

PRELUDE, GATHERING, *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* 526
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jas. 5:19–20

*Though we wander from the truth,
God brings us back and saves us.*

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Amen

CHOIR *He Leadeth Me* **128**
SERMON

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* **126**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Rev. Dr. Whitney Wilkinson*

If we are uncertain and weary, speak to us, O God.
If we are grounded and hopeful, speak to us.
If our faith feels solid and steady, speak to us,
and if our faith feels shaky and tentative, speak to us.
Keep speaking through the holy scriptures, O God,
that we may find our voice in yours. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

God, our strength and savior,
you know our great transgressions,
our hidden faults, our secret sins.
With our hands we grasp at power;
with our feet we stumble into evil;
with our eyes we look out for ourselves.
Forgive us, gracious God, and lead us
in your holy way of life and love and peace;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
{silent prayers}

HYMN *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* **140**
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INTERCESSIONS
THE LORD'S PRAYER

BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*With joy and gratitude for all we have been given,
in token of our lives, we offer our tithes and gifts to God.*

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER

Ps. 19:10

FotW

Your gift of life, O God, is more precious than gold
and sweeter than honey to our lips.
Take these gifts of our lives: refine and purify them,
and let them be for the world
a sign of your goodness and grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

The Summons

2130

SENDING

Mark 9:38–41; Num. 11:25

FotW

*Let the name of Christ be the word you speak,
the grace you show, and the love you share.
May the spirit of the Lord rest upon you,
the word of the Lord live within you,
and the glory of the Lord shine around you,
this day and always.*

Amen

POSTLUDE

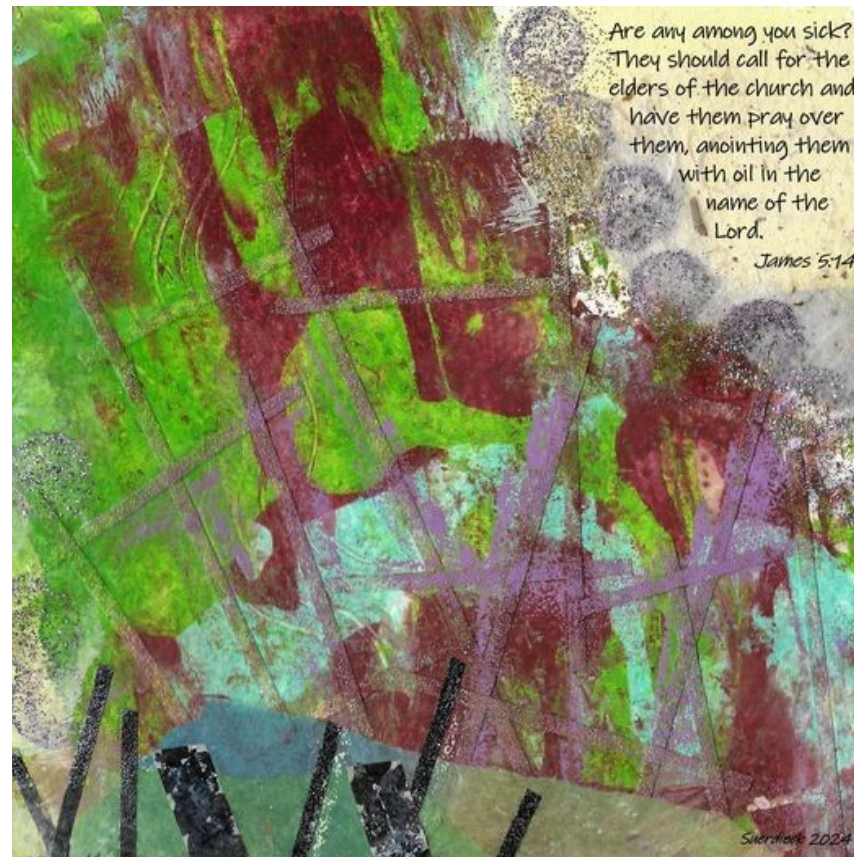
Every Time I Feel the Spirit

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September 29, 2024

Clarksburg United Methodist Church



23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland

<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmdumc/>

website: <https://clarksburgmdumc.org/>

Accompanist: Rick Beede

Choir Director: Cathy Warfield

Pastor: Rev. David Hodsdon

➤ Cell Phone: 240 676 7825

➤ Email: revdwhodsdon@gmail.com

facebook.com/david.w.hodsdon

Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary

Year B – September 29, 2024

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Scriptures

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 and Psalm 124
or Numbers 11:4-29 and Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20 and Mark 9:38-50

Questions for Reflection:

How can you see God as an active presence in your life
and in the life of others?

How can you be grateful and adore God not only in the
times when you are the subject of God's blessing
but also in times of trouble and tribulation?

Numbers 11:24-29 and Mark 9:38-41 are both
concerned with expressions of divine power that
occur outside the bounds of formal leadership and
authority. Where have you experienced God's
mighty or gracious action in the church and in the
world?

What does it mean for the church to pray or act in the
name of Jesus Christ?

How do you account for gifts of the Spirit that seem to
spill out beyond the church's control?

Morning Prayers:

May the first words in my mouth today
be the sound of the name of Jesus.
Lead me to reflect on his power
as I seek to live my day,
honoring the One
who gave me salvation and a new life.
In his powerful name I pray. Amen.

God of heavenly glory,
brighter than the midday sun,
as each day tells your wonder,
may the words of my mouth
be acceptable to you,
my rock and my redeemer. Amen.

Evening Prayers:

God, was I an agent of hope and salvation to others
as you have been to me?
As the day winds down,
help me to think about those times during the day
when I lived in your grace
and the times when I failed to be salt in your world.
Keep on working in my life,
through the power of your Holy Spirit,
so that I can become more like you want me to be.
In the name of Jesus. Amen.

God of heavenly glory,
deeper than the midnight dark,
as each night sings your mystery,
may the dreams of my heart
be acceptable to you,
my rock and my redeemer. Amen.