**July 8, 2018 8:30 & 10:45**

**7th Sunday After Pentecost**

Has a wise person in your life every warned you, using the words from Proverbs 16:18 – *“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall?”* The Bible makes it clear that God hates nothing more than spiritual pride and arrogance. In addition, God loves nothing better than humility in the people of God.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymnal 474 Precious Lord, take my hand** (seated) *Precious Lord*

**Greeting**

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

**People: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

*Psalm 98:1a, 3b*

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Pastor: From our busy lives, God calls us together to worship and to pray.

**People: We are here, Holy One!**

Pastor**:** From different places, Christ calls us to gather, to love, and to live.

**People: We are here, blessed Jesus!**

Pastor: From the unexpected journeys, the Spirit calls us into unity

to serve and to grow.

**People: We are here, Holy Spirit!**

Pastor: Come! Let us worship.

 *Karen Ellis*

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymnal 400 Come, thou Fount of every blessing** (standing)  *Nettleton*

**Opening Prayer** (in unison)

**Loving God, from the very beginning you have journeyed with your people. Journey with us this day, as we learn what it means to follow you. Open our ears to your word. Open our hearts to your love and compassion. Open our hands to receive your grace and to share it with others. Enable us to faithfully claim the name, “Christian,” as we strive to follow the ways and teachings of Jesus, the Christ. Empower us with your Holy Spirit, as we worship you and serve one another. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Worship & Song 3118 Take this moment, sign, and space** (stanza 4) *Take this moment*

 **Take the little child in me, scared of growing old;**

 **help me here to find my worth made in Christ’s own mold.**

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

**Commissioning of Youth Mission Team (8:30)**

**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**

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 …**

**Hymnal 468 Dear Jesus, in whose life I see** (seated) *Hursley*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Kathy Tremblay 10:45 Jessica Langston

 A Lesson from the New Testament

 2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Paul boasts of his weaknesses

**Pastoral Prayer and 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**Gospel Acclamation:** **Alleluia** (standing) *James Chepponis*

 (sing”Alleluia” 6 times following the pastor/choir)

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospels

 Mark 6:1-13 Jesus preaches in Nazareth

 **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 Baba Yetu *Christopher Tin*

 The text, sung in Swahili, is an adaptation of “The Lord’s Prayer” by Chris Kiagiri.

**Hymnal 94 Doxology** (standing)*Lasst uns erfreuen*

 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** “Soul-Scrubbing” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymnal 584 Lord, you give the great commission** (stanzas 1, 2, 5, standing) *Abbot’s Leigh*

**Benediction**

**Today’s Services**

**The flower arrangement** provided for worship today is given by Linda Nixon in loving memory of her father, Herbert B. Heinz.

**Special music for the 10:45 service** is provided by the Chancel Choir with soloists Ken Hendrata and the Rev. Kimberly Greway, and percussionists Josiah Handelman, Dylan Marfifi, Dylan Takach, and Richard Minnotte. The anthem comes from the video game “Civilization IV.”

**Greeters 8:30** Joe Catalano **10:45** Fern Frank

**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.

**Honor or remember a loved one with a flower donation.** The flowers that grace the sanctuary each week are generously donated by our church family members. This is a great way to honor or memorialize a special person, event, or milestone in your personal life or in the life of the church. If you are interested in donating flowers on a particular Sunday, contact Lizzie Diller , 412-860-3614. The cost is $30 for the altar, narthex, or columbarium, and $60 for the chancel.

**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.

**New Study Group Forming.** As we continue to form small study groups, another opportunity is being presented. Scott Miller, a member of the congregation and a candidate for ministry, has agreed to lead an evening book study, “Making Life Work” by Bill Hybels. This book applies the Book of Proverbs to everyday life. Doris Trimble has opened her home in the Bridgeville area to host this group. It will meet on July 16, 23, 30 and August 6 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Five people have already committed to attending so the group will definitely meet and others are welcome. The maximum size will be 12-15 participants. You do not need to participate in all four sessions, but just attend when you can. Please call the church office or sign up at the table at the back of the worship space in Asbury Center if you are interested. More details to follow.

**Memoirs on Summer Hiatus.** The Memoirs group that normally meets in Wesley Hall on the second Friday of the month will not be meeting this summer, but will resume in September.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OFFERING COMING IN JULY**

In an effort to simplify and reduce the number of special offering appeals that are made in the course of a year, our Finance Committee has limited such offerings to the four months of the year that have a fifth Sunday. The first such month is coming in July, with the fifth Sunday being July 29th. Those who receive the monthly offering envelope mailing will notice an additional envelope for that particular Sunday. By using this envelope, you will have the opportunity to offer a special gift to the following funds – permanent building fund, Christian education fund, and Connectional Contribution.

 The building fund supports the ongoing maintenance of our church facilities.

 The education fund supports the Western Pennsylvania Conference’s Christian Education Sunday offering.

 The connectional contribution supports ministry beyond the local church, through the Western Pennsylvania Conference.

**2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

2I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows.3And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—4was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat.5On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses.6But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me,7even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated.8Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me,9but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.10Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

## Mark 6:1-13

6He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. 2On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! 3Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. 4Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” 5And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. 6And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. 7He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. 8He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; 9but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. 10He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. 11If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” 12So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. 13They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**KEEP IN PRAYER**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Fred Siersdorfer, Friendship Village

Carol Van Sickle, Marian Manor

**In the Military**

Jason Boyer, SPC Natalie Brown,
Maj. Zachary Allen Finch, James Iantelli,
1st Lt. Jaskiewicz, S. Sgt. Keith Kimmell, Adam Kmick, Sgt. 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

**Convalescing at Home**

Jean Boyer, Mary Caldwell, Jane Casey,
John Dean, Joseph Festor, Drew Harvey, David Lewis, Susan Lichtenfels,
Bill Merchant, Diane Shaw, Jinny Sheppard, Betty Trout, Olivia Woods

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **MLUMC Staff**Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg, PastorKim Rhoton, Director of Christian EducationBethany Lockie, Youth Ministry DirectorDr. Gretchen Franz, Director of MusicMettelise Ziegler, Weekday Ministries DirectorVirginia Katinsky, Business AdministratorMonica Kao, Communications CoordinatorJuliette Mariani, Administrative SupportMichael Drabick, Maintenance ManagerMichael Staab, Facility Prep and Setup | **MLUMC Volunteer Staff**Bishop George Bashore, Bishop-in-ResidenceDr. David H. Watson, Pastor EmeritusScott Miller, Assistant to the PastorNancy R. Lutz, Director of HandbellsJoanne Dempe, Financial SecretaryKevin DeLuca, MultimediaKirk Lowe, Multimedia/SoundSteve Stockton, Ethan Zirpoli, SoundMichael Dempe, Financial Consultant |

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

**SUNDAY 7/8**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Faith for Today Asbury Center

 10:45 am Worship Asbury Center

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

**MONDAY 7/9**

 10:30 am Al-Anon Meeting Welcome Center

 12:00 pm. Rotary Asbury Center

**TUESDAY 7/10**

6:30 pm Family Promise Board of Directors 4th Floor Library

 7:00 pm Board of Reviews Network

 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

 7:30 pm Coin Collectors Welcome Center

**WEDNESDAY 7/11**

 7:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting Wesley Hall

**THURSDAY 7/12**

**FRIDAY 7/13**

 9:30 am Women’s Bible Study Epworth

 7:00 pm Pack 870 Arrow of Light Meeting Epworth

**SATURDAY 7/14**