

**November 18, 2018 8:30 & 10:45**

**Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost** *Thanksgiving Sunday*

The word of the Lord in both Old and New Testament assures us that God's blessings are sufficient for everyone. In the Kingdom of God, no one goes hungry! Even the immigrant and the stranger are provided for! God’s love overflows.

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

**Hymnal 694 Come, ye thankful people, come** (stanzas 1-3, seated) *St. George’s*

**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**

**Introit** 10:45 Psalm 86: 12 *Karl Erickson* I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

and I will glorify your name forever. Alleluia.

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your songs and prayers.

**People: We lift our voices to God.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your hopes and joys.

**People: We bring our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your needs and fears.

**People: We lay down our burdens before Christ.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with your gifts and treasures.

**People: We offer our lives to Christ.**

Leader: Come to God’s house with all that you have and with all that you are.

**People: Let us worship together this day.** *The Abingdon Worship Annual*

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymnal 131 We gather together** (standing) *Kremser*

**Opening Prayer (in unison)**

God of abundant love, pour your love and your Spirit upon us, that we may recognize our abundance and give our love and our lives completely and freely to you. Help us to follow the example of the widow, whose offering in the Temple was noticed by Jesus. She offered her best gift, and in doing so she displayed her total commitment to you. In a similar manner, enable us to respond to your call with resolute hearts and committed lives. In Christ’s holy name, we pray.

**Silent Prayer**

**Worship & Song 3094 Come to me** (stanza 1, standing)*Come to me*

**Come to me, come to me, weak and heavy laden;**

**trust in me, lean on me. I will give you rest.**

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

**Distribution of Bibles to our third grade students** (10:45)

**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 the Sanctuary near the end of the service.

**Anthem** 10:45 *arranged by John Ferguson*

*Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,*

*All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.*

1. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,

God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings. *Refrain*

2. The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,

the sunset and the morning that brightens up the sky. *Refrain*

3. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,

the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. *Refrain*

4. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

how great is God almighty, who has made all things well. *Refrain*

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Marcy Picardi 10:45 Judy Moeller

**A lesson from the Hebrew scriptures**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Act of thanksgiving upon entering the land

**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: Festival Alleluia** (standing) *James Chepponis* **Alleluia** (repeat 6 times)

Scripture Reading

**A lesson from the Gospel**

John 6:1-15 Feeding of the five thousand

**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 Harvest Gold *text by Susan Palo Cherwien, music by David Cherwien*

Mysterious, marv’lous God, soul of the shifting seasons:

wonders and Word proclaim You, harvest and fruit reveal You;

your love, O God, waters the ground; your truth, O God, opens the grain;

your wisdom, God, radiates with warmth; your beauty, God, lifts into light.

So earth and heart bring forth harvest, harvest of deeds and of lives,

harvest of wonder and Word. May it be so, Amen.

**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** “What are you hungry for?” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Hymnal 97 For the fruits of this creation** (standing)*East Acklam*

**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 congregation is invited to a reception to offer condolences at the passing of Bill Ward to Lavisa and the Ward family, immediately following the 10:45 service in Asbury Center.*

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers in the chancel** are given in loving memory of Joseph Utzig by Priscilla and family.

**Special Music at the 10:45 service** is provided by the Children’s Choir and the Chancel Choir, with Courtney Heath and Richard Minnotte conducting.

**Greeters 8:30** Rob & Jane Spicher  **10:45** Betty Lou Albright

**Acolytes** Luke and Cameron Grabowski

**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.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Deuteronomy 26:1-11 First Fruits and Tithes**

26When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’ 4When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. 11Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

**John 6:1-15 Feeding the Five Thousand**

6After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias.  2A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. 3Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. 4Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. 5When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, ‘Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?’ 6He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. 7Philip answered him, ‘Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.’ 8One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, 9‘There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?’ 10Jesus said, ‘Make the people sit down.’ Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all.11Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. 12When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, ‘Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.’ 13So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. 14When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, ‘This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.’

15 When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

**Keep in Prayer**

**Hospitalized**

Sara Mercer, Presbyterian

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Carol Van Sickle, Marian Manor

Olivia Woods, Baptist Manor

**Convalescing at Home**

Bishop George Bashore,

Jean Boyer, Mary Caldwell, John Dean,

Joseph Festor, Leon Grant, Jr.,

Dave Lewis, Susan Lichtenfels,

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,

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

**Condolences**

Sympathy is offered to the family of long-time church member Jane Rulong. A memorial service will be held for her on Saturday, November 24 in the church sanctuary. Prayers of comfort can be sent to:

Roger Rulong

700 Bower Hill Road Apt 5240

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Sympathy is offered to the family of church member Bill Ward. A reception to offer condolences is today, Sunday, November 18 following the 10:45 service in Asbury Center. Prayers of comfort can be sent to:

Lavisa Ward

300 Madison Ave #311

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

**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.

**At this time, the church is accepting flower donations for the month of December.** Consider the unique gift of honoring or remembering a family member or dear friend with an Advent, Christmas or holiday flower donation. To donate 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.

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**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 THRU SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

**SUNDAY 11/18**

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

11:45 am Youth Choir Choir Room

12:00 pm Ward Family Reception Asbury Center

12:00 pm DIA Welcome Center

6:30 pm Boy Scout Board of Reviews Epworth

**MONDAY 11/19**

7 pmChapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

7:30 pm Community Events & Outreach Wesley Hall

**TUESDAY 11/20**

7 pm Boy Scout Troop #23 Wesley Hall

**WEDNESDAY 11/21**

7 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting Wesley Hall

**THURSDAY 11/22 OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING**

9 amThanksgiving meal prep and delivery Asbury Center

**FRIDAY 11/23 OFFICE CLOSED**