

**14th Sunday After Pentecost**

Christian Education Sunday

Welcome back to Sunday School, and to a new year of Christian education in our church! The familiar words of Proverbs 22:6 state: *“Train children in the way they should go; when they grow old, they won’t depart from it.”* No matter what our age, sound spiritual training today will prepare us for the days ahead.

**September 15, 2019 8:30 & 10:45**

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

\*Asterisk indicates to rise in body or spirit

**Gathering Music** **Hymnal 130 God will take care of you** *Martin*

**Greeting**

Leader: I was glad when they said unto me,

**People: Let us go into the house of the Lord!**

*Psalm 122:1*

**Announcements**

10:45 **Introit** *Douglas E. Wagner*

I was glad when they said unto me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord.”

 O the Lord is in his holy temple: all the earth keep silence before the Lord.

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: We rejoice in you, O Lord! We sing new songs with joyful hearts.

**People: For your word, O God, is upright, and all your work is done in faithfulness.**

Leader: Gracious God, you love righteousness and justice; you bring them to people on earth.

**People: By your word, O Lord, you made the heavens and all the angels who do your will.**

Leader: The counsel of the Lord stands forever, the thoughts of God’s heart to all generations.

 **All: Let your steadfast love, O God, be upon us, even as we hope in you.**

 **… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

\***Hymnal 384 Love divine, all loves excelling** *Beecher*

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

O God, make the door of this house wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship, narrow enough to shut out envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back evil’s power. God, make the door of this house the gateway to your eternal kingdom. Amen.

**\*Silent Prayer**

**\*Worship & Song 3146 O Breath of Life** (stanza 3) *Adieu*

**O Breath of love, come breathe within us,**

 **renewing thought and will and heart.**

 **Come, love of Christ, afresh to win us;**

 **revive your church in every part.**

 **TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH …**

10:45 **A Litany of Dedication for Christian Educators, Leaders, and Learners**

Leader: Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

**People: Thank you for guiding us with wisdom so that we may know the way we**

**should go.**

Leader: How sweet are your words of life, O God, sweeter than honey!

**People: We praise you for the good news you bring us in Jesus Christ.**

Leader: Thank you for the women and men to whom you have given gifts for teaching

 and leading.

**Teachers: We thank you for calling us to teach, and we dedicate ourselves to**

 **this ministry.**

Leader: May you bless them abundantly, O God, and increase their joy as they serve you.

**Adults: May we all continue to grow in faith, hope, and love as Christ’s disciples.**

Leader: God gathers us together as the church, where each person is loved by the Lord.

**Children and Youth: Thank you for teachers and leaders who help us to know**

 **Jesus better.**

**All: Help us to share faithfully the love of Jesus as we participate in your**

 **kingdom drawing near.**

**\*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 to the sanctuary near the end of the service.

**Hymnal 699 Come, and let us sweetly join** *Canterbury*

**… 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 Betsy Harkins 10:45 Chuck Vogel

**A Lesson from the New Testament**

 Matthew 5:1-14 The Batitudes

**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**  *arranged by Dan Forrest*

 Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee!

 E’en though it be a cross that raiseth me.

 Still all my song shall be nearer, my God, to Thee!

 Oh, let the way appear, leading to heav’n;

 all that Thou sendest me, in mercy giv’n.

 Thy Spirit beckons me, nearer, my God to Thee,

 nearer my God to Thee, nearer to Thee.

 There in my Father's home, safe and at rest,

 there in my Savior's love, perfectly blest.

 Age after age to be nearer, my God to Thee!

 Nearer my God to Thee, nearer to Thee.

\***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 Salt and Light Company” Rev. Ronald Hoellein

 **… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

\***Hymnal 560 Help us accept each other** (stanzas 1-3) *Acceptance*

\***Benediction**

\***Hymnal 560 Help us accept each other** (stanzas 4) *Acceptance*

**Today’s Services**

**Our guest minister today,** Rev. Ronald Hoellein, was raised in Brookline Church. He is now retired from a pastorate at St. Paul’s UMC in Allison Park.

**The flowers on the altar** are given by Tom and Kathy Strandburg in celebration of the marriage of their daughter Amy to Zach Kurta.

**The flowers in the narthex** are given by Steve and Amelia Dean in celebration of Bette Lou Albright's upcoming birthday on September 20.

**Acolyte** Jacob Lowe

**Greeters 8:30** Bradley and Laura Shoff **10:45** Betty Lou Albright

**Special music at 10:**45 is provided by the Chancel Choir, directed by Ryan A. Keeling, Director of Choral Activities at West Liberty University, Assistant Conductor of the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh, Artistic Director of Voce Solis and a member of this church.

**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.

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

**Today’s Scripture**

**Matthew 5:1-14**

5When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

3“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. 5“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. 6“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. 7“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. 8“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. 9“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. 10“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

13“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. 14“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

**Keep in Prayer**

**Hospitalized**

Sandra Clarke, St. Clair

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bishop George Bashore, Asbury Heights

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Dawn Lonsinger, ManorCare, Whitehall

Ed Clarke, Asbury Heights

Isabella (Langston) Field, St. Alphonsus Medical Center, Boise

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Doris Trimble, Providence Point

Olivia Woods, Baptist Manor

Ezra Gibson, Memorial Sloan-Kettering

 Cancer Center, New York City

**Convalescing at Home**

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

**Looking to send a card?**

**Here are some helpful addresses:**

Asbury Heights

700 Bower Hill Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Baptist Homes

493 Castle Shannon Boulevard

Pittsburgh, PA 15234

Concordia Health Center

1300 Bower Hill Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

ManorCare, Whitehall

505 Weyman Rd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Providence Point

500 Providence Point Boulevard

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

St. Clair Hospital

1000 Bower Hill Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

**CALENDAR – SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 THRU SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

**SUNDAY 9/15**

 8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

 10:45 am Kids Praise Welcome Center

 2 pm Confirmation Meeting Welcome Center

 4:30 pm Fall Youth Group Wesley

 6:30 pm BSA Eagle Board of Review Various

**MONDAY 9/16**

7:30 pm Community Outreach Meeting Wesley

**TUESDAY 9/17**

11 am Program Staff Meeting Pastor’s Office

 7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley

**WEDNESDAY 9/18**

 7 pm Trustees Meeting Welcome Center

 7 pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting Wesley

**THURSDAY 9/19**

 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 9/20**

 10 am Bishop Bashore Conferal Sanctuary/Asbury