

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

**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

An old Gospel hymn from the late 19th Century encourages us to *“Count your many blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord has done.”* Gratitude is the foundation of true thanksgiving. Today, let’s “count our blessings,” and see what God has done!

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymnal 186 Alleluia** (seated) *Alleluia*

 **Worship & Song 3010 Sing of the Lord’s goodness** (stanzas 1 and 2) *The Lord’s goodness*

 **Worship & Song 3129** (stanzas 1 and 2) *Ai Hu*

**Greeting**

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, O you God’s faithful ones,

**People: and give thanks to God’s holy name.** *Psalm 30:4*

**Announcements**

**Choral Introit** 10:45 Psalm 103:1 *Richard C. Baker*

 Bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me bless God’s Holy Name.

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by the world, but in God’s sight chosen and precious.

**People: We have responded to Christ’s call, and seek to be built into a spiritual house, a living reminder of God’s presence on earth.**

Leader: Once we were no people, but now we are God’s people, called out of darkness into God’s marvelous light. Therefore we sing with the Church in all ages:

**People: Blessed be your name, O God, our redeemer. By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.** *Ruth Duck, Book of Worship*

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymn 102 Now thank we all our God** (standing) *Nun danket*

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

**Wondrous God, our hearts are full of praise for all of the glorious things you have given to us. When we look upon your creation, we realize that it reflects your glory. When we experience the gift of a parent’s love, we are reminded of your tender love for us. When we worship in the great congregation of all who name you as Lord, we are blessed to be counted among your children. Hear our prayer of joy and thanksgiving this day, and sustain in us grateful hearts, that we might praise you eternally.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Sung Response Worship & Song 3022** *Pahoa*

**Peace of our praying, song of our singing, truth of our telling, love of all loves,**

 **health of our healing, gift of our giving, life of our living, light of all lights.**

**… 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** 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 463 Lord, speak to me** (stanzas 1, 3 and 5, seated) *Canonbury*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Judi Phelps 10:45 Stacey Rosleck

A Lesson from the New Testament

 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 Final instructions

**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 Gospels (standing)

 Luke 17: 11-19 Jesus heals ten lepers

 **Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Offertory** 8:30

**Anthem** 10:45 *Thomas W. Jefferson* Lord we praise you. Lord we bless you. Lord we magnify your holy name.

From the rising of the sun, to the setting of the same, Lord, I will praise you and bless your name.

 Lord you saved me. Lord, you raised me. Lord you lifted me from sin and shame.

And now I can tell the whole world now that I’m not the same.

And I’ll ever praise you and bless your name.

 You made the heavens, and you made all the earth; sun, moon, and stars you set into place.

Let all creation, with the whole human race, join in one chorus this anthem we raise.

We sing alleluia.

**Doxology Hymn 97** (standing) Tune: #688 *Ar hyd y nos*

**For the fruits of this creation, thanks be to God;**

 **for good gifts to every nation, thanks be to God;**

 **for the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,**

 **future needs in earth’s safe-keeping, thanks be to God.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “The One Who Gave Thanks” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

 A Challenge from God’s Word: May the level of our giving

 be proportional to the depth of our gratitude.

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymn 132 All my hope is firmly grounded** (standing) *Michael*

**Benediction**

**Today’s Services**

**The chancel flowers** are given by Gerry Oelschlager in honor of James D. Oelschlager.

**The flowers on the altar** are given in loving memory of Jerry L. Bittner by his grandchildren,

Zachary, Samantha, Nathan and Penelope.

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

**Greeters 8:30** Kathy Karns **10:45** Betty Lou Albright

**Acolytes**  Max 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. 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**

## 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

12But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you;13esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. 14And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them.15See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all.

16Rejoice always, 17pray without ceasing, 18give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 19Do not quench the Spirit. 20Do not despise the words of prophets, 21but test everything; hold fast to what is good; 22abstain from every form of evil.

23May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.25Beloved, pray for us. 26Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. 27I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all of them. 28The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**Luke 17:11-19**

11On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, 13they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” 14When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. 15Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? 18Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” 19Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

**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**

Jean Boyer, Mary Caldwell, Erma Henry, David Lewis, Earl Killian, Susan Lichtenfels, Betty Trout

**In the Military**

Jason Boyer, SPC Natalie Brown

**Maj. 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
Maj. Azizi Wesmiller

Maj. Matthew C. Wesmiller
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski

Sgt. Michael Zimmerman

**Sympathy**

Condolences are extended to the Miller and Douds families on the death of LaVerne Miller, mother of our former pastor Jeffrey Miller and Grandma to Janna Douds and her family. LaVerne died on September 27. Condolences may be sent to:

Jeffrey Miller

333 S Highland Av #704

Pittsburgh, PA 15206

The congregation expresses sympathy to the family of Richard C. Hartung on his recent death. Richard joined our church in 1957, and, most recently, had been living in Ohio. Condolences can be sent to the family:

 Mr. Kirk B. Hartung, Hartung Family

 Church of St. Catherine Siena

 547 Washington St.

 Norwood, MA 02062

**Thank You**

A thank you note was sent to members of our flower ministry, especially to two members who live in the Twin Towers, Dawn Lonsinger and Robert Simonton. The former wife of a recently deceased Twin Towers resident, Holstein Cleaver, expressed her gratitude:

 *Thank you so much for the lovely flowers that arrived at my husband’s apartment at Twin Towers after he passed away. The hymn, prayers and sermon that they heard were familiar to him, as he had grown up in the Methodist faith.*

 *They remained in his apartment for the next ten days and were a beautiful and constant reminder of your thoughtfulness.*

 *Thank you sincerely for your love and good wishes! Your gesture was deeply appreciated.*

 *Gratefully,*

 *Kathleen F. Cleaver*



Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi

Western Pennsylvania Conference of

The United Methodist Church

and

President D. David Esterline

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Invite you to celebrate the relationship between

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and

The United Methodist Church

Thursday, October 19, 2017

6:30 to 8:30 pm

Calvary United Methodist Church

971 Beech Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Please RSVP by October 12 to

412-924-1378 or stevick@ptds.edu.

Hors d’oeuvres and desserts will be served.

Bring a friend or member of your congregation!

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

**SUNDAY 10/8**

 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

 2 pm Korean Worship Sanner Chapel

**MONDAY 10/9**

 7 pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

**TUESDAY 10/10**

6 pm Terrific Tuesday Asbury Center

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

 7 pm Boy Scout Board of Reviews Room 105

 7 pm Cub Scout Planning Committee Epworth

**WEDNESDAY 10/11**

 6:30 pm Wolf Cub Scouts Epworth

 7 pm Tiger Den Pack 870 Room 105

 7:30 pm Finance Committee Wesley Hall

**THURSDAY 10/12**

9:30 am UMW Board Room 105

 11 am UMW Meeting Wesley Hall

 6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 6:30 pm Webelo I Wesley Hall

 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 10/13**

 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Room 102

 1:30 pm Memoirs Group Wesley Hall

 6:30 pm Bear Den Cub Scouts Epworth