



*“Proclaiming Christ to the generations...
Equipping disciples to transform the world”*

Special Prayers / Sick and Shut-In List: If you hear of anyone that is in need of special prayer or is taken to the hospital, please contact: Rev. Eugene Matthews (443.257.2730 (cell), 410.379.0600 (home), reveugene@comcast.net)

Mary Taylor (LáAngel’s Mom), Leah Henry, Sonja Smith, Marvin Hebron, Shelford Henry, Francis Desouza (Gemma’s son), Eric Smith, Brian Bailey, Joyce Gibson, Nena Hughes, Gloria Thomas, Jeanette Reeves, Rev. George F. DeFord, Wanda Dumas, Tyrone / Pat Mundell, Joan Moore, Larry Powell, Ernestine Gibson, Mildred Awkward, Grace Elaine Catchings, James Matthews, Birdie Walker, Paul Browder, Phillip Reese, Lamar Payne, Kevin Miller, Nancy Daniels, Hannah Polk

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St. Mark’s United Methodist Church

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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

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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, October 3, 2021

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost



World Communion Sunday

Order of Service

Sister Cynthia Whitfield, Worship Leader

Prelude **Rev. Henry Tindal**

Lighting of the Candles **Usher**

Gathering Song..... **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 Whitfield**

Leader: The heavens declare your glory.

People: Your name be praised.

Sunday, October 17th (10:00 a.m.) — **131st Church Anniversary.** Additional information forthcoming.

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, place in the mailbox (Cynthia and David Burley check it regularly) **(This will save you postage)**
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>)
4. Reach out to member of finance, they will try to accommodate you.

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

*Happy Birthday and Anniversary
October Members
Announcements*



Pastor's Hrs. — Tuesday and Thursday (11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.)
Millicent Hrs. — Tuesday and Thursday (10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.)

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.



“**A FRESH START (NOW)**” —We desire to have many members as possible active in all the various areas of Ministry.

Tuesday, October 5th (7:00 p.m.) — Men’s Bible Study.
Session 1: Introduction to the Bible: The Books of Law.
 Zoom information/call in: [Click Here To Join Zoom Meeting](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84876087048?pwd=K201NEwzWmplMFZMenVqTnJlL0d0QT09)
 Copy and paste into your browser if the link above does not work:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84876087048?pwd=K201NEwzWmplMFZMenVqTnJlL0d0QT09>
 Meeting ID: 848 7608 7048
 Passcode: 803201

Phone Option — One tap mobile:
 +13017158592,,84876087048#,,,,*803201# US (Washington DC)

Wednesday Night Experience (7:00 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, October 7th (7:00 p.m.) — **Choir Rehearsal**

Monday, October 11th (6:00 p.m.) — **Annual Church Conference.** Information for meeting:
<https://bwcumc.zoom.us/j/98293115246?pwd=M0RlIdFN3RGIEYXo2UXczekVoNHJiUT09>
Phone Option — One tap mobile:
 +13017158592,,98293115246#,,,,*556792# US (Washington DC)

Leader: The animals of the fields testify to your majesty.
People: **Your name be praised.**
Leader: You bless humankind with your care and entrust us with your love.
People: **Your name be Praised.**
Leader: Give us the ability to glorify your name.
All: **O Lord, Our Lord, how majestic is your NAME in all the earth.**

Hymn of Praise..... Choir/Congregation

“Blessed Be the Name”

Blessed be the name!
 Blessed be the name!
 Blessed be the name of the Lord!
 Blessed be the name!
 Blessed be the name!
 Blessed be the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Confession and Assurance (*Unison*)

Lord, we often think we can make it on our own. We believe all that we have accomplished is our own work We imagine our own needs are more important than those of anyone else. Forgive us for our self-centeredness. Remind us, on this World Communion Sunday, of the vastness of your creation. And let us be mindful that the whole world is in your hands, O Lord. May your Holy Spirit open our hearts and renew our relationship with you, and may we be reminded again of your unending love for us. **Amen.**

The Invocation.....Sister Cynthia Whitfield
Song of MeditationChoir

The Prayer of Illumination (*Unison*)

God of All Wisdom and Wonder, send your Holy Spirit that She might gather us with our friends and family around the globe to listen to what you have to tell the Church today. **Amen.**

Scripture Reading #1**Sister Cynthia Whitfield**
(*Job 1:1, 2:1–10, Common English Bible*)

Job’s piety and life of bliss

1 A man in the land of Uz was named Job. That man was honest, a person of absolute integrity; he feared God and avoided evil.

Job’s Adversary refuses to give up

2 One day the divine beings came to present themselves before the Lord. The Adversary also came among them to present himself before the Lord. **2** The Lord said to the Adversary, “Where have you come from?”

