

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*

First Sunday of Advent

Encounter Hope



Sunday, November 27, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Welcome, as we gather here to worship!

Sunday, November 27, 2022

United Methodist Student Day

First Sunday of Advent:

Encounter Hope

Ushers:

Ralph Laguerre and Thomas Matthews

Order of Service

Jaime and Eli Coffen, Worship Leaders

Prelude Rev. Henry Tindel

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 Jaime / Eli Coffen

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, let us go to the house of the Lord.

People: **We have come to the house of the Lord to worship on this first Sunday of Advent.**

Leader: Come; let us give thanks to the name of the Lord!

People: We have come to give thanks in the name of the Lord for all God has done for us.

Leader: In this season of Advent, let us pray for peace and prosperity throughout the world.

People: We have come to seek Jesus.

All: Come, let us worship together in God's Name.

Lighting of the Advent Candle — Encounter Hope
Thomas and Tina Matthews

Hymn of Praise.....St. Mark's Choir/Congregation

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"
3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

As our world prepares for Christmas, we begin our Advent journey remembering the events that lead to the birth of Jesus and his promises that he will come again. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the world's celebration that we forget the reason for the season; you loved us so much that you sent your son to show us how to love. Help us to live and share the love and hope of Jesus to the community and the world. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

The Invocation.....**Jaime / Eli Coffen**
Song of Meditation..... **St. Mark's Choir**

The Prayer of Illumination (*In Unison*)

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days and walk with us until the day of your coming. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1**Jaime / Eli Coffen**
(Romans 13:11-14, Common English Bible)

The day is near

¹¹ As you do all this, you know what time it is. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. Now our salvation is nearer than when we first had faith. ¹² The night is almost over, and the day is near. So let's get rid of the actions that belong to the darkness and put on the weapons of light. ¹³ Let's behave appropriately as people who live in the day, not in partying and getting drunk, not in sleeping around and obscene behavior, not in fighting and obsession. ¹⁴ Instead, dress yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and don't plan to indulge your selfish desires.

Selection **St. Mark's Choir**

Blessing of the Offering**Jaime / Eli Coffen**
Special Offering (Student Day)
Offertory

Scripture Reading #2**Jaime / Eli Coffen**
(Matthew 24:36-44, Common English Bible)

Day and hour

³⁶ "But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the heavenly angels and not the Son. Only the Father knows. ³⁷ As it was in the time of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Human One. ³⁸ In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark. ³⁹ They didn't know what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. The coming of the Human One will be like that. ⁴⁰ At that time there will be two men in the

field. One will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding at the mill. One will be taken and the other left.

⁴² Therefore, stay alert! You don't know what day the Lord is coming. ⁴³ But you understand that if the head of the house knew at what time the thief would come, he would keep alert and wouldn't allow the thief to break into his house. ⁴⁴ Therefore, you also should be prepared, because the Human One will come at a time you don't know.

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

“The Vision of Hope”

Praise and Prayer Concerns Rev. Eugene W. Matthews

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

Acknowledgement of Visitors /
Announcements Jaime / Eli Coffen

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:

November 28th – December 4th

Day 332 — Galatians 5:13–26	Day 335 — Ephesians 4: 1–16
Day 333 — Ephesians 1:3–23	Day 336 — Ephesians 6:10–20
Day 334 — Ephesians 2:1–22	Day 337 — Philippians 2:1–18
	Day 338 — Philippians 3:1–21

Don't forget to submit December birthday and anniversary

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

Join Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88571184455?pwd=UmpvVERkcjkyVFVoVHRlYlJxK284Zz09>,

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

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

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, December 1st (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir** rehearsal

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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410.551.2435

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240.245.4560

Mildred Awkward

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347.423.2764

Grace Elaine Catchings

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301.490.8774
301.312.7465 (Grace cell)

