

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, June 4, 2023

Trinity Sunday

Peace With Justice

Ushers: Gemma DeSouza-Ottley and Sharon Thomas

Order of Service

Min. Nena Hughes, 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 Min. Nena Hughes

Leader: Come, again O Holy Spirit, come.

People: Spirit of Wonder, come.

Leader: Come, again, Holy Spirit come.

People: Spirit of joy, come.

Leader: Come, again, Holy Spirit come.

People: Spirit of life, come.

All: Spirit of wonder, spirit of joy, spirit of life, spirit of truth, come.

Hymn of Praise St. Mark's Choir / Congregation

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2. Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3. Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

How do we name you, God? What words can we use to describe who you are and what you do? How do we define our relationship with you and what this means in a relationship with one another? We ask these questions in the awareness that our human language is limited and inadequate, yet we still come to you in prayer, because we want to give voice to our hopes and needs as well as our praise and thanksgiving. God, you reveal yourself to us in a multitude of ways, and on this Trinity Sunday, we celebrate you as creator, Savior and Sustainer. In the assurance of your presence with us may we live each day with a joyful willingness to convey your blessing by all we say and think and do. **Amen.**

The Invocation **Min. Nena Hughes**
Song of Meditation **St. Mark's Choir**

The Prayer of Illumination (*In Unison*)

As we journey into the sacred story, help us along the path toward faithfulness.
Create in our lives a place of faith, hope, and love in the name of Jesus we pray.
Come, again holy Spirit, come.

Scripture Reading #1 Min. Nena Hughes
(*Isaiah 6:1–6, Common English Bible*)

⁶ In the year of King Uzziah’s death, I saw the Lord sitting on a high and exalted throne, the edges of his robe filling the temple. ² Winged creatures were stationed around him. Each had six wings: with two they veiled their faces, with two their feet, and with two they flew about. ³ They shouted to each other, saying:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of heavenly forces! All the earth is filled with God’s glory!”

⁴ The doorframe shook at the sound of their shouting, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵ I said, “Mourn for me; I’m ruined! I’m a man with unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips. Yet I’ve seen the king, the Lord of heavenly forces!”

⁶ Then one of the winged creatures flew to me, holding a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs.

Scripture Reading #2 Min. Nena Hughes
(*2 Corinthians 13:11–13, Common English Bible*)

¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, good-bye. Put things in order, respond to my encouragement, be in harmony with each other, and live in peace—and the God of love and peace will be with you.

¹² Say hello to each other with a holy kiss. All of God’s people say hello to you.

¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Selection St. Mark’s Choir

Acknowledgement of Visitors /

Announcements Min. Nena Hughes

Blessing of the Offering Min. Nena Hughes
Offertory

Scripture Reading #3 (Gospel) Min. Nena Hughes
(*Matthew 28:16–20, Common English Bible*)

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸ Jesus came near and spoke to them, “I’ve received all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to obey

everything that I've commanded you. Look, I myself will be with you every day until the end of this present age."

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 PreparationSt. Mark's Choir

Inspirational MessageRev. Eugene W. Matthews

"Making Believers of Us"

In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a high and exalted throne, the edges of his robe filling the temple. (Isaiah 6:1) ¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:13)

Praise and Prayer Concerns.....Rev. Eugene W. Matthews

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

Invitation Selection

The Great Thanksgiving for the Season After Pentecost

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. At his ascension you exalted him to sit and reign with you at your right hand.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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

Breaking the Bread

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf. The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

Giving the Bread and Cup

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

Dismissal With Blessing

Go forth in peace. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

Benediction



Happy Birthday and Anniversary June Members



Birthdays

Jannette Shuford-Reeves – 2nd

Jaylah Robertson: 5th

Rev. Eugene Matthews – 13th

Delores Stratford – 14th

Sharon Thomas – 17th

Cynthia Whitfield – 17th

Tyrone Mundell – 20th

Anniversary

David and Cynthia Burley (53 yrs.) – 13th



Heavenly Birthdays

Marva Thomas – June 2nd

Gilbert Nicholson – 14th

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 — 05/28/2023

In-Person	51
Zoom	12
Total	63

May Average: 69

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=TUR4ZGpySU5ub0E1blhUQVNmNnQW9YQT09>,

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 8th (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.**

Saturday, June 24th (9:00 a.m.) — Car Wash sponsored by Emancipation Committee. Come get your lunch, good fellowship and have your car wash (for a moderate donation).



Sunday, June 25th (following service) — A presentation will be made by Mr. Hilton Mills, On Air Applications. The presentation will focus upon the expansion and addition to our multimedia Ministry (Digital Evangelism). Additional information will be provided each week leading up to the meeting. Please answer and pray on the following questions below and share with anyone who may be interested.

1. Do you or someone you know have a passion or interest in working with audio visual equipment?
2. Do you or someone you know have a desire to learn new skills as it relates to audio visual and virtual platforms?
3. Are you or someone you know able to commit time to learn and execute skills for the betterment of the church?
4. Would you or someone you know like to problem solve while working with a team on a weekly basis in a Christian environment?
5. Would you or someone you know want to learn how and help our church reach the world on a virtual platform?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, please submit your name to Pastor Matthews or Min. Nena Hughes for consideration as a member of this ministry.

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

Note from Finance: First, 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 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

Eunice Dumas

1909 Sheffield Court
Severn, MD 21144
410.551.2435

Edlin Chambers

14904 4th Street
Laurel, MD
347.423.2764

Ruth Miller

1206 Peachwood Ln.
Bowie, MD 20716
240.245.4560

Umbrenda Fisher

9160 Charlton Place
Douglasville, GA 39135

Grace Elaine Catchings

15505 Clayburn Drive
Laurel, MD 20707
301.312.7465 (Grace cell)