

**GALATIANS: The Freedom of Christ**

Summer Sermon Series

The focus of this sermon series is on the six essential claims that are made by the Apostle Paul pertaining to the Christian life. As of today, we’ve considered the first three:

1. There is no other gospel. (1:7)
2. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. (2:20)
3. You are all one in Christ Jesus. (3:28)

**August 18, 2019 10:45**

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

\*Asterisk indicates to stand as able

**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: 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!**

*Worship & Song*

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

\***Hymnal 679 O splendor of God’s glory bright**  *Wareham*

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

**Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church: we rejoice that you have formed your people into one body comprised of believers of every race and nation. Your salvation has reached to the ends of the earth and to all generations. We praise and thank you that your gospel has reached us and that our voices will join those of many languages this day to proclaim your praise. Accept our praise, purify our hearts, instruct us in your word, and visit us with your Spirit that we may follow in the ways of faith, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Worship & Song*

**\*Silent Prayer**

**\*Worship & Song 3146 O Breath of Life** (stanza 2) *Adieu*

**O Wind of God, come bend us, break us**

 **till humbly we confess our need.**

 **Then in your tenderness remake us;**

 **revive, restore, for this we plead.**

 **TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

**Sacrament of Baptism** page 39

*Jeffrey James Zietak,*

*son of Justin & Lynne Zietak*

***Congregational Response:***

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

and include *Jeffrey James* 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** *Jeffrey James* **with a community of love and forgiveness,
     that he may grow in his service to others.**

**We will pray for him,
     that he may be a true disciple,**

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

**\*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 186 Alleluia** *Alleluia*

 © 1972, 1978 Manna Music, Inc.

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

**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.**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Judi Phelps 10:45 Bob Mallery

**A Lesson from the New Testament**

 Galatians 3:1-29 Works versus the Spirit

**Response**

 Leader: The Word of the Lord.

 **People: Thanks be to God**.

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

**Offertory Solo** My Tribute *Andrae Crouch*

\***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** “Out of One, Many” Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

 **… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

\***Hymnal 548 In Christ there is no east or west** (stanzas 1-3) *McKee*

\***Benediction**

\***Hymnal 548 In Christ there is no east or west** (stanza 4) *McKee*

**Today’s Services**

**The flower arrangement provided for worship today** is given in celebration of Sharon Slater's 50th birthday.

**Greeters 8:30** Gale Seymore **10:45** Alan and Donna Chesleigh

**Music for the 8:30 service** is being led by B.J. Collins (keyboard), Keith Moorhouse (drums), and Michelle Duralia (vocals). They will be sampling for us the style of music that will be featured in our new modern worship service, to be launched this fall.

**Guest pianist at 10:45** is Linda Minnotte, an active member of this church. Mrs. Minnotte rings handbells with our Chapel Bells and The Three Rivers Ringers.

**Soloist this morning** is John Esaias, a very active leader of this church. Mr. Esaias retired as superintendent of the North Hills School District.

**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 $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.

Today’s **Scripture**

**Galatians 3:1-29**

3You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! 2The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? 3Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? 4Did you experience so much for nothing? —if it really was for nothing. 5Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

6Just as Abraham “believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness,” 7so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. 8And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you.” 9For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed. 10For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not observe and obey all the things written in the book of the law.”11Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law; for “The one who is righteous will live by faith.” 12But the law does not rest on faith; on the contrary, “Whoever does the works of the law will live by them.” 13Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”—14in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.15Brothers and sisters, I give an example from daily life: once a person’s will has been ratified, no one adds to it or annuls it. 16Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring; it does not say, “And to offsprings,” as of many; but it says, “And to your offspring,” that is, to one person, who is Christ. 17My point is this: the law, which came four hundred thirty years later, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to nullify the promise. 18For if the inheritance comes from the law, it no longer comes from the promise; but God granted it to Abraham through the promise.

19Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring would come to whom the promise had been made; and it was ordained through angels by a mediator. 20Now a mediator involves more than one party; but God is one. 21Is the law then opposed to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could make alive, then righteousness would indeed come through the law.22But the scripture has imprisoned all things under the power of sin, so that what was promised through faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. 24Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. 25But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, 26for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. 27As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. 29And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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**SUMMER SERMON SERIES**

 **August 18th Galatians 3 “Out of One, Many”**

 **August 25th Galatians 4 “Born of the Spirit”**

 **Sept. 1st Galatians 5 “The Only Thing That Counts”**

 **Sept. 8th Galatians 6 “Everything!”**

***Join us in worship or through the online podcast each week!***

**Called By God -- Gifted to Serve**

Hasn't it been a wonderful 65th anniversary season for Faith for Today? Let's keep the momentum rolling right into the fall! A special combined adult Sunday School class will be offered on Sunday, September 1st, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., in Wesley Hall. The theme will be "Called By God - Gifted to Serve." Pastor Tom will lead the class in a study of the gifts of the Spirit, as described in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12. We'll consider how each gift is intended by God for the building up of the Church,

the Body of Christ. Join us for this challenging and informative hour.

**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

Reagan Rizzo, Renfrew Center, Philadelphia

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Doris Trimble, Providence Point

Olivia Woods, Baptist Manor

Sandra Clarke, St. Clair Hospital

**Convalescing at Home**

Bishop George Bashore, Jean Boyer,

Mary Caldwell, John Dean,

Joseph Festor, Leon Grant, Jr., Dave Lewis,

Susan Lichtenfels, George Lindow,

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

**ACHTUNG: Zwickau Up-Date!**  Thirteen members of our partner church (Friedenskirche) in Zwickau, Germany, will arrive on Sunday, October 13, and stay until the 22nd.

**Our Goal:** Meet as many of them as possible and have great conversation and interactions

**Our Theme:** Expand Our Mission Eyes

**Sign-Ups for Group Activities:**  September

Our Zwickau Committee has been hard at work planning a variety of activities that will show our guests our mission work and also acquaint them with our church and with Pittsburgh. There will be several **opportunities for church-wide participation**: church-wide all-American picnic at South Park, local mission work, Terrific Tuesdays supper with Zwickau discussion, Heinz Field tour, and a Hop On Hop Off bus tour of Pittsburgh. Sign-ups will begin in September. Stay tuned for more info!

Questions? Contact Deanna Baird (fraubaird@aol.com) or ask a committee member : Kathleen Amant, Dan & Lori Barr, Berni Bowes, Mary Garber, Betsy Harkins, Stephanie & Kirk Lowe, Mike & Mary Paine, Eric & Kim Palmer, and Pastor Tom and Kathy Strandburg.

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

**SUNDAY 8/18**

 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

 6:30 pm Eagle Board of Review Various

 7 pm Do No Harm Welcome Center

**MONDAY 8/19**

 7:15 pm Zwickau Meeting Welcome Center

 7:30 pm Community Outreach Meeting Wesley

**TUESDAY 8/20**

11 am Weekday Ministries Chapel Pastor’s Office 7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley

**WEDNESDAY 8/21**

5 pm Homebuilders Covered Dish Wesley

 7 pm Trustees Meeting Welcome Center

 7 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting Wesley