



“Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”

October 18th, 2026

***Rev. Dr. Andreá Cummings-Wratee, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Johnsie Cogman, District Superintendent
LaTrelle Miller Easterling, Presiding Bishop***



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***Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
*Please stand as you are able in body or spirit***

Prelude~ "Have You Heard About Jesus"

Welcome~ Rev. Dr. Andreá Cummings-Wratee

****Opening Hymn~ "Blessed Assurance" - #508 - AAHH***

Opening Prayer

****Offering***

***Doxology~ “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”~#650
AAHH***

***Prayer of Illumination: Holy One, true and living God,
through the message of the gospel and the power of your
Spirit, make us imitators of the Lord: Jesus Christ our Savior.
In Christ, we pray. Amen.***

****The Scripture Readings***

***First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7: Thus says the LORD to his
anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue
nations before him and to strip kings of their robes, to open
doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: I will go
before you and level the mountains; I will break in pieces the
doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron; I will give you
the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so
that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who
call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob and
Israel my chosen, I call you by your name; I give you a***

title, though you do not know me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

****Psalter~** Psalm 96:1-13, #815-816 UMH*

****Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10: Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead— Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.*

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

Song of Preparation~ "God's Grace"

***Gospel Reading:** Matthew 22:15-22: Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."*

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

***Proclamation~** Dr. Cummings-Wratee*

****Affirmation of Faith:** (881 UMH): **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. (*universal)***

Prayers of the People:** Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.

****Confession/Pardon/ The Peace~** Pg. 8*

Thanksgiving & Holy Communion~ Pgs. 9-11

Lord's Prayer

Post Communion 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.

Announcements

****Benediction***

Mark your Calendar

Zion Wesley UMC Fall Tag Team Revival on October 23rd at 7 pm. Guest preachers: Pastor Rev. Randy Truesdale and Rev. Dr. William Butler. Zion's choir will also provide musical selections.

Church conference on November 7, 2026, at 11:00 A.M. at Mt. Harmony-Lower Marlboro, 155 E. Mt. Harmony Rd., Owings, MD.

Announcements? If you have an announcement or prayer request, please email it to zionlexpk@gmail.com by Wednesday.

Ready to Join Zion? Please text 301-997-3328. Pastor Cummings will reach out to you to arrange a time to discuss the membership vows and schedule a Sunday to join Zion.