

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

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 28, 2023

Pentecost Sunday

Ushers: Thomas Matthews and Tyrone Mundell

Order of Service

Jaime and Eli Coffen, 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 Jaime and Eli Coffen

Leader: Come, O Holy Spirit Come.

People: **Holy Spirit Come!**

Leader: Come, Almighty Spirit Come.

People: **Almighty Spirit Come.**

Leader: Come, Come, Come!

People: **O Spirit Come!**

All: **Let All Heaven and Earth Sing "Come Holy Spirit".**

Hymn of Praise St. Mark's Choir / Congregation

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Refrain:

Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.
Ev'ry time I feel the Spirit
moving in my heart, I will pray.

- 1 Upon the mountain my Lord spoke,
Out His mouth came fire and smoke.
All around me looks so shine,
Ask my Lord if all was mine. *[Refrain]*
- 2 Jordan River is chilly and cold,
Chills the body but not the soul.
Ain't but one train on dis track,
Runs to heaven and right back. *[Refrain]*

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

Spirit of life, we confess that we fail to honor life. Blow your life-giving breath through us. Spirit of love, we confess that lovelessness prevails in our lives. Shower upon us the grace of your Son. Spirit of truth, we confess that our truths are put before your truth. Open our hearts to Jesus Christ, the word and wisdom for this world. Spirit of gentleness, we confess the hardness of our hearts. Whisper new imagination, new dreams into our minds. Spirit of unity, we confess our disunity in the church, in our community, and the world. Bind us together and heal our divisions. O Holy Spirit, gather us in the power of your peace. COME, HOLY SPIRIT, COME. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (*sung*)

The Invocation..... **Jaime and Eli Coffen**

Song of Meditation..... **St. Mark's Choir**

The Prayer of Illumination (*In Unison*)

Calm us now, O LORD, into a quietness that heals and listens. Open wounded hearts to the balm of your WORD. Speak to us in clear tones that we might feel our spirits leap for joy and skip with hope as your resurrected witnesses. We ask this as the people renewed by the power of the resurrected Lord. COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME.

Scripture Reading #1 **Jaime and Eli Coffen**

(*Acts 2:1–21, Common English Bible*)

2 When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

⁵ There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. ⁷ They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren’t all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them?” ⁸ How then can each of us hear them speaking in our

native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!” ¹² They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?” ¹³ Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!”

¹⁴ Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! ¹⁵ These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! ¹⁶ Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ *In the last days, God says,*

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your young will see visions.

Your elders will dream dreams.

¹⁸ *Even upon my servants, men and women,*

I will pour out my Spirit in those days,

and they will prophesy.

¹⁹ *I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above*

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.

²⁰ *The sun will be changed into darkness,*

and the moon will be changed into blood,

before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.

²¹ *And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Scripture Reading #2 Jaime and Eli Coffen
(1 Corinthians 12:3b–13, Common English Bible)

³ So I want to make it clear to you that no one says, “Jesus is cursed!” when speaking by God’s Spirit, and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are different ministries and the same Lord; ⁶ and there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. ⁷ A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good. ⁸ A word of wisdom is given by the Spirit to one person, a word of knowledge to another according to the same Spirit, ⁹ faith to still another by the same Spirit, gifts of healing to another in the one Spirit, ¹⁰ performance of miracles to another, prophecy to another, the ability to tell spirits apart to another, different kinds of tongues^[a] to another, and the interpretation of the tongues to another. ¹¹ All these things are produced by the one and same Spirit who gives what he wants to each person.

¹² Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. ¹³ We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink.

Selection St. Mark's Choir

Acknowledgement of Visitors /

Announcements Jaime and Eli Coffen

Blessing of the Offering Jaime and Eli Coffen
Offertory

Scripture Reading #3 (Gospel)..... Jaime and Eli Coffen
(John 7:37–39, Common English Bible)

³⁷ On the last and most important day of the festival, Jesus stood up and shouted,
“All who are thirsty should come to me!

³⁸ All who believe in me should drink!

As the scriptures said concerning me,

Rivers of living water will flow out from within him.”

³⁹ Jesus said this concerning the Spirit. Those who believed in him would soon receive the Spirit, but they hadn't experienced the Spirit yet since Jesus hadn't yet been glorified.

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.**

Hymn of Preparation St. Mark's Choir

Inspirational Message Rev. Eugene W. Matthews

“When the Spirit Comes”

“They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.”

Acts 2:4 (Common English Bible)

Praise and Prayer Concerns Rev. Eugene W. Matthews

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

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 — 05/21/2023	
In-Person	38
Zoom	16
Total	54

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, June 1st (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir rehearsal**

ATTENTION: Sunday, June 11th, the dedication of the “**Civil Rights Trail Sign,**” which is located outside the church on West Street, will take place immediately following the worship service. Plans are to hold the dedication @11:30 a.m. We also anticipate people from the community, including the Laurel Police, Representatives from the Historical Society, possibly Mayor Moe and the TV station. Please plan to move outside immediately after the benediction and join in the dedication program.

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: Preparing for June Birthdays and Anniversaries. If June is your month, please email me.

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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