**May 22, 2016 8:30 & 10:45**

**Trinity Sunday Confirmation Sunday**

On this day, when three of our young disciples confirm their membership vows, let us all remember "the two R's" - receiving and responding. Today, how do we choose to receive and respond to the gift of God’s grace through Jesus Christ?

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymn 347** Spirit Song *Spirit Song*

 **Hymn 393** Spirit of the living God *Living God*

**Greeting**

Leader: No one has ever seen God;

**People: if we love one another, God lives in us, and God’s love is perfected in us.** *1 John 4:12*

**Announcements**

**Introit** 10:45 *John Ness Beck*

Open to me the gates of righteousness.

 I will praise Thee: for Thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

**Call to Worship**

 Pastor: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart.

**People: I bow down toward your temple and give thanks to your name.**

Pastor: On the day I called, you answered me, you increased the strength of

 my soul.

**People: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies.**

Pastor: The Lord will fulfill the divine purpose for me.

**People: Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.**

*Psalm 138:1-3, 7-8*

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

\***Worship & Song 3017** Come, join the dance of Trinity *Kingsfold*

**\*Opening Prayer (in unison)**

**O God, on this day you drew Jesus to your side, promising his companions Spirit, power, Everlasting God: You have revealed yourself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and ever live and reign in the perfect unity of love. Grant that we may always hold firmly and joyfully to this faith, and, living in praise of your divine majesty, may finally be one in you; who are three persons in one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Church of South India, 20th Century*

**… TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

 **Confirmation and Reception into Membership** 10:45 UMH pg. 33

 **Introduction to the Service**

Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg, Rev. Deborah Ackley-Killian , Lay Leader Linda Minnotte

 **Presentation of Candidates**

Elizabeth Jeanne Haniford

Anna May Kelly

Meredith Claire May

Teachers,Rev. Deborah Ackley-Killian and Rev. Earl Killian**;** Facilitator,Marcy Picardi

 **Renunciation of Sin and Profession of Faith**

 **Confirmation**

 **Reception into Membership**

 **Commendation and Welcome**

Pastor: Members of the household of God, I commend these persons to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope,

 and perfect them in love.

*\*please rise in body or spirit 2.*

**People: We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.**

**The Sign of Peace** *Please pass the peace to your neighbors as a sign of reconciliation and love.*

 Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
 People: And also with you.

Gathering Song *James Ritchie*

 This, this is where children belong,

 welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.

 Water, God’s Word, bread and cup, prayer and song:

 This is where children belong.

 WORDS AND MUSIC: James Ritchie ©1999 Abingdon Press

**Message for Young Disciples** Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

All children are invited. Please sing as children come forward. After the children’s message at the 10:45 service, children ages 3 - 3rd grade may attend **Kids Praise** in the Welcome Center. Children will be escorted to and from Kids Praise by teachers. They will return to the Sanctuary near the end of the service.

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

**Hymn 593** (seated) Here I am, Lord *Here I am, Lord*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Norma Buhrman

 10:45 Bob Mallery

 A Lesson from the New Testament

 Romans 5:1-5 Therefore, we have peace with God

**Hymn 619** (seated) Now the silence *Now*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

 **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen. 3.**

Scripture Reading

 \*A Lesson from the Gospels

 John 16:12-15 The Spirit of Truth

 **Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

**… TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TO DEDICATE OUR LIVES …**

**Offertory Solo** 8:30 Spirit Divine, attend our prayers *arranged by Wilbur Held*

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45 *Philip W.J. Stopford*

 Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me. Today you shall be with me in Paradise.

 Blood of Christ, refresh me; Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ,

strengthen me. Today you shall be with me in Paradise.

 O good Jesus, hear me; within your wounds, hide me; let me never be separated from you;

from the darkness, defend me. Today you shall be with me in Paradise.

 In the hour of my death, call me, and bid me come to you,

that with your saints I may praise you forever. Today you shall be with me in Paradise.

**\*Doxology 94**

 Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

 Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

 Praise God the source of all our gifts!

 Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “The Two R’s” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**Our Credo (see bulletin page 7)** 205-2016 Confirmation Class

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

\***Worship & Song 3017** Come, join the dance of Trinity (stanzas 3-4) *Kingsfold*

**Benediction**

 **4.**

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers in the Chancel** are given by Mark and Judy Lewis in honor of the Chancel Choir.

**The flowers on the altar** are given by Gwendolyn Bach Lammert in loving memory of parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Bach; brother, Joseph A. Bach, Jr.; and nephew, Joseph A. Bach III.

**Special music at 10:**45 is provided by the Chancel Choir.

**Our hymnal** and the new hymnal supplement are rich resources. As we explore newer texts and tunes we will repeat them during the month so that we are more comfortable singing them.

**Greeters 8:30** Cynthia Jelic **10:45** Ed and Bette Lou Reichard

**Acolytes** Anna Rhoton and Johnny Manning

**Worship options for children** We encourage children to participate in the **Children’s Sermon** at both services, and in **Kids Praise** during the 10:45 service. **Nursery services** are offered in Room 204 of the Education Building. Ask ushers or greeters and follow signs for direction.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Romans 5:1-5**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God.

3And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,

5and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

**John 16:12-15**

12“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

13When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

14He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

15All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

 5.