The Adversary answered the Lord, “From wandering throughout the earth.”

3 The Lord said to the Adversary, “Have you thought about my servant Job, for there is no one like him on earth, a man who is honest, who is of absolute integrity, who reveres God and avoids evil? He still holds on to his integrity, even though you incited me to ruin him for no reason.”

4 The Adversary responded to the Lord, “Skin for skin—people will give up everything they have in exchange for their lives. **5** But stretch out your hand and strike his bones and flesh. Then he will definitely curse you to your face.”

6 The Lord answered the Adversary, “There he is—within your power; only preserve his life.”

The test intensifies

7 The Adversary departed from the Lord’s presence and struck Job with severe sores from the sole of his foot to the top of his head.

8 Job took a piece of broken pottery to scratch himself and sat down on a mound of ashes. **9** Job’s wife said to him, “Are you still clinging to your integrity? Curse God, and die.”

10 Job said to her, “You’re talking like a foolish woman. Will we receive good from God but not also receive bad?” In all this, Job didn’t sin with his lips.

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.

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.**

Announcements

Benediction

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.**

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.

Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world,
and strengthen it in every nation and among every people
to witness faithfully in your name.

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 (*Song, #270*)

Scripture Reading #2 **Sister Cynthia Whitfield**
(*Hebrews 1:1–4; 2:5–12, Common English Bible*)

The Son is God’s ultimate messenger

1 In the past, God spoke through the prophets to our ancestors in
many times and many ways. **2** In these final days, though, he spoke
to us through a Son. God made his Son the heir of everything and
created the world through him. **3** The Son is the light of God’s
glory and the imprint of God’s being. He maintains everything
with his powerful message. After he carried out the cleansing of
people from their sins, he sat down at the right side of the highest
majesty. **4** And the Son became so much greater than the other
messengers, such as angels, that he received a more important title
than theirs.

Jesus is the enthroned human being

5 God didn’t put the world that is coming (the world we are talking
about) under the angels’ control. **6** Instead, someone declared
somewhere,

What is humanity that you think about them?

Or what are the human beings that you care about them?

7 *For a while you made them lower than angels.*

You crowned the human beings with glory and honor.

8 *You put everything under their control.*

When he puts everything under their control, he doesn’t leave
anything out of control. But right now, we don’t see everything
under their control yet. **9** However, we do see the one who was
made lower in order than the angels for a little while—it’s Jesus!
He’s the one who is now crowned with glory and honor because of
the suffering of his death. He suffered death so that he could taste
death for everyone through God’s grace.

Qualified to be a high priest

10 It was appropriate for God, for whom and through whom
everything exists, to use experiences of suffering to make perfect
the pioneer of salvation. This salvation belongs to many sons and
daughters whom he’s leading to glory. **11** This is because the one
who makes people holy and the people who are being made holy
all come from one source. That is why Jesus isn’t ashamed to call
them brothers and sisters when he says,

¹² *I will publicly announce your name to my brothers and sisters.
I will praise you in the middle of the assembly.*

Selection **St. Mark's Choir**

Blessing of the Offering **Sister Cynthia Whitfield**
Offertory

Scripture Reading #3 **Sister Cynthia Whitfield**
(Mark 10:2–16, Common English Bible)

² Some Pharisees came and, trying to test him, they asked, “Does the Law allow a man to divorce his wife?”

³ Jesus answered, “What did Moses command you?”

⁴ They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a divorce certificate and to divorce his wife.”

⁵ Jesus said to them, “He wrote this commandment for you because of your unyielding hearts. ⁶ At the beginning of creation, *God made them male and female.* ⁷ *Because of this, a man should leave his father and mother and be joined together with his wife,* ⁸ *and the two will be one flesh.* So they are no longer two but one flesh.

⁹ Therefore, humans must not pull apart what God has put together.”

¹⁰ Inside the house, the disciples asked him again about this. ¹¹ He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹² and if a wife divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

Jesus blesses children

¹³ People were bringing children to Jesus so that he would bless them. But the disciples scolded them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he grew angry and said to them, “Allow the children to come to me. Don't forbid them, because God's kingdom belongs to people like these children. ¹⁵ I assure you that whoever doesn't welcome God's kingdom like a child will never enter it.” ¹⁶ Then he hugged the children and blessed them.

The Gloria Patri – “Glory Be to the Father” (*Hymnal, #71*)

Hymn of Preparation **St. Mark's Choir**

Inspirational Message..... **Rev. Eugene W. Matthews**

“Never Alone”

Praise and Prayer Concerns

Invitation / Altar Call

Invitation Selection

The Great Thanksgiving for World Communion Sunday

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,
Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
You have made from one every nation and people
to live on all the face of the 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.

He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth

and to make disciples of all nations,

and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.