



*"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)

Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom); Hayden Harris (Gemma's cousin), Floyd Hughes Sr., Mary Taylor (LáAngel's Mom), Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Shelford Henry, Francis Desouza (Gemma's son), Eric Smith, Brian Bailey, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Jeanette Reeves, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone / Pat Mundell, Joan Moore, Larry Powell, Ernestine Gibson, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Hannah Polk

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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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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, October 31, 2021

Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost



Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Welcome

*Chief Russ Hamill, Deputy Chief Mark Plazinski,
CPL. Johnson and members of the Laurel Police Department*

Order of Service

Isaiah Brooks, Worship Leader

Prelude **Brother Fernando G. Allen, Sr.**

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.

Wednesday Night Experience (7:00 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 4th (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir Rehearsal**

Sunday, November 7th (morning service) — **All Saints Sunday.** We will be celebrating our saints who have departed this earthly life this year.

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.

Inspirational Message.....**Min. Brian Bailey**
Kettering Baptist Church Legacy Center

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call
Invitation Selection

Introduction of
Chief Russ Hamill.....**Rev. Eugene W. Matthews**

Announcements

Benediction

Announcements

Pastor's Hrs. — Tuesday and Thursday (11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.)
Millicent Hrs. — Tuesday and Thursday (10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.)

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.



“**A FRESH START (NOW)**” —We desire to have many members as possible active in all the various areas of Ministry.

Any NOVEMBER birthdays or anniversary, please drop me an email this week.

Tuesday, November 2nd (7:00 p.m.) — Men’s Bible Study.

Session 5: Introduction to the New Testament: The Gospels.

Zoom information/call in: [Click Here To Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Copy and paste into your browser if the link above does not work:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84876087048?pwd=K201NEwzWmplMFZMenVqTnJlL0d0QT09>

Meeting ID: 848 7608 7048

Passcode: 803201

Phone Option — One tap mobile:

+13017158592,,84876087048#,,,,*803201# US (Washington DC)

Greeting/Call to Worship.....**Isaiah Brooks**

Leader: God is our leader.

People: **Let us focus and follow our leader closely.**

Leader: God wants us to let go of the past.

People: **Let’s stop being stubborn and set in our ways.**

Leader: God has a new path for us to travel.

People: **May we let go of the old and embrace the new.**

All: **Together, when we follow God, we have nothing to fear. We praise our God, our leader.**

Hymn of Praise.....**St. Mark’s Choir/Congregation**
“This Little Light of Mine”

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*In Unison*)

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we can admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes. We do not turn to You as the source of our healing. Forgive us, we pray. Forgive our sin and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer (*sung*)

The Invocation.....**Ufuoma Agarin**
Song of Meditation.....**St. Mark’s Choir**

The Prayer of Illumination (*In Unison*)

God, source of all light, by your Word, you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding, that our hearts and minds may be opened to know your truth and your way. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1 **Runor Agarin**
(*Psalm 146:1–10*, *Common English Bible*)

146 Praise the Lord!

Let my whole being praise the Lord!

² I will praise the Lord with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

³ Don't trust leaders;

don't trust any human beings—
there's no saving help with them!

⁴ Their breath leaves them,

then they go back to the ground.

On that very same day, their plans die too.

⁵ The person whose help is the God of Jacob—

the person whose hope rests on the Lord their God—
is truly happy!

⁶ God: the maker of heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them,

God: who is faithful forever,

⁷ who gives justice to people who are oppressed,

who gives bread to people who are starving!

The Lord: who frees prisoners.

⁸ The Lord: who makes the blind see.

The Lord: who straightens up those who are bent low.

The Lord: who loves the righteous.

⁹ The Lord: who protects immigrants,

who helps orphans and widows,

but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn!

¹⁰ The Lord will rule forever!

Zion, your God will rule from one generation to the next!

Praise the Lord!

Scripture Reading #2 **Isaiah Brooks**
(*Hebrews 9:11–14*, *Common English Bible*)

¹¹ But Christ has appeared as the high priest of the good things that have happened. He passed through the greater and more perfect meeting tent, which isn't made by human hands (that is, it's not a part of this world). ¹² He entered the holy of holies once for all by his own blood, not by the blood of goats or calves, securing our

deliverance for all time. ¹³ If the blood of goats and bulls and the sprinkled ashes of cows made spiritually contaminated people holy and clean, ¹⁴ how much more will the blood of Jesus wash our consciences clean from dead works in order to serve the living God? He offered himself to God through the eternal Spirit as a sacrifice without any flaw.

Selection **St. Mark's Choir**

Blessing of the Offering **Isaiah Brooks**
Offertory

Scripture Reading #3 **Kamille Quick**
(*Mark 12:28–34*, *Common English Bible*)

God's most important command

²⁸ One of the legal experts heard their dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

²⁹ Jesus replied, "The most important one is *Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord*, ³⁰ and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength. ³¹ The second is this, *You will love your neighbor as yourself*. No other commandment is greater than these."

³² The legal expert said to him, "Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him.

³³ And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one's strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices."

³⁴ When Jesus saw that he had answered with wisdom, he said to him, "You aren't far from God's kingdom." After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

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.

Introduction of Speaker **Eli Coffen**

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