

# *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, as we gather here to worship!*

*Sunday, December 22, 2024*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*



*Ushers:*

*Jeremiah Evans, Joshua Hope,  
Jeremiah and Ralph Laguerre*

*Order of Service*

*Brother Justin Carter, Worship Leader*

Prelude ..... Brothers Dre Bailey & Justin Carter  
Lighting of the Candles ..... Brother Larry Powell  
Processional ..... St. Mark's Mass Choir and Clergy  
Greeting ..... Brother Justin Carter

*Lighting of the Advent Candle —*

*“Love Anticipates”*

*Thomas and Tina Matthews  
Jaylah and Jalani Robertson*

Opening Hymn ..... “Emmanuel”

Prayer..... Rev. Walter L. Smith, Jr.

Greeting/Call to Worship..... Brother Justin Carter  
(please stand)

Leader: Christ’s love has called us here.

People: **Our spirits rejoice in God, our Savior.**

Leader: Christ’s love is transforming the world.

People: **In joy, we’ll give thanks and sing.**

Leader: Christ’s love calls us to justice and peace.

People: **In faith, we’ll answer the call.**

Selection ..... St. Mark’s Mass Choir

## *Passing of the Peace*

*As Mary greeted Elizabeth, may we greet one another with love. As Elizabeth greeted Mary, may we greet one another with joy. In love and joy, share words of blessing and sign of peace with one another.*

Acknowledgement of Visitors /

Announcements..... Sister Tina Thomas-Matthews

## *Pastor’s Moment*

Selection ..... St. Mark’s Mass Choir

Offering Prayer ..... Brother Justin Carter

Offering

Offertory

Scriptures..... Brother Jeremiah Laguerre

Old Testament – Micah 5:2–5

New Testament – Luke 1:39–45 (please stand)

*“Medley of Songs”*  
*St. Mark’s Mass Choir*



# Announcements

## Worship Attendance — 12/15/2024

In-Person	50
YouTube	20
Total	70

## 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.



**Office Closed — December 23, 2024 thru January 1, 2025.**

Rev. Smith can be reached on cell phone (443.881.6079)

**Monday (6:30 p.m.) — Drop-In Bible Study. On hiatus until January 6, 2025.** Led by Sister Jacqueline Jones.

**Tuesday (6:00 p.m.) — Women’s Roundtable.** Led by Minister Nena Hughes. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81636690166?pwd=ND8RYcSgUrBxg5e1laNwVV21Ms2B1l.1>; Meeting ID: 816 3669 0166;

Passcode: 002740

**Wednesday (7:15 p.m.) — Wednesday Night Experience. On hiatus until January 8, 2025.** 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**

**Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> (5:00 p.m.)**

— Music for the Holidays —

**“Celebrating the King of Kings”**

(Queens Chapel UMC, 7410 Old Muirkirk Road, Beltsville, MD)



**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>** (10:00 p.m.) —  
**Watch Night Service** at Mt. Zion UMC  
(3592 Whiskey Bottom Rd, Laurel).  
Rev. Smith will be preaching, and the Mass  
Choir will be providing music. All church  
leaders and members are asked to attend.



**Donations Needed:** The Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center needs men and women **winter clothing and boots, coats, scarves, hats, gloves and blankets**. To make the above donations in **red**, you will need to make an appointment to drop off (204 Fort Meade Road, Laurel) by calling 301.974.3010 or visiting the website at [info@laurelmsc.org](mailto:info@laurelmsc.org). For additional giving, checkout an Amazon Wish List by scanning this barcode



**Laurel Winter Shelter Volunteers Needed:** Laurel Winter Shelter for both men and women will be held at the new Laurel Multiservice Center from December 2024 thru March 2025. Every night there will be a need for two volunteers for check-in (7–10 p.m.) and two (1 male and 1 female) for overnight (10 p.m.–8 a.m.). You must get a **Background Check** (the Shelter Board will pay the cost). If you wish to volunteer on behalf of St. Mark's, please send your email address to Sandy Johnson ([sandra7767@msn.com](mailto:sandra7767@msn.com) or 410.530.0399). Your background check form will then be emailed to you.

**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)
3. You can use on-line giving (Give–St. Marks — <https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/stmarks1md>)

4. [Scan the barcode](#)



Again, thank you. Just remember the church building still has obligations that need to be met.

## *Volunteers Needed*

If any young ladies would like to praise dance, please see Sisters Zaniya Smith or Imani Hughes. Practice will be January 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 @ 3 p.m. Please wear relaxed clothing.

Six to eight women are needed to join the **communion stewards**, please see Rev. Smith or communion steward.



*“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](mailto:waltsmith561@gmail.com)

Francis DeSouza(*home recovering from surgery*), Quincy Jacob, Tyrone Awkward II, Molone Adams, All branches of the Military, Barbara Hughes, Barbara Mason, Jannette Shuford-Reeves, Rachel Hughes, Rico Harper, Delores Stratford, Keith Davis, Judith James, Joseph Ballard, Robert (Bobby) Marshall, Oscar Johnson, Harold (Bubby) Awkward, Jr., Tyrone Awkward, William (Jimmy) Scott, Charles Gregg, Janet Carey, Lafayette and Elaine Harvey, Bernice Jackson, Brenda Jackson, Floyd Hughes Sr., Phillip Reese, Naomi Williams, Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Eric Smith, Gloria Thomas, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone Mundell, Ernestine Gibson, James Matthews, Paul Browder, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Hannah Polk

**Eunice Dumas**

1909 Sheffield Court  
Severn, MD 21144  
410.551.2435

**Edlin Chambers**

14904 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Laurel, MD  
347.423.2764

**Ruth Miller**

1206 Peachwood Lane  
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)

**Melvin Reese**

5918 Appleton Court  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464