

**5th Sunday after Pentecost**

What year was the worst year ever to be alive? Some historians have an answer to this question. The prophet Amos also has some ideas. This will lead us to a discussion of what we can do to ensure that our lives are full of goodness and meaning. The key is shifting the focus of our lives from “self” to “others.”

**July 14, 2019 8:30 & 10:45**

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

\*Asterisk indicates to stand as able

8:30 **Gathering Music** **Hymnal 351 Pass me not, O gentle Savior** *Pass me not*

**Greeting**

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me,

**People: and let us exalt God’s name together!**

 *Psalm 34:3*

**Announcements**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: From our busy lives, God calls us together to worship and to pray.

**People: We are here, Holy One!**

Leader: From different places, Christ calls us to gather, to love, and to live.

**People**: **We are here, blessed Jesus!**

Leader: From the unexpected journeys, the Spirit calls us into unity to serve

and to grow.

**People: We are here, Holy Spirit!**

Leader: Come! Let us worship.

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

\***Hymnal 680 Father, we praise thee**  *Christe sanctorum*

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

**Loving God, from the very beginning you have journeyed with your people. Journey with us this day, as we learn what it means to follow you. Open our ears to your word. Open our hearts to your love and compassion. Open our hands to receive your grace and to share it with others. Enable us to faithfully claim the name, “Christian,” as we strive to follow the ways and teachings of Jesus, the Christ. Empower us with your Holy Spirit, as we worship you and serve one another. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Silent Prayer**

**\*Hymnal 543 O Breath of Life** (stanza 1)  *Bishop Powell*

**O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us,**

 **revive your church with life and power.**

 **O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us,**

 **and fit your church to meet this hour.**

 **TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

**\*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.

**Hymnal 402 Lord, I want to be a Christian** *I want to be a Christian*

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Liz DiPietro 10:45 Barbara Watson

**A Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures**

 Amos 7:7-15 A vision of a plumb line

**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 10:25-37 Parable of the Good Samaritan

**\*Response**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

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

10:45 **Offertory Anthem**  Total Praise *Richard Smallwood, arranged by Joel Raney*

 Lord, I will lift my eyes to the hills, knowing my help is coming from you.

 Your peace you give in time of the storm.

 *Refrain: You are the source of my strength; you are the strength of my life.*

 *I lift my hands in total praise to you.*

 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! Early in the morning my song shall rise to thee.

 Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity! *Refrain*

© 1990, 2017 BMI

\***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**

**Sermon** “The Worst of Times” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

 **… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

\***Hymnal 430 O Master, let me walk with thee** (stanzas 1-3 standing) *Maryton*

\***Benediction**

\***Hymnal 430 O Master, let me walk with thee** (stanza 4, standing) *Maryton*

**Today’s Services**

**The flower arrangement provided for worship today** is given by Jean Sweeney and family in loving memory of Thomas R. Byrer.

**Greeters 8:30** Jeff Thayer **10:45** Dave and Vicki Danielson

**Guest pianist** is Cori DeLuca, a member of this church and a very active piano teacher in the area.

**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**

**Amos 7:7-15**

7This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. 8And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; 9the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

10Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. 11For thus Amos has said, ‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.’” 12And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; 13but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.” 14Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, 15and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’

**Luke 10:25-37**

25Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” 26He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” 27He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” 28And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.” 29But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” 30Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. 31Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. 32So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. 34He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.35The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ 36Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” 37He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

**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.

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, JULY 14 THRU SATURDAY, JULY 20**

**SUNDAY 7/14**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 9:30 am Faith for Today Asbury Center

 10:45 am Worship Asbury Center

 10:45 am Kids Praise Welcome Center

**MONDAY 7/15**

7:30 pm Community Outreach Meeting Wesley

**TUESDAY 7/16**

11 am Program Staff Meeting Pastor’s Office

 7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley

**WEDNESDAY 7/17**

5 pm Homebuilders Potluck Wesley

**SATURDAY 7/20**

8 am It’s a Guy Thing Wesley