**August 26, 2018 8:30 & 10:45**

**Hymns of Faith**

Summer Sermon Series

George Matheson’s great hymn speaks of the paradox of Christianity – that surrender to Christ brings victory in life. What facets of our lives need to be surrendered and conformed to God’s teaching and will? This morning we affirm the words of this hymn – *“Make me a captive, Lord, and then I shall be free; force me to render up my sword, and I shall conqueror be!”*

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymnal 418 We are climbing Jacob’s ladder** (stanzas 1-3, seated) *Jacob’s Ladder*

**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: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,

**People: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

Pastor: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name,

**People: worship the Lord in holy array.**

Pastor: The voice of the Lord is upon the water.

**People: The God of glory thunders, the Lord upon many waters.**

Pastor: The voice of the Lord is powerful.

**People: The voice of God is full of majesty.**

**Let us praise the name of the Lord!** *Psalm 29*

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymnal 98 To God be the glory**  (standing) *To God be the glory*

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

**O God, our Guide and Guardian,
you have led us apart from the busy world into the quiet of your house.**

**Grant us grace to worship you in Spirit and in truth,
to the comfort of our souls**

**and the upbuilding of every good purpose and holy desire.**

**Enable us to do more perfectly the work to which you have called us,
that we may not fear the coming of night,
when we shall resign into your hands
 the tasks which you have committed to us.**

**So may we worship you not only with our lips at this hour,
but in word and deed all the days of our lives;**

**through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.** *Karl Ludvig Reichelt*

**Silent Prayer**

**Worship & Song 3119 Take, O take me as I am** *Take, O take*

 **Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;**

 **set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

**… 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 Asbury Center near the end of the service.

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

**Worship & Song 3030 Eternal God transcending time** (seated) *Resignation*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Judi Phelps 10:45 Chuck Vogel

A Lesson from the New Testament

 Philippians 1:12-26 Priority of the gospel

**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, the power, the glory forever. Amen.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Hymnal 486**  **Alleluia** (standing) Chant Mode VI **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospels

 Luke 4:14-21 Jesus announces good news to the poor

 **Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Offertory Solo** Majesty *Hayford, arranged by John Innes*

**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** “Make Me a Captive, Lord” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymnal 421 Make me a captive, Lord** (standing) *Diademata*

**Benediction**

**Today’s Services**

**The flower arrangement** isprovided for worship today by Erma Henry in loving memory of her father, Frederick J. Kleylein.

**The rosebud on the altar** is given in celebration of the birth of Cora Jean McClintock, daughter of Justin and Carey McClintock. Cora was born on August 10.

**Special music** is provided by pianist Cori DeLuca and soloist John Esaias. Cori teaches piano in Mt. Lebanon. John is very involved in the leadership of this church. Both are active church members.

**Greeters 8:30**  Kathy Karns **10:45**  Cleon and Vera Jane Cornes

**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.

**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.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Philippians 1:12-26**

12I want you to know, beloved that what has happened to me has actually helped to spread the gospel, 13so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ; 14and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear. 15Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from goodwill. 16These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel;17the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. 18What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true; and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, 19for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance. 20It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death.

21For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. 22If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer.23I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; 24but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. 25Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith,26so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

**Luke 4:14-21**

14Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,17and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 18“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, 19to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” 20And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Leila Berkey, Asbury Heights

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

Grace Gullborg, Providence Point

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Carol Van Sickle, Marian Manor

**Convalescing at Home**

Jean Boyer, Mary Caldwell,

John Dean, Joseph Festor,

Leon Grant, Jr., David Lewis,

Susan Lichtenfels, George Lindow,

Bill Merchant, Diane Shaw,

Jinny Sheppard, 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,

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

*Pastor Lutz and Martina Bruckner*

Keep Martina Bruckner in prayer, wife of Lutz Bruckner of our partner church in Zwickau, Germany. She is seriously ill with cancer and is undergoing treatment daily in a hospital. She has been a part of the Zwickau church delegation that has visited our church. You can send get well wishes to Martina at the following address:

 Hermannstrasse 17

 Zwickau 08064

 Germany

**Sympathy**

The congregation sends its condolences to the friends and family of Jean Esther Sutton who passed away at the age of 95 this month. Jean and her late husband Harry were members of our church until they moved to Myrtle Beach a number of years ago. Their late daughter, Kim Sutton-Tyrrell, and her husband Mark were also members. A memorial service will be held at MLUMC. Arrangements are incomplete.

**Now Hiring: Church Secretary**

The Church Secretary, as a representative of the Mount Lebanon United Methodist Church, is expected to provide a caring, engaging, and hospitable attitude while providing high quality administrative support to church volunteers and staff. Reports to Business Administrator and Senior Pastor.

Job Qualifications:

* Excellent interpersonal skills
* Proficient in Microsoft Office applications and web apps such as WordPress
* High quality verbal communication skills
* Graphics, copy editing, design/layout a plus
* Ability to maintain confidentiality
* Willingness to foster cooperation and hospitality

Job Responsibilities:

* Answer phone and respond to email messages
* Provide a hospitable reception to all guests, visitors, and church members who contact the church.
* Work collaboratively with church staff and volunteers; provide administrative support to church staff and volunteers such as:
* Sort and distribute mail
o  Prepare bulk mailings
o  Prepare and send email campaigns
* Provide administrative support for church officers and committee chairs
* Serve as recording secretary to Church Council (evening meetings)
* Produce weekly worship bulletin
* Update church-wide calendar and report schedules to appropriate staff – Outlook and website (WordPress)
* Post articles to website as needed
* Participate in church staff meetings, training, etc.
* Maintain and update Church Secretary Handbook, all-church email list, membership role
* Provide cooperation and assistance with other support staff and other duties as assigned.

If you are interested, please send a resume to sprc@mlumc.org.

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, AUGUST 26 THRU SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1**

**SUNDAY 8/26**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Faith for Today Asbury Center

 9:30-10:30 am Kids’ Sunday School Room 204

 9:30-noon Nursery Room 204

 10:45 am Worship Asbury Center

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

**MONDAY 8/27**

7:30 pm Community Events and Outreach Committee Wesley Hall

**TUESDAY 8/28**

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

 7 pm BSA Board of Reviews Room 105

**WEDNESDAY 8/29**

6 pm Homebuilders Potluck Asbury Center

6:30 pm Cub Scout Recruitment Event Wesley Hall

**SATURDAY 9/1** Food Distribution & Food Lift Free Market Food Pantry

