

# *St. Mark's United Methodist Church*

*601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707*

*301.776.8885 | [stmarksmd@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksmd@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 | 443.257.2710 (cell) | [reveugene@comcast.net](mailto: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*

# *Four Nails*

*The marks they tell a story  
First the left hand and then the right  
To watch with pain and anguish  
Next the feet without a fight*

*Others have endured this  
Though nowhere can you run  
To be raised before the masses  
And bake beneath the sun*

*For one this is an ending  
For many a new day  
My words would live forever  
To show the world another way*

*Some say a price too heavy  
Some say it must be so  
The Lamb must play its role  
If truth the world will know*



—Robert Longley



*Welcome, as we gather here to worship!*

*Sunday, April 17, 2022*

## *Resurrection/ Easter Sunday*

### *Order of Service*

*Sister Cynthia Augustus, 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 .....Sister Cynthia Augustus**

**Leader:** God is good!T

**People:** All the time!

**Leader:** And all the time!

**People:** God is good!

**Leader:** Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. Let all the people proclaim, "God's steadfast love endures forever!"

**People:** God's steadfast love endures forever!

**Leader:** The Lord is my strength, my song, and my salvation!  
Shouts of joy resound in the tents of the righteous!

**People:** God's steadfast love endures forever!

**Leader:** The Lord's right hand has done mighty things!

**People:** We will not die but live. We will proclaim what the Lord has done.

Leader: We enter the gates of the Lord and give thanks, for this  
is the day the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

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

### *"Because He Lives"*

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus;  
He came to love, heal and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

#### ***Chorus***

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives!

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he gives;  
But greater still the calm assurance:  
This child can face uncertain days because He Lives! (***Chorus***)

And then one day, I'll cross the river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
And then, as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives! (***Chorus***)

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

Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, forgive us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. We have  
gathered with glad songs of your victory over death and offer our  
praise and thanks to you for exempting us from eternal death. So  
now we repent of our sins knowing that because of your  
deliverance of us we shall not die, but live again in glory with you.  
Open wide your gates of right living that we may enter in and be  
saved. We give you thanks and praise. In the name of the risen  
Lord, we pray. **Amen.**

#### **The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)**

**The Invocation.....Sister Cynthia Augustus**  
**Song of Meditation ..... St. Mark's Choir**

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

We rejoice today because of the living Lord, and we ask that the Holy Scriptures read in our hearing today will spring new life into our souls. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading #1 .....Sister Cynthia Augustus**  
*(Acts 10:34–43, Common English Bible)*

<sup>34</sup> Peter said, “I really am learning that God doesn’t show partiality to one group of people over another. <sup>35</sup> Rather, in every nation, whoever worships him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> This is the message of peace he sent to the Israelites by proclaiming the good news through Jesus Christ: He is Lord of all! <sup>37</sup> You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism John preached. <sup>38</sup> You know about Jesus of Nazareth, whom God anointed with the Holy Spirit and endowed with power. Jesus traveled around doing good and healing everyone oppressed by the devil because God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses of everything he did, both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him up on the third day and allowed him to be seen, <sup>41</sup> not by everyone but by us. We are witnesses whom God chose beforehand, who ate and drank with him after God raised him from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

**Scripture Reading #2 .....Sister Cynthia Augustus**  
*(1 Corinthians 15:19–26, Common English Bible)*

<sup>19</sup> If we have a hope in Christ only in this life, then we deserve to be pitied more than anyone else.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead. He’s the first crop of the harvest of those who have died. <sup>21</sup> Since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead came through one too. <sup>22</sup> In the same way that everyone dies in Adam, so also everyone will be given life in Christ. <sup>23</sup> Each event will happen in the right order: Christ, the first crop of the harvest, then those who

belong to Christ at his coming, <sup>24</sup> and then the end, when Christ hands over the kingdom to God the Father, when he brings every form of rule, every authority and power to an end. <sup>25</sup> It is necessary for him to rule until *he puts all enemies under his feet*. <sup>26</sup> Death is the last enemy to be brought to an end,

**Blessing of Offering.....Sister Cynthia Augustus**  
**Offertory**

**Selection ..... St. Mark's Choir**

**Scripture Reading #3 .....Sister Cynthia Augustus**  
*(John 20:1–18, Common English Bible)*

### **Empty tomb**

**20** Early in the morning of the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> She ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they’ve put him.” <sup>3</sup> Peter and the other disciple left to go to the tomb. <sup>4</sup> They were running together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and was the first to arrive at the tomb. <sup>5</sup> Bending down to take a look, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he didn’t go in. <sup>6</sup> Following him, Simon Peter entered the tomb and saw the linen cloths lying there. <sup>7</sup> He also saw the face cloth that had been on Jesus’ head. It wasn’t with the other clothes but was folded up in its own place. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, the one who arrived at the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> They didn’t yet understand the scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples returned to the place where they were staying.

