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

**2018 Fall Worship Series**

*Be Opened!*

Mark 7:35 tells the story of Christ’s healing of a man born deaf. As he placed his hands upon the man, Jesus exclaimed, “Be opened!” Throughout our fall worship series, we will hear the command of Jesus to open our lives to God’s transforming power through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, as a concrete expression of our thanksgiving to God.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

 **Hymnal 397 I need thee every hour** (stanzas 1-2, seated) *Need*

 **Hymnal 105 God of many names** (stanzas 1-2) *Many Names*

**Greeting**

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Announcements**

**Choral Introit** 10:45 Psalm 68:32 *Richard C. Baker*

Sing unto God ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto our God.

**Call to Worship** (standing)

Leader: When the world divides us:

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, make us one.**

Leader: When the world calls us orphaned:

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, make us family.**

Leader:When the world leads us astray:

**People: Come, Holy Spirit, call us home. Come and fill this place!**

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymnal 105 God of many names** (standing) *Many Names*

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

**Lord, open our hearts. Make them places of peace and our minds harbors of tranquility this day. Sow in our souls true love for you and for one another; and root deeply within us friendship and unity, and concord with reverence. So may we give peace to each other sincerely and receive it beautifully. Amen.**

*Adapted from a Native American prayer*

**Silent Prayer**

**Worship & Prayer 3131 Hear my prayer, O God** (stanza 3)*Hymn Chant*

 **Answer soon O God, my spirit faints in me;**

 **do not hide your face, or I will cease to be.**

 **When the morning dawns, make known your love anew;**

 **show me how to walk, for I will trust in you.**

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

**Sacrament of Baptism** 10:45 *Baptismal Covenant II, UM Hymnal #39*

Joselyn Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Brandon and Melissa Smith

 **Pastor:** Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life

 and include *Joselyn Elizabeth* now before you in your care?

 **People: With God’s help we will proclaim the good news**

 **and live according to the example of Christ.**

 **We will surround *Joselyn Elizabeth***

 **with a community of love and forgiveness,**

 **that she may grow in her service to others.**

 **We will pray for her**

 **that she may be a true disciple**

 **who walks in a way that leads to life.**

**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 & 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 3160 We will follow** (seated)*Somlandela*

Scripture Reading 8:30 Scott Miller 10:45 Jane Casey

A Lesson from the New Testament

 Philippians 4:4-7 Stand firm in the Lord

**Response**

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

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

Scripture Reading

 A Lesson from the Gospel

 Matthew 6:7-14 Jesus teaches his disciples to pray

 **Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Offertory Solo** 8:30 The Lord’s Prayer *Albert Hay Malotte*

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45Baba Yetu *Christopher Tin*

 Swahili 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** “Open our Hearts to Pray” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Open Our Hearts (**standing, sung to the music of “Open My Eyes,” Hymnal 454) *Open My Eyes*

**Open our hearts that we might pray,**

**Asking our Lord to show the way.**

**Give us the strength to follow your will**

**Bid us your calling while we’re still.**

**Silently now we wait for thee**

**Ready our God your will to see**

**Open our hearts, illumine us**

**Spirit divine.**

**Benediction**

**Hymnal 665 Go now in peace** (standing, sing as a canon with pulpit side first)

 *Go in peace*

**Go now in peace, go now in peace,**

 **may the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.**

**The hymn, “Open Our Hearts,”** is being introduced to the congregation today as we begin our church year and our stewardship emphasis. This hymn is to the tune of the popular hymn, “Open My Eyes That I May See.” There are five verses to this newly created hymn that emphasize our five vows of membership: prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Today, we will sing the first verse and chorus that emphasize  prayer. This coordinates with Pastor Tom’s sermon today that encourages us to pray daily for our church. In each succeeding Sunday we will add an additional verse that coordinates with the membership vow on which Pastor Tom is preaching. I hope the words of this hymn encourage us to fulfill  the vows we promised to follow when we joined the United Methodist Church. *John Esaias*

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers on the altar** are given by Cheryl Herrington in loving memory of her family: father, Artemis Herrington, mother, Shirley Herrington, and sisters, Gail Beeson and Judy Androus.

**The flowers in the chancel** are given by Carolyn Dagg in loving memory of Ronald D. Dagg, who passed away on November 3, 2017, and in honor of what would have been their 48th wedding anniversary on September 19th.

**The flowers in the Narthex** are given in honor of Jane Spicher’s birthday today, September 30, by her husband Rob.

**Special music for the 8:30 service** is provided by John Esaias, a member of the Chancel Choir and a very active leader of this church.

**Special Music at the 10:45 service** is provided by the Chancel Choir with soloists Ken Hendrata and the Rev. Kimberly Greway, and percussionists Josiah Handelman and Dylan Takach.

**Acolytes** Tre Nagle and Emily Shoff

**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.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Philippians 4:4-7**

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.

**Matthew 6:7-14**

7“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words.8Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

9“Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.10Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.11Give us this day our daily bread. 12And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. 14For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you

**Keep in Prayer**

**Hospitalized**

Joseph Festor, Presbyterian

Olivia Woods, Mercy

**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,

Mark Cleveland, John Dean, Joseph Festor,

Leon Grant, Jr., David Lewis,

Susan Lichtenfels, George Lindow,

Sandy McPhee, 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

**In Sympathy**

Condolences are offered to the family of Leila Berkey, who died last Saturday, September 22, 2018, at the age of 92. Words of sympathy can be posted for the family under Leila Berkey’s name on the Slater Funeral Service website: slaterfuneral.tributes.com.

The congregation offers its sympathy to Weekdays Ministries Director Mettelise Ziegler and her family on the death of her mother Dagny Fjaere. The 91-year-old Mrs. Fjaere passed away on September 11, 2018. Prayers and words of comfort can be sent to the family:

 Mrs. Mettelise Ziegler

 501 Club View Drive

 McMurray, PA 15317

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 THRU SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6**

**SUNDAY 9/30**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

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

 10:45 am Worship Asbury Center

 Kids Praise Welcome Center

 11:50 am Youth Choir Choir Room

 5 pm Youth Group Parents Meeting/Game Night Wesley/Welcome Center

**MONDAY 10/1**

7 pmChapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 7 pm Church Council Meeting Wesley Hall

**TUESDAY 10/2**

 6 pm Terrific Tuesday Asbury Center

 7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

**WEDNESDAY 10/3**

7:30 am Northside Lunch Program Prep Asbury Kitchen

6 pm Homebuilders Potluck Wesley Hall

**THURSDAY 10/4**

8:30 am Northside Lunch Program Prep Asbury Kitchen

 9 am Hearts and Hands Epworth Chapel

 12 pm TNT Asbury Heights 6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**SATURDAY 10/6**

 10 am Food Distribution & Food Lift Free Market Food Pantry