

**2nd Sunday After Pentecost**

Jesus taught his disciples that they must take up their crosses daily and follow him. The Apostle Paul echoes that call, as he describes the work that he shared with his two young co-workers, Timothy and Epaphroditus. He says that we should all imitate Christ, as innocent, blameless children of God, “who shine like stars in the world.”

**June 23, 2019 8:30 & 10:45**

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

\*Asterisk indicates to stand as able

**Greeting**

Leader: No one has ever seen God;

**People: if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.**

*1 John 4:12*

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: In the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

**People: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name!**

Leader: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name for ever and ever.

**People**: **Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and God's greatness is**

**unsearchable.**

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

\***Hymnal 547 O church of God, united** (standing)  *Ellacombe*

**\*Opening Prayer (in unison)**

**God of wind, word, and fire, we bless your name this day**

**for sending the light and strength of your Holy Spirit.**

**We give you thanks for all the gifts, great and small,**

**that you have poured out upon your children.**

**Accept us with our gifts**

**to be living praise and witness to your love throughout all the earth;**

**through Jesus Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, for ever.**

*Don E. Saliers, 20th Century*

**\*Silent Prayer**

**\*Hymnal 393 Spirit of the living God**   *Living God*

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

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**TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

**Annual Conference Report** Bob Mallery, Lay Member to 2019 Annual Conference

**Celebration of Appointment**

*At the present time, we have two ordained clergy, affiliated with our congregation, who are serving under appointment by our bishop. Rev. Kimberly Greway is serving the Allegheny County Jail as Chaplaincy Services Director. Rev. Thomas Strandburg is serving as our senior pastor here at MLUMC. The leader greets the congregation and the elders appointed to serve, then addresses the congregation with these words:*

Leader: Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church

by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness

will you who celebrate this new beginning and

support and uphold these clergy in their ministries?

People: We reaffirm our commitment to support you  
with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Leader: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger

People: who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Eternal God, strengthen and sustain us in our ministries together,

with Kimberly Greway as Director of Chaplaincy Services at the Allegheny County Jail,

and with Thomas Strandburg as our pastor.

Give them and us patience, courage, and wisdom

so as to care for one another and challenge one another

that together we may follow Jesus Christ,

living together in love,

and offering our gifts and talents in your service;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*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**

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 near the end of the service.

**Duet** Hymn of Promise *Natalie Sleeth; arr. Larson*

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Marci Picardi 10:45 Linda Minnotte

**A Lesson from the New Testament**

Philippians 2:14-18 Shine like stars in the world

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

\***Celtic Alleluia** (standing) *Fintan O’Carroll*

**Alleluia.** (sing 4 times)

\*Scripture Reading

**\*A Lesson from the Gospel**

Luke 9:18-27 Following Christ

**\*Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Update on Our Church Theme** John Esaias, Council Chair

10:45 **Offertory Anthem** *John Ness Beck*

O Love, that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;

I give Thee back the life I owe,

that in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be.

O joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to Thee;

I trace the rainbow through the rain,

and feel the promise is not vain, that morn shall tearless be.

\***Hymnal** **94 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow** (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!**

adapt. © 1989 The U. Methodist Publishing House

**Prayer of Dedication**

**Meditation** “Star Search” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

\***Hymnal 358 Dear Lord and Father of mankind** (stanzas 1,2,4 standing) *Rest*

\***Benediction**

\***Hymnal 358 Dear Lord and Father of mankind** (stanza 5 standing) *Rest*

**Today’s Services**

**The flower arrangement provided for worship today** is given by Edee Hutchinson and Chuck Hutchinson in loving memory of their parents, Robert and Eleanor Hutchinson, and their brother Richard.

**Greeters 8:30** Rob and Jane Spicher **10:45** Joyce Magill

**Special music for both services** is provided by the Rev. Kimberly Greway and John Esaias. Rev. Greway is a former associate pastor of this congregation. She is now serving as Chief Operating Officer of the Foundation of HOPE and Director of Chaplaincy Services at Allegheny County Jail and she is working towards her Doctor of Ministry degree. Mr. Esaias retired as superintendent of the North Hills School District. He is a very active leader of this church.

**Special music for the 10:45 service** is provided by the Chancel Choir, conducted by Richard Minnotte, Director of Percussion Studies at the Mt. Lebanon High School.

**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**

**Philippians 2:14-18**

14Do all things without murmuring and arguing, 15so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. 16It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. 17But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you— 18and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

**Luke 9:18-27**

18Once when Jesus was praying alone, with only the disciples near him, he asked them, “Who do the crowds say that I am?” 19They answered, “John the Baptist; but others, Elijah; and still others, that one of the ancient prophets has arisen.” 20He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered, “The Messiah of God.” 21He sternly ordered and commanded them not to tell anyone, 22saying, “The Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.” 23Then he said to them all, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. 24For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it.25What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves? 26Those who are ashamed of me and of my words, of them the Son of Man will be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. 27But truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God.”

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Ed Clarke, Asbury Heights

Isabella (Langston) Field,

St. Alphonsus Medical Center, Boise

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, Carol Van Sickle,

Jinny Sheppard, Ruth Seip, Arlene Stewart

**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

**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 $33 for the altar, narthex, or columbarium arrangements, and $66 for the chancel flowers.

**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.

**Help Wanted: Volunteer Church Night Monitors**

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**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, JUNE 23 THRU SATURDAY, JUNE 29**

**SUNDAY 6/23**

8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

9:30 am Faith for Today Asbury Center

10:45 am Worship Asbury Center

Kids Praise Welcome Center

7 pm Do No Harm Welcome Center

**TUESDAY 6/25**

7 pm Board of Reviews Network

7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley

**WEDNESDAY 6/26**

7 pm Bear, Tiger, and Wolf Meetings Various

