**July 24, 2016 8:30 & 10:45**

10th Sunday After Pentecost

God's promise to the patriarchs of Israel was, "I will be your God and you will be my people." Human disobedience often interferes with that promise. Through the life of the prophet Hosea, God offers a warning, and a promise of a fresh start.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

**Hymn 452** My faith looks up to thee (stanzas 1 and 2)*Olivet*

**Hymn 453** More love to thee, O Christ (stanzas 1 and 2) *More love to thee*

**Greeting**

Leader: Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem;

**People: for the Lord has comforted his people.**

*Isaiah 52:9*

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Pastor: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**People: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

Pastor: You turn usback to dust, and say, “Turn back, you mortals.”

**People: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.**

*Psalm 90:1-4 (traditionally, a psalm of Moses)*

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymn of Praise 108** God hath spoken by the prophets (standing) *Ebenezer*

**Opening Prayer** (in unison, standing)

**Lord of wind and sea, when the storms of life threaten to overwhelm us, you speak a word of peace and calm the raging waters; when the gales and tempests threaten to sweep us away, you rebuke the winds and still the roiling seas. You are our stronghold in times of trouble. You silence the fears within our troubled hearts and fill us with wonder at your awesome power, that we may search inward, find our quiet center, and meet you there. Amen.**

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

**Sacrament of Baptism** 10:45 *Baptismal Covenant II, UM Hymnal #39*

Abby Amelia Keeling, daughter of Ryan and Jennifer Keeling

**Hymn 611** Child of blessing, child of promise (stanzas 1-2, seated) *Stuttgart*

 **People: With God’s help we will proclaim the good news**

 **and live according to the example of Christ.**

 **We will surround Abby with a community of love and forgiveness, that she may grow in her service to others.**

 **We will pray for her that she may be a true disciple**

 **who walks in a way that leads to life.**

**Hymn 611** Child of blessing, child of promise (stanzas 3-4, seated) *Stuttgart*

**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: James Ritchie 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 Asbury Center near the end of the service.

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

**Hymn 430** 8:30O Master, let me walk with Thee (seated) *Maryton*

**Solo** 10:45 Wade in the water *Spiritual, arranged by Mark Hayes*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Scott Miller

 10:45 Sally Munro

A Lesson from the Hebrew Scripture

 Hosea 1:2-10 God commands Hosea to marry

**Worship & Song 3131** Hear my prayer, O God (stanza 3, seated) *Adieu*

**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.**

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospels (standing)

 Luke 11:1-13 Teaching the disciples to pray

 **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 Somebody's knockin' at your door *arranged by Joe Utterback*

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45 *Spiritual, arr. David Poole*

Refrain: Somebody's knockin' at your door. Oh, sinner, why don't you answer?

 Somebody's knockin' at your door.

 1. Knocks like Jesus.

2. Can't you hear him?

3. Answer Jesus.

**Doxology 94** (standing)

 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** “When Life is Stranger than Fiction” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymn of Commitment 400** Come, thou Fount of every blessing (standing) *Nettleton*

**Benediction**

**Today’s Services**

**The flower arrangement** provided for worship today is given by Bill and Lavisa Ward in celebration of their 65th wedding anniversary on July 28th.

**Special music at 10:45** is provided by the Chancel Choir with soloist Ryan A. Keeling, our Director of Choral Music and father of today’s newly baptized child, Abby Amelia Keeling.

**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**  Erma Henry **10:45**  Priscilla Utzig

**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.

**Flower Donations** The church is in need of Sunday flower arrangements for August 14 and 21. Honor or remember a loved one or friend with your donation. Contact Sharon Slater, 412-343-1137.

**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

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**Today’s Scriptures**

**Hosea 1:2-10**

2When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, “Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.”

3So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

4And the Lord said to him, “Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel.

5On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.”

6She conceived again and bore a daughter. Then the Lord said to him, “Name her Lo-ruhamah, for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them.

7But I will have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen.”

8When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son.

9Then the Lord said, “Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not my people and I am not your God.”

10Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.”

**Luke 11:1-13**

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”

2He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.

3Give us each day our daily bread.

4And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

5And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread;

6for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’

7And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’

8I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

9“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.

10For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

11Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion?

13If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

**Suffering a Loss: Why and How We All Grieve Differently**

**Washington & Jefferson College, 60 S. Lincoln St. Washington, PA**

**Thursday, August 18th 9 am – 4 pm**

Just as John Gray’s popular book, Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus, focused on the fundamental psychological differences between men and women, this seminar will help you understand why and how we all grieve differently. Cultural, racial, socioeconomic, gender, ethnicity, age, and religion all affect our grieving process. More than an information-only event, the day will include lots of practical “how tos”, “dos, don’ts” and many specific ways in which we can help ourselves and others in the grieving process.

This Seminar is led by Dr. Daniel Stinson, Director of the W & J Thanatology Certificate Program, Certified Bereavement Facilitator, Certified Palliative Care Specialist, and Certified Advance Bereavement Facilitator.

Price: 175.00 –Registration Fee covers cost of seminar and lunch. To register: Contact Emily Butler, Assistant Director of Graduate and Continuing Studies: continuingstudies@washjeff.edu.

724-503-1001 Ext 6226

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Jean Bouvy, McMurray Hills Manor

Pat Seitz, Concordia

**Convalescing at Home**

Joyce Feldman, May Frederick, Ann Hoyer, Earl Killian, Linda Minnotte, Andy Smith

**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

**Looking to send a card? Here are some helpful addresses**

Asbury Heights

700 Bower Hill Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

McMurray Hills Manor

249 W McMurray Road

McMurray, PA 15317

Concordia Health Center

1300 Bower Hill Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

**Birthday wishes** can be sent to church member Ann Swartz, who will be 100 years old this July 31. Send your card to :

 Mrs. Ann Swartz

 Asbury Place

 760 Bower Hill Road

 Pittsburgh, PA 15243-2040

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, JULY 24 THRU SATURDAY, JULY 30**

**SUNDAY 7/24**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Faith for Today Asbury Center

 9:30-10:30 am Kids’ Sunday School Room 204

 9:30-noon Nursery Room 204

 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

7 pm Boy Scout Patrol Leaders Room 105

**TUESDAY 7/26**

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

 7 pm Boy Scout Board of Reviews Room 105

**WEDNESDAY 7/27**

6 pm Homebuilders Picnic Wesley Hall

**THURSDAY 7/28**

9:30 am Hands and Hearts Epworth Chapel

**SATURDAY 7/30**

 10 am Food Distribution Food Pantry

