**July 2, 2017 8:30 & 10:45**

*The Rev. Dr. Brian Bauknight is today’s guest preacher and Bishop George Bashore is our Worship Leader. Dr. Bauknight, who retired from church ministry in 2007, is on the staff of the Western PA United Methodist Conference in Clergy Leadership Development. Speaking at MLUMC is a bit of a homecoming for Dr. Bauknight. He was baptized in this church and reared through its ministry until he left home for college. It is a pleasure to welcome him home*.

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

 “Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.” *Psalm 22:12*

If we really were a nation under God, what would that look like? What would it look like if the United States were a Christian nation? On this Independence Day weekend, we’ll explore these questions.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music** 8:30

 **Hymn 620 One bread, one body** *One bread, one body*

**Greeting**

Leader: Let God grant us grace and bless us; let God’s face shine upon us, so that

 God’s way becomes known on earth, and God’s salvation among all the nations.

**People: Let the people thank you, O God! Let all the people thank you!**

*Psalm 67:1-2*

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Pastor: As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**People: There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female;**

Pastor: For all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

**People: And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.**

*Galatians 3:27-29*

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymn 67**  **We, thy people, praise thee** (standing**)** *St. Anthony Chorale*

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

**Almighty God, we confess that we are often swept up in the tide of our generation. We have failed in our calling to be your holy people, a people set apart for your divine purpose. We live more in apathy born of fatalism than in passion born of hope. We are moved more by private ambition than by social justice. We dream more of privilege and benefits than of service and sacrifice. We try to speak in your name without relinquishing our glories, without nourishing our souls, without relying wholly on your grace. Help us make room in our hearts and lives for you. Forgive us, revive us, and reshape us in your image. Amen.**

*Lydia S. Martinez, 20th Century*

**… 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** Bethany Lockie

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 632 **Draw us in the Spirit’s tether** (seated) *Union Seminary*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Marcy Picardi

 10:45 Barbara Watson

 A Lesson from the Psalter

 Psalm 33:12-22

**Worship & Song 3137** *Jésus le Christ*

**Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.**

 **Let not my doubts nor my darkness speak to me.**

 **Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.**

 **Let my heart always welcome your love.**

**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.**

**Celtic Alleluia** **Alleluia** (sing 4 times) *O’Carroll and Walker*

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospels

 Matthew 10:40-42

 **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 Deep River *Spiritual, arr. Held*

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45 *Buryl Red*

 In remembrance of me, eat this bread. In remembrance of me, drink this wine.

In remembrance of me, pray for the time when God’s own will is done.

In remembrance of me, heal the sick. In remembrance of me, feed the poor. In remembrance of me,

open the door and let your brother in.

 Take, eat, and be comforted. Drink, and remember, too,

that this is my body and precious blood shed for you.

 In remembrance of me, search for truth. In remembrance of me, always love.

In remembrance of me, don’t look above, but in your heart. Look in your heart for God.

Do this in remembrance of me.

**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** “A Nation Under God” Rev. Dr. Brian Bauknight

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God...

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

 Leader: *(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following words. . . )*

Therefore, with all your faithful people from every time and place we join the whole creation to lift our hearts in joyful praise.

 (Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25)

**People:** **Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: *(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following words . . .)*

As we affirm the mystery of faith.

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Leader: *(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following words . . .)* Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, who lives in unity with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, to all eternity.

**People: Amen.**

**Giving the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer following Communion** (in unison)

 **Deep, flowing mystery of God, gentle, life-giving grace of God, we have immersed ourselves in you. With Jesus, we trust your Spirit in us, and we hear your calling.**

 **By your summons, we rise, we follow, and we serve you, in the living,**

 **breathing spirit of Christ. Amen.**

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymn 437 This is my song** (standing)*Finlandia*

**Benediction**

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers arrangement** provide for worship today is given by Roger and Gladys Arnold in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary on July 7th.

**The arrangement of yellow and red flowers** celebrates the wonderful time our German group is having with our friends in Zwickau. God has blessed our two church families.

**Special music at 10:**45 is provided by the Chancel Choir, with percussionist Richard Minnotte.

**Greeters 8:30** Rob and Jane Spicher **10:45**  Don and Karen Shaffer

**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. A month’s sermons are at <http://mlumc.buzzsprout.com> or navigate to the site from the link on our webpage, [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org). Sermons older than a month will be posted to iTunes. Full recordings of the service are available upon request.

**Honor or remember a loved one with a flower donation.** To donate an arrangement for the altar, Chancel or Columbarium, contact Sharon Slater, 412-343-1137.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Psalm 33:12-22**

12Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

13The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.

14From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—

15he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds.

16A king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

17The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save.

18Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

19to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

20Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield.

21Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

22Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

**Matthew 10:40-42**

40“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. 41Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; 42and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Tim Watters, Baptist Home

**Convalescing at Home**

Mary Caldwell, David Lewis,

May Frederick, Earl Killian,

Susan Lichtenfels, Betty Trout

**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

Sgt. Richard Okello, 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
Maj. Azizi Wesmiller

Maj. Matthew C. Wesmiller
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski

**An appeal for help** from the UMC Pittsburgh District Disaster Response Coordinator:

*Friends,*

*A number of our neighbors have reported flood damage to us through the Red Cross or through their churches:*

*Persons needing assistance with cleanup include families with some disabilities or who are living alone without family help.*

*Current families reporting a need are in Bethel Park, Brentwood, Lincoln Boro and near South Hills Country Club.*

*If you are available lend assistance please let me know. In some cases lifting and organizing may be involved, one person needs assistance with laundry.*

*Conditions may be unsanitary so adequate personal protection will be necessary. Those with ERT training would be ideal to direct teams of volunteers.*

*Listening is always an important skill for such teams.*

*Contact me with your availability and to receive details*.

*Fred Watts*

*WPAUMC Pittsburgh District*

*Disaster Response Coordinator*

*UMVIM Coordinator*

*412-913-3631*

*fcwatts@verizon.net*

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, JULY 2 THRU SATURDAY, JULY 8**

**SUNDAY 7/2**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Faith for Today Asbury Center

 10:45 am Worship Asbury Center

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

 11:45 am Blood Pressure Screening Brookline Parlor

 2 pm Korean Worship Sanner Chapel

**MONDAY 7/3 OFFICE CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY**

**TUESDAY 7/4 OFFICE CLOSED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY**

**WEDNESDAY 7/5**

 6:30 am Northside Lunch Program Prep Kitchen

6 pm Homebuilders Picnic Wesley Hall

**THURSDAY 7/6**

 8:30 am Northside Lunch Program Prep Kitchen

9:30 am Hands and Hearts Epworth

 12 pm TNT Asbury Heights

**FRIDAY 7/7**

 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Room 102

