



Sunday, March 28, 2021
Order of Service

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.

Gathering Song..... **“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”** (*Hymnal, #334*)
(being sung this morning by Doris Akers)

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: Hosanna and praise to the one who will restore our power and glory!

Chantel: **At last our king will deliver us!**

Leader: Hosanna and praise to the one who will crush our enemies!

Chantel: **At last our king will deliver us!**

Leader: Hosanna and praise to the one who will reveal God’s might and vengeance!

Chantel: **But why have they arrested him! See them take him away.**

Leader: Look how he has been mocked and beaten. This can’t be our King.

Chantel: **Blasphemer, imposter, deceiver! Crucify, yes, crucify Him.**

Hymn of Praise..... **“Come Let Us Worship the Lord”**
(sing along with Ohio Baptist Mass Choir)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance..... **Cynthia**

O God forgive us for cheering so loudly at the parade when we thought Jesus was going to win one for us. Also forgive us for fleeing quickly when our high hopes collapsed. Deliver us from the worship of false values and save us from selling the highest and best we know for a few pieces of silver. Strengthen us for the betrayals and disappointments we will face when we refuse

to give in to the temptations that come to all who follow Jesus. In the name of Jesus, we pray as a people of God. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*featuring Andrea Bocelli*)

The Invocation

Song of Meditation — "Trust in You" (*featuring Anthony Brown & group therAPy*)

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

In grateful response to your presence and your love O God, we wait to receive the interpretation of the WORD from your Holy Scripture. Speak to us Lord Jesus not only as we shout HOSANNA, but steel us from the reality of those who will cry CRUCIFY HIM!

Scripture Reading #1 **Brother Larry**
(*Isaiah 50:4–9a, Common English Bible*)

God's faithful servant

⁴The LORD God gave me an educated tongue to know how to respond to the weary with a word that will awaken them in the morning. God awakens my ear in the morning to listen, as educated people do. ⁵The LORD God opened my ear; I didn't rebel; I didn't turn my back. ⁶Instead, I gave my body to attackers, and my cheeks to beard pluckers. I didn't hide my face from insults and spitting. ⁷The LORD God will help me; therefore, I haven't been insulted. Therefore, I set my face like flint, and knew I wouldn't be ashamed. ⁸The one who will declare me innocent is near. Who will argue with me? Let's stand up together. Who will bring judgment against me? Let him approach me. ⁹Look! The LORD God will help me. Who will condemn me? Look, they will wear out like clothing; the moth will eat them.

Scripture Reading #2 **Sister Danielle**
(*Philippians 2:5–11, Common English Bible*)

⁵Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: ⁶Though he was in the form of God, he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. ⁷But he emptied himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When he found himself in the form of a human, ⁸he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore, God highly honored him and gave him a name above all names, ¹⁰... so that at the name of Jesus everyone in heaven, on earth, and under the earth might bow ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Scripture Reading #3 **Sister Chantel**
(*Mark 11:1–11, Common English Bible*)

Jesus enters Jerusalem

11 When Jesus and his followers approached Jerusalem, they came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives. Jesus gave two disciples a task, ²saying to them, "Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter it, you will find tied up there a colt that no one has ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'Its master needs it, and he will send it back right away.'"

⁴They went and found a colt tied to a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. ⁵Some people standing around said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶They told them just what

Jesus said, and they left them alone. ⁷ They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes upon it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread out their clothes on the road while others spread branches cut from the fields. ⁹ Those in front of him and those following were shouting, “*Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*”^[a] ¹⁰ Blessings on the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. After he looked around at everything, because it was already late in the evening, he returned to Bethany with the Twelve.

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 — “You Are the Living Word” (*featuring Fred Hammond and RFC*)

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

“Fair Weather Fan or Faithful Follower”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call

Invitation Selection / Celebration of the Palm — “Hosanna” (*featuring Kirk Franklin*)

Announcements..... Cynthia

Benediction

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.



Note from Pastor Matthews: There are many pending changes that will occur in the United Methodist Church over the next year.

Therefore, you are encouraged as members to review the STATE OF THE CHURCH” Powerpoint presentation presented by our Bishop Latrelle Easterling by logging on to the conference website: www.bwcumc.org and click on the Webinar. We will be in discussion later as a Church Council and eventually a congregation as we prepare for the future church.

Wednesdays (7:00 p.m.) — Wednesday Night Experience. Call-in Information: 712-770-4010 (Access code: 331960). This week, **Rev. Terry McCain** will be joining us.

Friday, April 2nd (7:00 p.m.) — Good Friday service. Rev. DeFord will be delivering the Word.

Saturday, April 3rd (11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.) — Communion distribution in the church parking lot.

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, place in the mailbox (Cynthia and David Burley check it regularly) **(This will save you postage)**
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>)
4. Reach out to member of finance, they will try to accommodate you.

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)

Eric Smith, Brian Bailey, Rayvon Roy, Joyce Gibson, Tony Tingle, Mitchell Talley, LaKisha Thomas, James (Stoney) Carroll, Marva Thomas, Nena Hughes, Deysha Gibson, Gloria Thomas, Sharon Thomas, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Sherman / Erica Roy, Janeen Thomas, Eunice Harding (Gemma's Mother), Tyrone / Pat Mundell, Samuel / James Briggs (Cynthia Burley's brothers), Joan Moore, Larry Powell, Veronica Miller, Jeanette Reeves, Ernestine Gibson, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Laura Dotson, Phillip Reese, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Eunice Parker, Hannah Polk, Delores Tyler

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