that day you will say:

“Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done,
and proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things;
let this be known to all the world.

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,
for great is the Holy One of Israel among you.”

Scripture Reading #2**Sister Erica Roy**
(*2 Thessalonians 3:6–13, New International Version*)

Warning Against Idleness

⁶ In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, ⁸ nor did we eat anyone’s food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. ⁹ We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: “The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.”

¹¹ We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. ¹² Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat. ¹³ And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.

Selection St. Mark's Choir

**Blessing of the OfferingSister Erica Roy
Offertory**

**Scripture Reading #3Sister Erica Roy
(Luke 21:5–19, New International Version)**

The Destruction of the Temple and Signs of the End Times

⁵ Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, ⁶ "As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down."

⁷ "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?"

⁸ He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them. ⁹ When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away."

¹⁰ Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹ There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.

¹² "But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. ¹³ And so you will bear testimony to me. ¹⁴ But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. ¹⁵ For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ Everyone will

hate you because of me. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ Stand firm, and you will win life.

The Gloria Patri – “Glory Be to the Father” (Hymnal, #71)

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..... St. Mark’s Choir

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

“Doing the Right Thing”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call

Invitation Selection

Acknowledgement of Visitors / Announcements

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.



Laurel Police Department Request: The Community Engagement Branch of the Laurel Police Department is looking for a family in need with children to sponsor this Christmas. Information needed by Thanksgiving. If you are aware of a family, please contact Jackie Jones for further details.

Advent Season will begin on **Sunday, November 27th**. We would need 4 persons or families to participate in this service each week. We will be using the liturgies from the Upper Room, if you don't have one available, I can provide you with a copy of the service for your week. We are asking that you be willing to do a 2- or 3-minute reflection on the questions. If interested, please contact Cynthia (via email or phone).

The following Bible selections are provided for this week:

November 14th – November 20th

Day 318 — Acts 25:1–27	Day 321 — Acts 27:27–44
Day 319 — Acts 26:1–32	Day 322 — Acts 28:1–14
Day 320 — Acts 27:1–26	Day 323 — Acts 28:15–31
	Day 324 — Romans 5:1–11

Tuesday, November 15th (6:00 p.m.) — **Annual Church Conference.** Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94988927397?pwd=K2RYd3BoalpqRFVnK0pWbWZVMY9Ydz09>

Meeting ID: 949 8892 7397, Passcode: 502162

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,94988927397#,,, *502162# 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.

Thursday, November 17th (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir rehearsal for the Women's Day choir.** Ladies please come out and support.

Saturday, November 19th (9:30) — **Pre-Women's Day Prayer Breakfast — "Women in Seasonal Shades of God's Garden"** (*1 Peter 3:3-4*). We will gather in the Fellowship Hall from 9:30-11:00 a.m. for a continental breakfast. **Please see Ms. Cynthia to sign-up for the item you will be bringing on Saturday so that we will not have an abundance of one thing.** Thank you, ladies, for being willing to donate. Also, there will be a free-will offering. Service will start at 11:00 a.m. Our speaker for the hour: **Rev. Nicole Guns.**

Sunday, November 20th (10:00 a.m.) — **Annual Women's Day – "Women in Seasonal Shades of God's Garden"** (*1 Peter 3:3-4*). Our speaker for the hour will be **Elderess Paula Simms.** Women's Day Committee (Cynthia Augustus, Charlotte and Sharon Thomas). Our color this year will be an array of Fall colors and women are asked to give a sacrificial donation of \$100.

Sunday, November 27th — **United Methodist Student Day** — A Special Sunday offering supports scholarships and low-interest loans that help young leaders achieve their dreams.

