**January 14, 2018 8:30 & 10:45**

**2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

This morning various people hear the call of Christ to “come and see!” Let us hear Christ’s call in our own lives today, and respond.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymnal 587 Bless thou the gifts** *Tune: Tallis’ Canon, Hymnal 682*

 **Hymnal pg.19 Musical Setting B**  *James A. Kriewald*

**Greeting**

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth!

**People: Declare God’s glory among the nations; declare his wondrous works among all people.**

*Psalm 96:1, 3*

**Announcements**

**Introit** 10:45 Psalm 100: 1-2 *Karle Erickson*

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, and come into his presence with singing!

**Call to Worship**

Leader: God’s love is higher than the sky.

**People: God’s faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds.**

Leader: God’s righteousness is stronger than the mountains.

**People: God’s justice is deeper than the seas.**

Leader: In God’s love we are safe.

**People: In God we find life and light.** *Adapted from Psalm 36*

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymnal 103 Immortal, invisible, God only wise** (standing) *St. Denio*

**Opening Prayer** (in unison)

**Loving God, in your light, we see light. Waters of pure joy wash over us. We are amazed by the abundance of your gifts. Your love transforms our despair into delight. Your Spirit has blessed this community with an abundance of gifts – gifts of wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, and love. You are ever faithful, ever just, and ever dependable in your relationship with your people. May we delight in you always, cultivate the gifts of your Spirit, and use them in our response to your call. In the name of Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Worship & Song 3131** *Hymn Chant*

**Hear my prayer, O God, and listen to my plea;**

 **faithful, righteous One, give ear and answer me.**

 **Judge me not, I pray; no merit dare I claim;**

 **knowing my own faults, I trust in your just Name.**

**… 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, and parents may meet them.

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

**Hymnal 398 Jesus calls us** (seated) *Galilee*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Joeta D’Este 10:45 JJ Knabb

 A Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

 1 Samuel 3:1-10 God calls the prophet Samuel

**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 1:43-51 Jesus calls his first disciples

**Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45 Psalm 139 *Michael Joncas*

 *Refrain:* You have searched me and you know me, when I sit and when I stand,

 rising, resting, waking, sleeping: all my life is in your hand.

 Before, behind, you ring me round; you know my thoughts before I speak.

 Your wisdom is too wonderful, beyond my grasp, so high, so deep.

 How could I flee your Spirit, hope to escape your gaze,

 presence as high as heaven, deep as the deepest grave?

 If I take the wings of morning, dwell beyond the farthest sea-

 even there your hand would guide me, you would overshadow me.

 If I say: “Let darkness hide me; let day’s splendor fade away,”

 darkness is not dark for you, and night itself is clear as day.

 You who filled the world with wonders, brought the desert into bloom,

 you it was who gave me being, knit me in my mother’s womb.

 From the first you held my heart, you know the secrets of my birth,

 fashioned me in hidden ways,and molded me in depths of earth.

 All my deeds are in your keeping, all my acts within your sight,

 all my days by you decreed before they ever come to light.

 Each of your thoughts a mystery, all your designs are more than the ocean’s sand,

 wisdom beyond all measure, how could I understand?

 Search me, God, and know my heart; before your glance reveal my mind.

 Do not let me stray from you, but keep me on the path of life. *Refrain*

**Doxology 587** *Tune: Tallis’ Canon, Hymnal 682*

 **Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought;**

 **bless thou the work our hearts have planned.**

 **Ours is the faith, the will, the thought;**

 **the rest, O God, is in thy hand.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “Taking the Call” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymnal 508 Faith, while trees are still in blossom** (standing) *For the Bread*

**Benediction**

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers in the chancel** are given by Anne Hoffman in loving memory of her husband, Paul W. Hoffman.

