

**August 6, 2017 8:30 & 10:45**

**Then Sings My Soul**

Summer Sermon Series

Peace. Humanity clamors for it, even as we sometimes work against it. The 19th Century composer, Joseph M. Scriven, surmounted the trials in his own life to find *“the peace of God which surpasses all understanding.” (Philippians 4:6)* That peace inspired him to write the beloved hymn, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.”

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music** 8:30

**Hymn 618 Let us break bread together** (seated)*Let us break bread*

**Greeting**

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me,

**People: Let us go into the house of the Lord!**

*Psalm 122:1*

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Pastor: We have one Lord.

**People: God lives in each of us. We have one faith. God works in each of us.**

Pastor: We have one baptism.

**People: God gives gifts to each of us.**

Pastor: We are one body.

**People: God makes us all one.** *Ephesians 4*

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymn 185 When morning gilds the skies** (standing)*Laudes domini*

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

**Almighty God, speak your truth to us this day. Give us the treasure of your wisdom and love that we might become for the world the treasure you seek us to be. Clothe us with your compassion and courage that we might be the Body of Christ to a hurting world. In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

**… 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: 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 …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Scott Miller

10:45 Chris James

A Lesson from the New Testament

Philippians 4:1-7 Rejoice in the Lord always

**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, standing) *O’Carroll and Walker*

Scripture Reading

A Lesson from the Gospel

John 15:12-17 The Great Commandment

**Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Offertory Solo** *En Prière* (In Prayer) *Gabriel Faure*

*Translation*:

If the voice of a child can reach you, O my Father,

listen to the prayer of Jesus on His knees before You.

If You have chosen me to teach Your laws

on the earth I will know how to serve You, holy King of Kings, O Light!

Place on my lips, O Lord, the salutary truth, so that whoever doubts should with humility revere You.

Do not abandon me, give me the gentleness so necessary to relieve the suffering,

to alleviate pains and misery. Reveal Yourself to me, Lord, in whom I have faith and hope.

I want to suffer for You and to die on the cross at Calvary.

**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** “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**Hymn of Preparation Come to the table of grace** *Worship & Song, #3168*

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. . . )*

This cup and your thoughts of me will sustain you and restore your spirits.

**People: Amen**

**Giving the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer following Communion**

**You have opened to us the Scriptures, O Christ, and you have made yourself known in the breaking of the bread. Abide with us, we pray, that, blessed by your royal presence, we may walk with you all the days of our lives, and at its end behold you in the glory of the eternal Trinity, one God for ever and ever. Amen.**

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymn 526 What a friend we have in Jesus** (standing) *Converse*

**Benediction**

**What a Friend: The Wesleyan Means of Grace**

**Works of Piety**

**Individual Practices** – reading, meditating and studying the scriptures, prayer, fasting, regularly attending worship, healthy living, and sharing our faith with others

**Communal Practices** – regularly share in the sacraments, Christian conferencing (accountability to one another), and Bible study

**Works of Mercy**

**Individual Practices** - doing good works, visiting the sick, visiting those in prison, feeding the hungry, and giving generously to the needs of others

**Communal Practices** – seeking justice, ending oppression and discrimination, and addressing the needs of the poor

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers** for worship today are given by Cheryl Herrington in memory of her beloved family: father, Artemis Herrington; mother, Shirley Herrington and sisters Gail Beeson and Judy Androus.

**This morning’s music** is provided by Cori DeLuca, a member of this church and piano teacher in the area; and Robert Richards, a member of the Chancel Choir.

**Greeters 8:30**  Erma Henry **10:45**  Marianne Boyd

**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 worship service, contact Sharon Slater, 412-343-1137.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Philippians 4:1-7**

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. 2I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. 4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**John 15:12-17**

12“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

**HELP WANTED: Volunteers for Worship Services**

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**The Worship Advisory Committee has identified urgent needs for the following positions:**

* **Communion Steward** - Volunteers are needed monthly to set up worship service locations for communion. Tasks include gathering supplies, assembling trays with plastic cups and bread, filling cups, and positioning trays on the communion rails.
* **Usher -** Volunteers are needed weekly during worship services to welcome people and distribute bulletins, assist churchgoers with seating, collect the offering, lead people to communion, and help out during the service as needed. Training will be provided.

Please call the church office if you are interested in helping: 412-531-7131.

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**Keep in Prayer**

**Hospitalized**

John Dean, St. Clair

**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,

John White

**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

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 THRU SATURDAY, AUGUST 12**

**SUNDAY 8/6**

8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

9:30 am Faith for Today Asbury Center

10:45 am Worship Asbury Center

Kids Praise Welcome Center

2 pm Korean Worship Sanner Chapel

**TUESDAY 8/8**

7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

7 pm Boy Scout Board of Reviews Room 105

**WEDNESDAY 8/9**

6 pm Homebuilders Picnic Asbury Center

7:30 pm Finance Committee Wesley Hall

**FRIDAY 8/11**

9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Room 102

1:30 pm Memoirs Group Wesley Hall