

**February 3, 2019 8:30 & 10:45**

**4th Sunday after Epiphany**

*Unafraid: Living with Hope in Uncertain Times*

Today we are reminded of God’s words of instruction to Joshua, following the death of Moses: *“Have no fear because the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9b)* One of the fears that afflicted Joshua was the fear of failure. Remember the words of Winston Churchill who said, *“Success consists of going from failure to failure without loss of enthusiasm.”*

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

**Gathering Music**

**Hymnal 189 Fairest Lord Jesus** (seated) *St. Elizabeth*

**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**

**Choral Introit**  10:45 Psalm 84 *Hart Morris*

How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord.

**Call to Worship**

Leader: You are the salt of the earth.

**People: May we season the world with faithfulness, O God.**

Leader: You are the light of the world.

**People: May your love shine through us, O Christ our Savior.**

Leader: You are a city built on a hill.

**People: May your vigor make us bold witnesses, O Spirit of the living God.**

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

**Hymnal 61 Come, thou almighty King** (standing) *Italian Hymn*

**Opening Prayer** (in unison)

**God of creation, your heavens and earth shout out the amazing news of your power and glory. God of justice, your laws of mercy and goodness reveal your vision of harmony for all people. God of love, your Son Jesus Christ proclaims the amazing news of your liberation for all who are hungry, poor, or oppressed. May we join with all of creation to become your message of love to the world. Amen.**

**Silent Prayer**

**Worship & Song 3159 Let our earth be peaceful** (stanza 2, standing)*Raymond* **Let our ways be mindful, mending what is hurtful,**

**doing what is needful for the love of God.**

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

**February Emphasis:** Presence John Esaias

Open our minds to see your way,

Making our presence on this day.

And as we worship in this great church

Realizing this is where to search.

Silently now we wait for thee

Ready our God your will to see

Open our minds, illumine us

Spirit divine.

**The Sign of Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

**Gathering Song**

**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 …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Marcy Picardi 10:45 Chuck Vogel

**A Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures**

Joshua 1:1-9 God’s instructions for Joshua and the Israelites

**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. And 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 Gospels**

Luke 4:21-30 The crowd turns against Jesus in Nazareth

**Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Offertory Duet** 8:30 The Gift of Love *arranged by Hal H. Hopson*

**Offertory Anthem** 10:45 *César Franck; edited by Leo Sowerby*

Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, and hear me. I am poor and needy.

For Thou art good, O Lord, and ready to forgive us our many transgressions.

Teach me Thy way, Lord God; I will walk in Thy truth.

Incline my heart to love Thy Name evermore. Holy Lord most merciful, save and redeem us,

and be Thou forgiving, and plenteous in mercy, for Thy most holy Name’s sake, O Lord, my

God. Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, and attend to the voice of my prayer,

and save Thou Thy servant, O Lord, my God.

**Hymnal 219 What child is this** (stanza 3, standing) *Greensleeves*

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;**

**the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.**

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;**

**haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Sermon** “UNAFRAID: Orders from Headquarters” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**Worship & Song 3169 You feed us, gentle Savior** (stanza 1, seated)*Merle’s Tune*

**You feed us, gentle Savior, the bread that makes us whole,**

**the wine of your compassion poured out into our soul.**

**The food of your own presence, your Spirit, strong, within,**

**the grace that heals us deeply and overcomes our sin.**

*During the distribution of the elements, after the duet, you are invited to join the choir singing the first two stanzas of hymns beginning with #184.*

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following*

*words . . .)* Therefore, with all your faithful people from every time and place we join the whole creation to lift our hearts in joyful praise.

***[Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25]***

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following*

*words . . .)* As we affirm the mystery of faith:

***[Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25]***

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following*

*words. . .)* Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, who lives in unity with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, to all eternity.

***[Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25]***

**AMEN.**

**Giving the Bread & Cup**

**Call to Presence –** *As we approach the rail for communion this morning, consider your membership vow to be present with and for God – present for worship, present for others, and present for yourself. As you receive the sacrament, make your “vow of presence” by placing your card in the basket with others.*

**Prayer following Communion**

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

**Worship & Song 3139 We cannot measure how you heal** (standing) *Candler*

**Benediction**

**Worship & Song 3139 We cannot measure how you heal** (end of stanza 3, standing) *Candler* **Lord, let your Spirit meet us here to mend the body, mind and soul,**

**to disentangle peace from pain and make your broken people whole.**

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers on the altar** are given by Jane Spicher in celebration of her husband Rob's birthday today.

**The flowers in the chancel** are given by Kathy and Rich Tremblay and family in loving memory of Dorothy and Dan Nesbit.

**Special Music for the 8:30 service** is provided by the Rev. Kimberly Greway and John Esaias.

**Special music for the 10:45 service** is provided by the Chancel Choir with soloists Kirby Dilworth, Kathleen Whittaker and Robert Mallery; conducted by Richard Minnotte, a member of the church and Director of Percussion Studies at the Mt. Lebanon Senior High School. During the distribution of the elements, the Rev. Kimberly Greway and John Esaias will sing “The Gift of Love,’ arranged by Hal H. Hopson

**Acolytes** Anna Rhoton and Tre Nagel

**Greeters 8:30** Erma Henry **10:45** Jane Casey

**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**

**Joshua 1:1-9**

**God’s Commission to Joshua**

1After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses’ assistant, saying, 2‘My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. 3Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses.4From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. 5No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. 6Be strong and courageous; for you shall put this people in possession of the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them.7Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. 8This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. 9I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.’

**Luke 4:21-30**

21Then he began to say to them, ‘Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’ 22All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, ‘Is not this Joseph’s son?’23He said to them, ‘Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Doctor, cure yourself!” And you will say, “Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.” ’ 24And he said, ‘Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s home town. 25But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up for three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; 26yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. 27There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.’ 28When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. 29They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. 30But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

**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. Beginning Feb. 1, the cost is $40 for the altar, narthex, or columbarium arrangements, and $80 for the chancel flowers.

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Ed Clarke, Asbury Place

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

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,

George Lindow, Sara Mercer,

Diane Shaw, Jinny Sheppard

Ruth Seip, Carol Van Sickle

**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

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3 THRU SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

**SUNDAY 2/3**

8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

9:30 am Sunday School for All Ages/Coffee Café Various/Brookline Parlor 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

11:50 am Youth Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

12 pm Blood Pressure Screening Brookline Parlor

5 pm Youth Group Asbury

**MONDAY 2/4**

7 pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

7 pm Church Council Meeting Wesley

**TUESDAY 2/5**

6 pm Terrific Tuesday Asbury

7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley Hall

7:30 pm Coin Collector’s Meeting Welcome Center

**WEDNESDAY 2/6**

7:30 am Northside Lunch Prep Kitchen

**THURSDAY 2/7**

8:30 am Northside Lunch Prep Kitchen

9 am Hearts & Hands Epworth

12 pm TNT Asbury Heights

6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 2/8**

1:30 pm Memoirs Wesley

7 pm Pack 870 Arrow of Light Epworth

**SATURDAY 2/9**

8 am Reveille Asbury