

**February 23, 2020 8:30 & 10:45**

**Transfiguration Sunday**

*Weekday Ministries Sunday*

On this final Sunday after Epiphany, we conclude our focus on relationships with the most important relationship of all – the relationship between ourselves and God. At the transfiguration, as at Jesus’ baptism, God affirms him to be “the beloved son.” What’s the status of your relationship with God today?

**WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME …**

\*Asterisk indicates to rise in body or spirit

**Gathering Music** 8:30 **Hymnal 111 How can we name a Love** *Terra beata*

10:45 Fairest Lord Jesus *Crusader’s Hymn, arr. Sandra Eithun* Promise Bells

**Greeting**

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me,

**People: and let us exalt God’s name together!** *Psalm 34:3*

**Announcements**

\*10:45 **Introit**  *Hal H. Hopson*

Ev’ry voice be tuned in song; God is the ruler, mighty and strong.

 Praise the Lord.

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone, rejected by the world, but in God’s sight chosen and precious.

**People: We have responded to Christ’s call, and seek to be built into a spiritual house, a living reminder of God’s presence on earth.**

Leader: Once we were no people, but now we are God’s people, called out of darkness into God’s marvelous light. Therefore we sing with the Church in all ages:

**People: Blessed be your name, O God, our redeemer. By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

*Ruth Duck, Book of Worship*

**… TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD …**

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

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

**Wondrous God, our hearts are full of praise for all of the glorious things you have given to us. When we look upon your creation, we realize that it reflects your glory. When we experience the gift of a parent’s love, we are reminded of your tender love for us. When we worship in the great congregation of all who name you as Lord, we are blessed to be counted among your children. Hear our prayer of joy and thanksgiving this day, use us as witnesses in an unbelieving world, and sustain in us grateful hearts, that we might praise you eternally. Through Christ, our Lord.**

**Silent Prayer**

\***Worship & Song 3119 Take, O take me** *Take, O take*

 **Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;**

 **set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

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

10:45 **A word from our Weekday Ministries Director** Mettelise Ziegler

10:45 **Song from our Weekday children** Bernice Merchant, Director

**\*The Sign of Peace** *Please pass the peace to your neighbors as a sign of reconciliation and love.*

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

 **People: And also with you.**

10:45 Gathering Song *James Ritchie*

 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. James Ritchie ©1999 Abingdon Press

10:45 **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.

8:30 **Hymnal 262 Heal me, hands of Jesus** *Sutton Common*

10:45 **Handbell Anthem** Shades of Forest Green *arranged by Tim Waugh*

 "The hymntune Forest Green appears three times in our hymnal. Note the text of hymn #539

 *O Spirit of the living God* as we share our musical offering with you. "

 Chapel Bells

**… TO HEAR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED …**

Scripture Reading 8:30 Liz DiPietro 10:45 James Mazzocco

**A Lesson from the New Testament**

 Acts 17:24-28 We all are God’s offspring

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

\***Celtic Alleluia:** **Alleluia** (sing 4 times) *James J. Chepponis*

\*Scripture Reading

**A Lesson from the Gospels**

 Matthew 17:1-9 The Transfiguration

**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** *Spiritual, adapted and arranged by Howard Helvey*

 Listen to the lambs all a-cryin’, I want to go to heaven when I die.

 Come on, sister, with your ups an’ downs, want to go to heaven when I die.

 The angels waitin’ for to give you a crown, I want to go to heaven when I die.

 Come on, brother, don’t you be ashamed, want to go to heaven when I die.

 The angels waitin’ for to write your name, I want to go to heaven when I die.

\***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** “Relationship Status: God” Rev. Scott A.F. Miller

**… TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!**

\***Hymnal 258 O wondrous sight! O vision fair** (stanzas 1-4)*Wareham*

\***Benediction**

\***Hymnal 258 O wondrous sight! O vision fair** (stanza 5)*Wareham*

**Today’s Services**

**The flowers on the altar** are given in loving memory of Johnathan Heath College by John, Donna, and Shannon College and Lauren.

**The flowers in the chancel** are given by Cleon and Vera Jane Cornes in honor of Michael Drabick, Mike Staab, and Alan and Donna Chesleigh for their dedicated efforts in maintaining our church building.

**The flowers in the narthex** are given in celebration of Carolyn Dagg's 80th birthday tomorrow.

**Greeters 8:30** Bradley, Laura, Emily &Evan Shoff **10:45** David and Barbara Watson

**Special Music at 10:45**  is provided by the Promise Bells and the Chapel Bells, directed by Nancy R. Lutz; and the Chancel Choir with guest pianist Joy Crummie.

**Acolytes** Anna Rhoton and Emily Shoff

**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, and $66 for the chancel.

**Today’s Scriptures**

**Acts 17:24-28**

24The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, 25nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. 26From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, 27so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 28For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’

**Matthew 17:1-9**

17Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. 3Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” 5While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” 6When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” 8And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. 9As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**Keep in Prayer**

**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Bonnie Amos, Providence Point

Ed Clarke, Asbury Heights

May Frederick, Baptist Home

John Katshir, Asbury Heights

Woody Kimmel, Providence Point

Pat Seitz, Concordia

Doris Trimble, Providence Point

Olivia Woods, Baptist Manor

Anne Hoffman, Friendship Village

Dave Lewis, Allegheny General

**Convalescing at Home**

Bishop George Bashore,

Jean Boyer, Mary Caldwell,

Joseph Festor, Ezra Gibson,

 Steve Howard, Susan Lichtenfels,

George Lindow, Carol Van Sickle,

 Arlene Stewart, Peyton Wisterman

**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,

Matt Lewis, USMC,

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 23 THRU SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29**

**SUNDAY 2/23**

8:30 am Worship Sanner Chapel

 8:30 am The Gathering Asbury

 9:30 am Sunday School Various

 10:45 am Worship Sanctuary

 10:45 am Kids Praise Welcome Center

 11:45 am Youth Choir Choir Room

 11:45 am UMW Soup & Salad Luncheon Asbury

 5 pm Youth Group Wesley

 7 pm Do No Harm Welcome Center

**MONDAY 2/24**

7 pm Chapel Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

**TUESDAY 2/25** 6 pm Terrific Tuesday Asbury

 7 pm Boy Scout Meeting Wesley

 7 pm Board of Reviews Network

**WEDNESDAY 2/26**

 6:30 am Ash Wednesday Silent Communion Sanctuary

 2 pm Small Groups/Gifts of the Spirit Brookline Parlor

 7 pm Ash Wednesday Communion and Ashes Sanner Chapel

 7 pm Small Groups/Gifts of the Spirit Brookline Parlor

 7 pm Bear, Tiger, & Wolf Den Meetings Various

**THURSDAY 2/27**

6:30 pm Promise Bells Rehearsal Bell Room

 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Choir Room

**FRIDAY 2/28**

 4 pm Fish Fry Asbury

**SATURDAY 2/29**

 11 am Scouts Pinewood Derby Asbury