Tuesday, November 29th (6:30 p.m.) — **Women's Roundtable.**
Join Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88571184455?pwd=UmpvVERkcjkyVFVoVHR1YlJxK284Zz09>,

Meeting ID: 885 7118 4455; **Passcode:** 459563

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,88571184455#,,, *459563#

LARS "Adopt-A-Family" Christmas Program

We are sponsoring 4 children. Please select the item(s) you would like to donate from the attached Wishlist sheet. Then let Sandy Johnson (cell: 410-530-0399, sandra7767@msn.com) or Millicent George (stmarkslmd@gmail.com) know the items you are donating. The items should be wrapped or placed in gift bags. **PLEASE write the Family Number, Child's Initials, age, and**

gender on each individual gift. Bring the gifts to St. Mark's on Sunday, December 4th, Tuesday, December 6th or Thursday, December 8th (**last day**) between 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. We're praying every St. Mark's member will participate. Thank you for being a blessing to these children.

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/stmarkslmd>)

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

Church Directory Update

It's that time again. We are asking for additional information, so even if your information is the same, please fill out and return to me. People are requesting updated directory for the upcoming holidays, so if I can get responses back by December 1st it will be much appreciated. Thank you in advance.

If you are printing, please do so legibility and use black/blue ink

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

Birthday: _____

Anniversary: _____

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

FAMILY #3 - WISHLISTS

JM

Age: 7 Gender: Male
Favorite Color: Blue

~~Shirt Size 7 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Pants Size 7 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Jacket/Coat Size 7/8 Kids~~ —
TAKEN

~~Shoes Size 13 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Bicycle~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Skateboard~~ — **TAKEN**

Historic Event Books

~~Anime/Comic Books~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Walmart Gift Card~~ — **TAKEN**

KY

Age: 12 Gender: Male
Favorite Color: Black

~~Shirt Size 16 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Pants Size 16 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Jacket/Coat Size 16/18 Kids~~ —
TAKEN

~~Tennis Shoes Size 10 Adult~~ —
TAKEN

Bicycle

~~Karaoke Machine~~ — **TAKEN**

History/Art History Books

~~Comic Books~~ — **TAKEN**

Information About The Family

I am a single mother of 2 who has passed through very difficult times. I divorced my ex-husband due to domestic violence and was placed in a shelter for 2 months. COVID-19 has presented many challenges for my family.

HOUSEHOLD NEEDS

- ~~1. Queen Bed Sheets~~ — **TAKEN**
2. Dresser
- ~~3. Winter Bed Sheets Queen~~ — **TAKEN**

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

FAMILY #7 - WISHLISTS

JL

Age: 16 Months
Gender: Female
Favorite Color: Red

~~Shirt - Size 3T Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Pants - Size 3T Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Jacket/Coat - Size 3T Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Shoes - Size 7 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Pampers: Size 6~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Wipes~~ — **TAKEN**

Tablet

Amazon Gift Card

Likes Cocomelon and Bartolito

MR

Age: 14 Gender: Female
Favorite Colors: Black, Red,
White

~~Shirt - Size 14/16 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Pants - Size 14 Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Jacket/Coat - Size 14L Kids~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Shoes - Size 7½ Adult~~

~~Air Force 1's White or Black cats~~

~~Jordan 4~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Nintendo Switch Tablet for~~

~~Homework~~ — **TAKEN**

Mouth Guard and Soccer Cleats

Harry Potter Books

Ed and Lorraine Warren Books

~~Amazon Gift Card~~ — **TAKEN**

~~Google Play Gift Card~~ — **TAKEN**

Information About The Family

Right now challenges we are going through is the rent payments. This is a big help for my family, and hope God multiplies your blessings for all the good you are doing.

HOUSEHOLD NEEDS

~~1. Blender~~ — **TAKEN**

~~2. TV~~ — **TAKEN**

~~3. Set of pots and pans~~ — **TAKEN**



*"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)

Rev. Henry Tindal, Rev. George F. DeFord, Janet Carey, Lafayette Harvey, David Burley Sr., All branches of the Military, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Shawn Settles, Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom); Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Francis Desouza (Gemma's son), Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone Mundell, Joan Moore, Ernestine Gibson, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Hannah Polk

Eunice Dumas

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240.245.4560

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