**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, conducted by Richard Minnotte.

**Acolytes**  Anastasia Sunder andXavier Sanchez

**Greeters 8:30**  Joeta D’Este **10:45**  Alan and Donna Chesleigh

**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**  Catch up on messages from MLUMC with a podcast of Pastor Tom’s and others’ Sunday sermons. Sermons can be found at http:// mlumc.buzzsprout.com or navigate to the site from the link on our webpage, [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org). Sermons also will be posted to iTunes. Full recordings of the service are available upon request.

**Flower Donations** Honor or remember a loved one or friend with a Sunday flower arrangement donation. Contact Lizzie Diller, 412-860-3614.

**Today’s Scriptures**

## 1 Samuel 3:1-10

3Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. 2At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; 3the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. 4Then the Lord called, “Samuel! Samuel!” and he said, “Here I am!” 5and ran to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. 6The Lord called again, “Samuel!” Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” 7Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 8The Lord called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. 9Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10Now the Lord came and stood there, calling as before, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

## John 1:43-51

43The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” 44Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. 45Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” 46Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” 47When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” 48Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” 49Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” 50Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” 51And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

**Keep in Prayer**

**Hospitalized**

Charles Hohing, St. Clair

John Katshir, Mercy

Wilda Kietz, St. Clair

Virginia (Jinny) Sheppard, St. Clair

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

Earl Killian, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

**Convalescing at Home**

Jean Boyer, Mary Caldwell,

Carolyn Dagg, David Lewis,

Susan Lichtenfels, George Lindow,

Robert Murray, 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
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

**In Sympathy**

Condolences are offered to the family of Carol S. Vockel who passed away on December 9, 2017 at the age of 88 in Delray Beach , Florida. Many may remember the Vockel family as long-time residents of Mt. Lebanon and members of MLUMC. Carol was known for giving over 35 years of her time and talents to Family Hospice and Palliative Care. On Saturday, April 14, 2018 friends and family are invited to gather at Providence Point in remembrance of Carol’s life of service to others.

**Thank You**

Special thanks to all who helped deliver the poinsettias to our shut-ins. Your act of kindness has spread the joy of the birth of Christ. It is much appreciated.

**Martin Luther King**

**Celebration Service**

The annual Greensburg/Pittsburgh Districts MLK celebration service will be on Sunday, January 14 at 4 pm, at Garden City UMC ( 500 Laurel Dr, Monroeville, PA 15146). Everyone is invited to celebrate the work and ministry Dr. King carried out in his efforts to dismantle racism and create a just society for all people.

**Small Study Groups**

**Book Study** - Please join Rob and Jane Spicher, beginning Friday, January 26th at 6:30 pm, for a 5 session study. The focus of discussion will be “Anxious for Nothing” by Max Lucado, an insight from Phillippians 4:4-8. Dinner will be served. The study will meet at 1803 Cambridge Drive, Presto (Collier Township) PA, 15142, and the group will continue to meet monthly in the homes of group members. There is room for 10 to join. Please call Rob (412-720-4589) or e-mail Rob (robert.spicher@pnc.com) if you would like to join.

You may sign up for the Spicher's Study Group at the Welcome desk in the narthex. In addition, Cindy Biery will be leading a book study in the spring. More details will follow.

**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 14 THRU SATURDAY, JANUARY 20**

**SUNDAY 1/14**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

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

 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

 11:45 am Youth Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

 12 pm Youth Group Day of Service Various

 12 pm Schnitzel Lunch Asbury Center

**MONDAY 1/15 OFFICE CLOSED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

 7 pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 7:30 pm Community Events & Outreach Committee Wesley Hall

**TUESDAY 1/16**

 6 pm Terrific Tuesday Asbury Center

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

**WEDNESDAY 1/17**

 7 pm Cub Scout Pack Asbury Center

 7 pm Trustees Welcome Center

**THURSDAY 1/18**

 9:30 am UMW Faith Circle Wesley Hall

 6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 1/19**

 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Room 102

**SATURDAY 1/20**

 4-8 pm Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner Asbury Center