**Keep in Prayer**

**Hospitalized**

Earl Killian, Harmarville Rehab

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Betty Lou Albright, Providence Point

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Ruth Bloss, Providence Point

Jean Bouvy, McMurray Hills Manor

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

Howard DeWald, Providence Point

Bob Fairgrieve, Providence Point

Mary Garber, Providence Point

Margie Jellison, Townview, Canonsburg

Kate McDade, Paramount, Bethel Park

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Andy Smith, Concordia

**Convalescing at Home**

Joyce Feldman, Ann Hoyer

**In the Military**

Jason Boyer, SPC Natalie Brown

**Capt. Zachary Allen Finch, USMC**James Iantelli, 1st Lt. Jaskiewicz
S. Sgt. Keith Kimmell, Adam Kmick
PFC Brendan Lamport
Sgt. Matthew McConahan, Thomas Orda
Lt. Col. Mark Patterson

Lt. Com. Scott Patterson

Lt. Col. Sean Patterson
David Poncel, Sgt. Steven Reitz
Capt. Scott B. Rushe, Pastor Rick Townes
Capt. Azizi Wesmiller

Capt. Matthew C. Wesmiller
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski

Sgt. Michael Zimmerman

**Sympathy**

The church offers its sympathy to the Coverdale family. Congregation members may remember Claire and Elaine Coverdale, longtime members of the church who moved a few years ago to be closer to their son. Elain Coverdale passed away on May 12 and Claire on May 17. Prayers and words of comfort may be sent to their son:

 Scott Coverdale

 401 Bridgewood Drive

 Yorktown, VA 23693

Condolences are offered to the family of church member Jane Morton, who died May 8. Words of sympathy to the family can be sent to the following address:

 The Morton Family

 321 Queensberry Circle

 Pittsburgh, PA 15234

**Podcasts of Sunday Sermons** Would you like to share this morning’s sermon with a friend or did you miss a Sunday? Catch up on the messages from MLUMC with a podcast of Pastor Tom’s and others’ Sunday sermons. Sermons from the past three months are at

http:// mlumc.buzzsprout.com. You can navigate to the site from the link on our webpage, www.mlumc.org, through the app, Stitcher or through iTunes.

 **6.**

**Confirmation Creed 2016**

***For centuries, Christians have used creeds to express beliefs, truths and core doctrines. The beliefs we declare in creeds give us a foundation on which to build faith and practice. The Confirmands have written a Class Creed, a corporate proclamation of their Christian faith and belief. It is the culmination of their growth and learning this year .***

I believe in our wise friend, the one and only God. God is real. He is the Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End. God created Heaven and Earth, and separates Heaven from Hell. God loves us and has our best interests in mind. He listens when we pray and watches over us. God forgives us.

I believe in Jesus, the Son of God, who loves us. Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary in a stable with a bright star shining overhead. Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist and fasted for 40 days. Afterward, He healed people, taught the differences between right and wrong, taught scripture. Jesus washed his disciples’ feet to show them love and respect and to teach them to serve each other. He was crucified, dying for our sins and to forgive us for sin. Jesus rose from the dead and went into heaven.

I believe in the Holy Spirit who was present at creation and is always with us. The Spirit is shows God’s love and is bold. The Spirit was with Jesus at His baptism. The Spirit responds to our prayers and helps us, knowing what we need.

I believe that everyone is part of the Kingdom of God and that the Kingdom revolves around God. The Kingdom is in Heaven and Earth. With Christians in the Kingdom, we are working to make the world a new creation upon which God is the foundation. We are made new in God, and we know that Jesus will come back.

I believe in the Church and that God created the Church to be a blessing to us and to provide support for us. The Church is made up of all God’s people. It is a place for us to help others and for us to teach. I believe Worship can occur in the Church and in other places. Worship is a way of communicating with God and brings us closer to God. There is more than one way to worship God. During Worship, we thank God, we learn, and we sing. Within the Church we celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion. Baptism is a reminder that we are born of God. Communion is a reminder of Jesus, with the bread representing His body and the juice representing His blood.

I believe we all sin and that sin separates us from God’s love. Jesus died to forgive us for our sins and to redeem us to set us free. We show that we are sorry for times when we have sinned, not simply saying that we are sorry.

 7.

I believe that God gives us Grace. God welcomes us with Grace that can represent a home. The porch is just outside the home and reminds us that God’s Grace is prevenient—with us before we even know it. When we enter through the doorway, we accept God’s Grace and are justified. As we continue to live within God’s home, we are sanctified through Grace. We are wrapped within the never-ending love of Grace and share that love with others within the world. God’s love is not earned. It is given freely to all of us.

I believe that we are disciples of Jesus. We use the Scripture, which tells the story of God, to learn and to help us make decisions. It is important to pray and to talk to God at anytime and anyplace. To be disciples, we believe in God, respect God, and follow God’s ways.

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, MAY 22 THRU SATURDAY, MAY 28**

**SUNDAY 5/22 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Sunday School for All Ages Various

 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

 4 pm Youth Group Crossover Event Wesley Hall

 7 pm Boy Scout Patrol Leaders Room 105

**TUESDAY 5/24**

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

 7 pm BSA Board of Review Room 105

**WEDNESDAY 5/25**

 6:30 pm Wolf Cub Scout Pack Epworth Chapel

**THURSDAY 5/26**

9:30 am Hands & Hearts Epworth Chapel

 6:30 pm Webelos Cub Scout Wesley Hall

 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 5/27**

 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Room 102

 6 pm Flower Planting Church Grounds

 6:30 pm Cub Scout Bear Den Epworth Chapel

**SATURDAY 5/28**

 9 am Flower Planting Church Grounds

 8.