**January 8, 2017 8:30 & 10:45**

**1st Sunday after the Epiphany – Baptism of the Lord**

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into His name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess Him as Lord and Savior, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen. Hymn 253

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymn 248 On This Day Earth Shall Ring** (stanzas 3,4) *Personent Hodie*

 **Worship & Song 3051 A Star Shone Bright** *Garland*

**Greeting** Bishop George W. Bashore

 Leader: "The voice of the Lord is powerful;

 the voice of the Lord is full of majesty."

 Ps. 29:4

 Let us hear the voice of the Lord: "When Jesus had been baptized. . . suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."' Matt. 3:16,17

 **People:**  (sung, Hymn 234, stanza 2)

 **True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal,**

 **lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;**

 **Son of the Father, begotten, not created;**

 **O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,**

 **O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**The Church in Mission and Worship** (Announcements)

**Choral Introit** 10:45 *Thomas Keesecker*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Affirmation of Faith The Nicene Creed** Hymn 880

**Hymn of Praise 189 Fairest Lord Jesus** *St. Elizabeth*

**Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon** (seated) Hymn 890

**Sung Response, Hymn 241 That boy-child of Mary** (stanzas 2,5,6)*Blantyre*

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

**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** Kim Rhoton

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 598 O Word of God incarnate** Munich

Scripture Reading 8:30 Liz DiPietro

 10:45 Scott Ullman

A Lesson from the Gospel (standing)

Matthew 3:13-17; 16:13-17; 17:1-5

 **Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

**Hymn 526** What a friend we have in Jesus *Converse*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Worship & Song 3068** The Lord’s Prayer*Malotte*

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

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45 My Son, the Beloved *David Blackwell*

 In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

And as he came out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart

and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.

My Son, the Beloved.” *Mark 1: 9-11*

**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** "We Believe in One Lord, Jesus Christ, the Only Son of God"

 Bishop George W. Bashore

**Choral Affirmation** 10:45 *Sir John Stainer*

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,

that whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world;

but that the world through Him might be saved. *John 3: 16*

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Benediction**

**Choral Benediction** 10:45 *Peter C. Lutkin*

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift his countenance upon you; and give you peace,

the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. Amen.

**Today’s Services**

**The chancel flowers** are given by the Floss, Caputo, Masar, and Krewin families in loving memory of Kathy Caputo, Judy Floss, Frank Floss, Tom Knowlson and Bitty Floss.

**The flowers on the altar** are given by Bill and Bernice Merchant in honor of the Chancel Choir.

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

**Greeters 8:30** Erma Henry **10:45** The Siegert family – Michael, Patty, Rylee and Max

**Acolytes** Rylee Siegert and Cary Young

**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.

**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

**Flower Donations** Honor or remember a loved one or friend with a Sunday flower arrangement donation. Contact Sharon Slater, 412-343-1137.

**Blood Pressure Screenings** Stop in to Brookline Parlor after the 10:45 service for a blood pressure check from the MLUMC Health Ministry (WHOM.) The ministry team nurses offer screenings the first Sunday of every month.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Matthew 3:13-17**

13Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” 15But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. 16And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

**16:13-17**

13Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” 14And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” 15He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” 17And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.

**17:1-5**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. 3Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” 5While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!”

**Keep in Prayer**

**Hospitalized**

Joseph Festor, UPMC Montefiore

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

May Frederick , Concordia Health Care

Mary Garber, Providence Point

Susan Lichtenfels, Curahealth Pittsburgh,

 Oakdale

Pat Seitz, Concordia Health Care

Ann Swartz, Asbury Center

Tim Watters, Baptist Homes

**Convalescing at Home**

Gloria Barber, Bob Fairgrieve, Jean George, Earl Killian

**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**

Condolences are offered to the family of long-time church member William E. Frey, who died on Tuesday, December 27 at the age of 93. Words of sympathy can be sent to the family in care of the funeral home: [www.johnfslater.com](http://www.johnfslater.com) .

The church sends sympathy to the family of church member Andrew “Andy” W. Smith, age 91, who died on Thursday, December 22nd. A memorial service was held Wednesday, January 4th in our Sanctuary. Prayers and words of comfort for the family can be sent to his son:

Mr. Thomas B. Smith

3551 Isle way

Oxnard, CA

**Letters of Gratitude**

My dear friends of MLUMC,

**T**hank you so much for all of your support and prayers during my mom’s passing. It meant so much to me and my family - especially to me.

 All our love,

 Mike Staab

Dear Members of Mt Lebanon United Methodist Church,

 Thank you for your generous donation toward our Christmas dinners.

You are a blessing to that ministry. May the Lord bless you throughout the New year.

 Rev. J. Scott Shetter

  First Presbyterian Church of Castle Shannon

**Spreading Cheer to Shut-ins**

Thanks so much to all those who delivered poinsettias to shut-ins. Your kindness spread the cheer of the birth of Christ and is greatly appreciated.

**Become a Greeter: Extend a Welcome Hand**

The Sunday morning greeter is often the first person a visitor or member contacts on entering the church. A greeter’s smile, handshake and cheerful words may set the tone for not only a church goer’s worship experience, but also an entire day. MLUMC is in need of Sunday morning greeters. Consider serving at one of the two worship services. You’ll become a vital part of the church’s ministry of hospitality and make new friends. If you can offer this service once or twice a year, fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket or deliver it to the office.

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**Greeter Volunteer Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Worship service choice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_8:30 \_\_\_\_\_\_10:45**

**Phone # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 THRU SATURDAY, JANUARY 14**

**SUNDAY 1/8**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Sunday School for All Ages/Coffee Café Various/Brookline Parlor

 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

 5 pm Youth Group Asbury Center

**MONDAY 1/9**

 7 pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Asbury

 7:30 pm German Classes Welcome Center

**TUESDAY 1/10**

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

 7 pm Boy Scout Board of Reviews Room 105

 7 pm Cub Scout Planning Committee Epworth

 7:30 pm Zwickau Planning Meeting Welcome Center

**WEDNESDAY 1/11**

 6:30 pm Wolf Cub Scouts Epworth

 7 pm Tiger Den Room 105

 7:30 pm Finance Committee Wesley Hall

**THURSDAY 1/12**

 6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 6:30 pm Webelo I Wesley Hall

 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 1/13**

 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Room 102

 1:30 pm Memoirs Group Wesley Hall

 6:30 pm Bear Den Cub Scouts Epworth