

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. Walter L. Smith, Jr., Pastor

301.776.8885 | waltsmith561@gmail.com

Bishop LaTrelle Millet Easterling

Baltimore/Washington Conference

Rev. Sarah Schlieckert

*District Superintendent
for the Southern Annapolis Region*

Welcome

Rev. Walter L. Smith, Jr.

¹ Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. ² Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. ³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. ⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. ⁵ For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.



Rev. Smith's favorite scripture **Psalm 100** and hymn—"Farther Along" captures his love for the Lord and God's people.

Rev. Smith answered the call in the year of 2015. His past appointments include Hope St. Mark UMC, Wilson UMC, and Trinity UMC (Annapolis) where he was the first African American Pastor to serve, and John Wesley UMC (Bay Ridge). In addition to these appointments, he has also served as the Chaplain of the Annapolis City Police Department and Anne Arundel Medical Center. On July 1, 2024, he began his appointment at St. Mark's UMC in Laurel, Maryland.

Born on January 14, 1989, to Nina and Walter Lee Smith, Sr. Rev. Smith is the youngest licensed preacher in the Baltimore/Washington Conference. He received his early education in the Anne Arundel County Public Schools attending – Lothian Elementary, Southern Middle School, and graduating from Southern High School. Rev. Smith also completed studies at Emory Seminary and in the fall will attend John Wesley Seminary in Washington, DC.

Rev. Smith is blessed to have three beautiful daughters, Zaniya (14), Mya (12), and Kyenndi (10). He has been employed by the William Reese & Sons Mortuary for 23 years.

Rev. Smith loves being with family, attending baseball games, fishing, drag racing, and just being a sports fan in general. He is a diehard fan of the Commanders football and Nationals baseball teams. Of all these things he most of all loves serving the Lord.

Welcome, as we gather here to worship!

Sunday, July 7, 2024

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
Holy Communion

Ushers:

Sharon Thomas and Francis DeSouza

All Ushers assisting with Offering and Communion

Order of Service

Sister Cynthia Augustus, Worship Leader

Prelude **Elder Kelvin Brown & Justin Carter**

Lighting of the Candles **Brother Larry Powell**

Processional **St. Mark's Choir and Clergy**

Greeting **Worship Leader**

Opening Hymn **Hymnal, #301**
"Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"

1. Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,
free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.

Refrain:

In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever,
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

2. Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;
there the bright and morning star sheds its beams around me.

(Refrain)

3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o'er me.

(Refrain)

4. Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. **(Refrain)**

Prayer..... **Minister Nena Hughes**

Greeting/Call to Worship..... **Sister Cynthia Augustus**

Leader: Rely on God’s providential care.

People: **God’s grace is sufficient for us.**

Leader: Take nothing for the journey but faith in Christ.

People: **We can trust the God of our salvation.**

Leader: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

People: **God’s steadfast loves endures forever.**

Leader: Come! Let us worship.

Alleluia **Hymnal, #186**

Affirmation of Faith (*The Apostles Creed*)..... **Hymnal, #881**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;*
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

Selection **St. Mark’s Choir**

Passing of the Peace

Acknowledgement of Visitors /

Announcements **Sister Cynthia Augustus**

Introduction of Pastor / Family **Sister Jaime Coffen**

Pastor's Moment

Selection **St. Mark's Choir**

Offering Prayer **Sister Cynthia Augustus**

Offering (*follow Ushers*)

Offertory

Scriptures

Old Testament – 2 *Samuel 5:1–5, 9–10 (NIV)*

5 All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, “We are your own flesh and blood. ²In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, ‘You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.’”

³ When all the elders of Israel had come to King David at Hebron, the king made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel.

⁴ David was thirty years old when he became king, and he reigned forty years. ⁵ In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and in Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

⁹ David then took up residence in the fortress and called it the City of David. He built up the area around it, from the terraces inward.

¹⁰ And he became more and more powerful, because the Lord God Almighty was with him.

New Testament – 2 *Corinthians 12:2–10 (NIV)*

² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. ³ And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—

⁴ was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell. ⁵ I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses.

⁶ Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, ⁷ or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a

⁶ Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say, ⁷ or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a

messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Sermonic Selection (*please stand*) **Sister Sharane Wallace**

Sermon **Rev. Walter L. Smith, Jr.**

"I Know A Man!"

Invitation / Altar Call **Rev. Walter L. Smith, Jr.**

Invitation Selection

Holy Communion **Hymnal, #13**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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.

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.

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 Father,
now and for ever.

Amen.

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

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **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.**

Recessional / Closing Hymn Rev. Walter L. Smith, Jr./Choir

(Extinguishing of the candles)

Benediction



Happy Birthday July Members



Ernestine Gibson – 1st
 Kamille Quick – 3rd
 Gertrude Curry – 8th
 Jalani Robertson – 10th
 Sukuline Gbeh Kumeh Kortu – 10th
 Ava and Anna Hall – 12th

Umbrenda Fisher – 13th
 Kai Jones – 16th
 Christopher Adams – 20th
 Barbara Hughes – 29th
 Kwesi Desouza – 30th
 Justin Carter – 31st



Heavenly Birthdays

Charles Burley – 14th
 Latisha Adams – 18th

Jackie Garnett – 25th

Announcements

Wearing a mask while in the sanctuary is at your discretion.

Worship Attendance — 06/30/2024	
In-Person	49
YouTube	11
Total	60

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.



Thursday, July 11th (6:30 p.m.) — Choir rehearsal



Sunday, July 14th (morning service) — Youth, Young Adults, Educators and School System Personnel Celebration. We will celebrate these special individual's educational endeavors and accomplishments, big and small. Please submit all student accomplishments by **July 5th** to

Jaime Coffen. We don't want to exclude anyone from this celebratory Sunday.

Sunday, July 14th (3:00 p.m.) — "Taking Care of God's House" (*Galatians 6:9: Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*)

Rev. Smith has been invited to worship with **Ebenezer African**

Methodist Episcopal Church (967 Main Street, Gainesville, MD) as they celebrate their **Annual Trustee Day**. The invitation has been extended to the congregation as well. Dinner will be served following service.

Monday, July 15th (7:00 p.m.) — **Quarterly Council meeting** will be held in the **Fellowship Hall**. **All are welcome**. Ministry Leaders please submit your reports by July 12th for review.

Sunday, July 21st (following service) — Sister Cynthia Augustus will be having a brief meeting of women of congregation to discuss **Women's Day**.



Sunday, August 11th (2:00–6:00 p.m.) — **All You Can Eat Crab Feast–Fun Day**. Music, great food and more. Donation: **\$80/person**. Ridgely Run Community Center (8400 Mission Road, Jessup, MD).

For additional information or tickets: Tiara (240.855.3897), Tina (301.775.0837), Pat (410.227.3156). Sponsored by **Emancipation Day Committee**.

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. Walter L. Smith, Jr. (301.776.8885), waltsmith561@gmail.com

Rachel Hughes, Rico Harper, Delores Stratford, Keith Davis, Elba Hernandez, Nathaniel Watkins, Judith James, Joseph Ballard, Robert (Bobby) Marshall, Oscar Johnson, Harold (Bubby) Awkward, Jr., Tyrone Awkward, William (Jimmy) Scott, Charles Gregg, Rev. George F. DeFord, Janet Carey, Lafayette and Elaine Harvey, All branches of the Military, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Phillip Reese, Naomi Williams (Ms. Cynthia’s Mom), Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Eric Smith, Gloria Thomas, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone Mundell, Ernestine Gibson, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Hannah Polk

Eunice Dumas

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