

St. Mark's United Methodist Church

601 Eighth Street | Laurel, Maryland 20707

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“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!

Father's Day

Sunday, June 19, 2022

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Service

Ushers: Sisters Sharon Thomas and Gemma Desouza-Ottley

Brother Thomas Matthews, Worship Leader

PreludeRev. 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..... Brother Thomas Matthews

Leader: In a day when so many men are absent, we cherish the love of fathers.

People: **Thank God for fathers who comfort and encourage.**

Leader: Thank God for fathers who build character and inspire us to greatness.

People: **Thank God for fathers who teach morality and model decency.**

Leader: Thank God for fathers who lovingly convince boys to become men.

People: **Thank God for brave fathers who have the courage to resist being absent.**

All: **Lord, on this Father’s Day, may we encourage more men in our community to pick up the mantle of fatherhood!**

Hymn of Praise..... Choir/Congregation

“Faith of Our Fathers”

1. Faith of our fathers, living still, in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword; O how our hearts beat high with joy whene'er we hear that glorious word!

Refrain:

Faith of our fathers, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

2. Faith of our fathers, we will strive to win all nations unto thee; and through the truth that comes from God, we all shall then be truly free.

[Refrain]

3. Faith of our fathers, we will love both friend and foe in all our strife; and preach thee, too, as love knows how by kindly words and virtuous life. ***[Refrain]***

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

Holy Father, thank you for being our heavenly Father. Thank you for the love, mercy, and strength that comes to us through this relationship. We come today to show our love to you as our Heavenly Father and give thanks for our earthly fathers. God of truth, you know us in our inmost being. We confess to you, O

Lord. the times when you have been an afterthought in our lives. We confess the times we have gone to church only if we are not tired from the toils of the week. We confess the times we have given you an offering only if we have leftover cash. We confess the ways in which we cling tightly to our own perceived securities, rather than holding on to you. Forgive us, Lord. Bring us closer to you this day, reminding us that you never forget us. We are never an afterthought to God. PRAISE BE TO GOD!! Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

The Invocation..... **Brother Thomas Matthews**
Song of Meditation **St. Mark's Choir**

The Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

Holy Spirit, settle our hearts and minds as we read the scripture today. Help us to hear them in a new way. May our meditations and actions be acceptable to God our FATHER and may the peace of Christ speak through the WORD to the Fathers who are worshiping here today. Amen.

Scripture Reading #1 **Brother Thomas Matthews**
(Genesis 5:18–32, Common English Bible)

- ¹⁸ When Jared was 162 years old, he became the father of Enoch.
¹⁹ After Enoch's birth, Jared lived 800 years; and he had other sons and daughters. ²⁰ In all, Jared lived 962 years, and he died.
- ²¹ When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah. ²² Enoch walked with God. After Methuselah's birth, Enoch lived 300 years; and he had other sons and daughters. ²³ In all, Enoch lived 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God and disappeared because God took him.
- ²⁵ When Methuselah was 187 years old, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶ After Lamech's birth, Methuselah lived 782 years; and he had other sons and daughters. ²⁷ In all, Methuselah lived 969 years, and he died.
- ²⁸ When Lamech was 182 years old, he became the father of a son
²⁹ and named him Noah, saying, "This one will give us relief from our hard work, from the pain in our hands, because of the fertile land that the Lord cursed." ³⁰ After Noah's birth, Lamech lived 595 years; and he had other sons and daughters. ³¹ In all, Lamech lived 777 years, and he died.

³² When Noah was 500 years old, Noah became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Scripture Reading #2 **Brother Thomas Matthews**
(*Acts 7:17–22, Common English Bible*)

¹⁷ “When it was time for God to keep the promise he made to Abraham, the number of our people in Egypt had greatly expanded. ¹⁸ But then *another king rose to power over Egypt who didn’t know anything about Joseph*. ¹⁹ He exploited our people and abused our ancestors. He even forced them to abandon their newly born babies so they would die. ²⁰ That’s when Moses was born. He was highly favored by God, and for three months his parents cared for him in their home. ²¹ After he was abandoned, Pharaoh’s daughter adopted and cared for him as though he were her own son. ²² Moses learned everything Egyptian wisdom had to offer, and he was a man of powerful words and deeds.

Offering

Blessing of Offering..... **Brother Thomas Matthews**

Selection **St. Mark’s Choir**

Scripture Reading #3 **Brother Thomas Matthews**
(*Luke 2:41–49, Common English Bible*)

Jesus in the temple at Passover

⁴¹ Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴² When he was 12 years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to their custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, they were returning home, but the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn’t know it. ⁴⁴ Supposing that he was among their band of travelers, they journeyed on for a full day while looking for him among their family and friends. ⁴⁵ When they didn’t find Jesus, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple. He was sitting among the teachers, listening to them and putting questions to them. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed by his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were shocked.

His mother said, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Listen! Your father and I have been worried. We’ve been looking for you!”

49 Jesus replied, “Why were you looking for me? Didn’t you know that it was necessary for me to be in my Father’s house?”

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**

“Fathers Who Walk With God”

(Genesis 5:18–24)

Praise and Prayer Concerns

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

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

Announcements

Pastor’s Special Moment

Benediction

Announcements

“A Bouquet of Thanks” If possible, I would give a bouquet of flowers to all St. Mark’s for showering me with many “Happy Birthday” wishes. It began with Sister Jaime Coffen presenting a birthday card containing an expression of love from the church during worship, followed by lunch boxes filled with goodies distributed to the congregants by the Culinary Ministry (headed by Sister Tina Matthews) in honor of my birthday. In addition, I received several cards, calls, text messages and special happy birthday greetings including the birthday song by Sister Pat Mundell and a special rendition by Rev. Rose Thompson. Also special thanks to the choir and congregation who sang Happy Birthday, you are truly a special and



loving congregation. To all St. Mark's members: special love and bouquets to each of you.

Pastor Matthews

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.



Ushers and Liturgist Needed

The following Bible selections are provided for this week:

June 20th – June 26th

Day 171 — John 3:22–36

Day 175 — Mark 1:16–39

Day 172 — John 4:1–42

Day 176 — Luke 5:1–47

Day 173 — John 4:43–54

Day 177 — John 5:1–47

Day 174 — Luke 4:16–30

Ladies Roundtable — **On hiatus** (*watch for start up date*)

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.**

No Choir rehearsal this week, but please be in sanctuary at **9:00 a.m.** on **Sunday, June 26th.**



Saturday, June 25th (11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.) — **CAR WASH in St. Mark's parking lot (601 Eighth Street, Laurel)** to benefit Emancipation Day 2022. Hot dogs/Hamburgers/Water/Sodas will be on sale. Car

Wash is donations.

Sunday, June 26th (morning service) Celebrating the end of school year 2021–2022. All students and parents of students are asked to share school year 2021–2022 accomplishments. We are celebrating big and small wins. **Please submit to Jaime via email or text no later than Thursday, June 23rd.** Also feel free to invite your favorite educators to join us for service!



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

Group Outing — I have reserved 20 orchestra seats to see “**Tina – The Musical**” at the National Theater (Washington, DC) on **Saturday, October 15th** at 2:00 pm. **Tickets: \$115 per ticket.** Reserve your ticket, you can make payments with all money being due by **September 11th**. As usual, we will try to provide transportation.

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.



*“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)

All branches of the Military, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Shawn Settles, Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Gail Edwards (Gemma’s cousin), Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Larry Powell, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia’s Mom); Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Francis Desouza (Gemma’s son), Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone 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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