### **Jesus appears to Mary**

<sup>11</sup> Mary stood outside near the tomb, crying. As she cried, she bent down to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> She saw two angels dressed in white, seated where the body of Jesus had been, one at the head and one at the foot. <sup>13</sup> The angels asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

She replied, “They have taken away my Lord, and I don’t know where they’ve put him.” <sup>14</sup> As soon as she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she didn’t know it was Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she replied, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him and I will get him.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabbouni” (which means *Teacher*).

<sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, “Don’t hold on to me, for I haven’t yet gone up to my Father. Go to my brothers and sisters and tell them, ‘I’m going up to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene left and announced to the disciples, “I’ve seen the Lord.” Then she told them what he said to her.

**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**

***“If It’s Too Good”***

**Praise and Prayer Concerns**

**Invitation / Altar Call**

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

**Announcements**

**Benediction**

# *Remembering Our Loved Ones on this Resurrection Sunday*

## *Rejoice*

Let not your heart be troubled  
Nor overcome by fear,  
For even in the time of death  
*Our Lord is always there.*

I lived my life before you;  
In faith I followed God.  
I leave this life believing  
I'm safe beneath His blood.  
I've fought the fight of faith,  
Overshadowed by His grace.

All this I did so gladly,  
Just to see Him face to face.  
Grieve not that I am going;  
Rejoice that I can go  
And turn your face toward Jesus,  
His Love He will bestow.  
I leave you with my blessings,  
That you will ever know,

*My love is ever with you,*  
Wherever you may go.

I now await your coming,  
Where the victory song is heard.  
To see the glory of our Lord,  
As told us in His Word.  
So weep not at my passing,  
Rejoice, I say, Rejoice.  
Let it be a time of gladness;  
Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice.

*by Doyle Suits*





# *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.



The following Bible selections are provided for this week:

### **April 18<sup>th</sup> – April 24<sup>th</sup>**

Day 108 — 1 Kings 17:1–24      Day 112 — 1 Kings 22:29–40  
Day 109 — 1 Kings 18:16–46      Day 113 — 2 Kings 2:1–12  
Day 110 — 1 Kings 19:1–21      Day 114 — 2 Kings 2:13–25  
Day 111 — 1 Kings 21:1–21

**Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> (6:00 p.m.) — Church Council meeting.**

**Topic: Church Council Meeting (Zoom):**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85241368305?pwd=Ync2Rm54Y2VxREc5RFZLMGMvMkYzd09>; **Meeting ID:** 852 4136 8305;

**Passcode:** Church

**Dial In:** +13017158592; **Meeting ID:** 852 4136 8305;

**Password:** 493183

**Men's Bible Study — On Hiatus until mid-April**

**Ladies Roundtable (Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.) — Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84500345294?pwd=TUR4ZGpySU5ub0E1blhUQVNnQW9YQT09>; **Meeting ID:** 845 0034 5294;

**Passcode:** 538161. **One tap mobile:**

+13017158592,84500345294#,\*538161#

**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, April 21<sup>st</sup> (7:00 p.m.) —Choir rehearsal**

**Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> (following morning service) —** Mr. James

Curtis Jr., candidate for **Congress of the Maryland's 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Congressional District** will worship with us and will speak about

his candidacy. Members are encouraged to remain following service to hear his presentation.

**Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>** (3:00 p.m.) — Rev. Matthews will be inducted into the Preachers Hall of Fame. This will be the **Fourteenth Induction Ceremony** via ZOOM. The annual recognition service honors and preserves the legacy of retired and deceased Preachers. To commemorate this outstanding event, a beautiful souvenir booklet will be published. We invite you to participate in this event by purchasing an ad for the celebration and join us for this grand occasion. **Prices for the ads are as follows:**

Full Page — \$160.00	Inside Front — \$250.00
Half Page — \$80.00	Inside Back — \$250.00
1/3 Page — \$54.00	Event Sponsor — \$300.00
1/4 Page — \$40.00	Back Cover — \$300.00
Business Card — \$30.00	Preacher Sponsor — \$200.00
Mr. & Mrs. — \$16.00	Patron — \$10.00

**We request that your camera-ready ads be submitted by April 18<sup>th</sup>.** All items may be sent electronically to [preachers.hall.offame@gmail.com](mailto:preachers.hall.offame@gmail.com). All checks may be made out to Preachers Hall of Fame and sent to 696 West Watersville Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771. Should you have any questions, please direct them to Rev. Dr. Douglas Sands, 301-829-2180.



Exhibition Opened at **The Laurel Museum**,  
817 Main Street, Laurel  
Hours 12:00–4:00 p.m. Saturday/Sunday

**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.



***"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))

Shawn Settles, Gail Edwards (Gemma's cousin), Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Larry Powell, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom); Floyd Hughes Sr., Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Francis Desouza (Gemma's son), Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Jeanette Reeves, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone / Pat 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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He  
is  
Risen

MATTHEW 28:6