

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

443.257.2730 | 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!

Sunday, May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Happy Mother's Day

Ushers:

Jalani and Jaylah Robertson and Kamille Quick

Special Tribute to Mothers

Sister Cynthia Augustus, Worship Leader

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 Sister Cynthia Augustus

Leader: Lord, on this day set aside to honor Mothers.

People: We give you thanks for Mothers.

Leader: Lord, on this day set aside to honor Mothers.

People: We give you thanks for Mothers.

Leader: Lord, we are grateful that you chose Mothers to give us life.

People: We give you thanks for Mothers.

All: We gather to worship our loving God who like a mother knows us intimately. The faith of our Mothers' are living still.

Hymn of Praise St. Mark's Choir / Congregation

"Faith of Our Mothers"

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

2. Faith of our mothers, 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 mothers, 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 for Mothers (*Unison*)

We praise you O God, for your gift of motherly love, both great and fierce, both strong and humble, both kind and true. For mothers who have joined you in heaven and whom we miss dearly on this day, we give you thanks and praise. For single mothers, for expectant mothers, for adoptive mothers, we give you thanks and praise. For all mothers: those who work, those who are homemakers, those who are single, those who are married, those who are widows, we give you thanks and praise. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer **St. Mark's Choir**

"In Memory of"
Lighting of Memorial Candle

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

Scripture Reading #1..... **Sister Cynthia Augustus**
(*Genesis 2:20–23, Common English Bible*)

²⁰ The human named all the livestock, all the birds in the sky, and all the wild animals. But a helper perfect for him was nowhere to be found.

²¹ So the Lord God put the human into a deep and heavy sleep, and took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh over it. ²² With the rib taken from the human, the Lord God fashioned a woman and brought her to the human being. ²³ The human said,

"This one finally is bone from my bones
and flesh from my flesh.
She will be called a woman
because from a man she was taken."

"Women of the Bible"
Eve — Deidre Burley Ballard

Rebekah: The Mother Who Believed — Sandra Johnson
Jochebed: The Mother with a Plan — Cynthia Burley

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

“Special Presentation”

Acknowledgement of Visitors /

Announcements Sister Cynthia Augustus

Blessing of the Offering..... Sister Cynthia Augustus

Offertory

“Women of the Bible”

The 2 Women and 1 Baby — Cynthia Burley and Judith James

Ruth the Moabite — Patricia Mundell

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

Scripture Reading #2 (Gospel) Sister Cynthia Augustus

(Luke 21:27–35, Common English Bible)

²⁷ Then they will see the Human One coming on a cloud with power and great splendor. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to happen, stand up straight and raise your heads, because your redemption is near.”

²⁹ Jesus told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹ In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that God’s kingdom is near. ³² I assure you that this generation won’t pass away until everything has happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

³⁴ “Take care that your hearts aren’t dulled by drinking parties, drunkenness, and the anxieties of day-to-day life. Don’t let that day fall upon you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. It will come upon everyone who lives on the face of the whole earth.

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.**

“Women of the Bible”

Mary: The Mother Who Is

Blessed Among Women — Judith James

Mary and Martha, Lazarus’ Sisters — Cynthia Whitfield

Hymn of PreparationSt. Mark's Choir

Inspirational Message Minister Nena Hughes

"The Many Faces and Hats of A Mother"

Praise and Prayer Concerns..... Minister Nena Hughes

Invitation / Altar Call..... Minister Nena Hughes

Invitation Selection.....Rev. Eugene W. Matthews

Benediction

Announcements

Reminder from Pastor Matthews: With the new variants of Covid, please remember to wear your mask while you are in the sanctuary.

Worship Attendance — 05/07/2023

In-Person	54
Zoom	13
Total	67



Recognition of Teachers , Aids and Nurses

Thank you for all you do!!!



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.



Tuesday Women's Roundtable (6:30 p.m.) — Join Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84500345294?pwd=TUR4ZGpySU5ub0E1blhUQVNnQW9YQT09>,

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, May 18th (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir rehearsal**

Sunday, May 14th — Sacred Grounds: Free Native Plants! If you signed up, don't forget your plants.

Sunday, May 21st (following morning service) — **Class Leader** meeting in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 16th (3:00 p.m.) — **Celebrating the 40th Year Anniversary** for **Rev. Dr. William E Butler** (Queens Chapel UMC). *For additional information, please see the invitation on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.*

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 needs special prayer or is taken to the hospital, please contact: Rev. Eugene Matthews (443.257.2730), reveugene@comcast.net.

Carol Quick, Rev. Henry Tindal, Rev. George F. DeFord, Janet Carey, Lafayette and Elaine Harvey, All branches of the Military, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Shawn Settles, Floyd Hughes Sr., Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Chantel Ashley, Beverly Wright, Phillip Reese, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia's Mom), Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Francis Desouza, Eric Smith, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone Mundell, Ernestine Gibson, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Hannah Polk

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