



“Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here.”

MARK 16:6

April 4, 2021 Easter Sunday 8:30 & 10:45

Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church

Sharing the Love of Christ

3319 W. Liberty Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15216 412-531-7131 mlumc.org
Reverend Thomas Q. Strandburg, Pastor tstrandburg@mlumc.org



... TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD ...

*Hymnal #302

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”

*Easter Hymn
Setting by Craig Phillips*

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high,
Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply,
Alleluia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done,
Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won,
Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise,
Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
3. Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, boasting grave?
Alleluia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has led,
Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise,
Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,
Alleluia

*Opening Prayer (in unison)

Gracious God, we are here today to celebrate. You have defeated sin and conquered death through the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. We recognize that without the cross, we would have no reason to live; we would have no hope. Thank you, O God, for giving us hope! Christ's sacrifice was the fullest expression of your great love for us. We are full of gratitude and worship. Christ is risen! Amen.

*Silent Prayer

*Hymnal #89 “Joyful, joyful, we adore thee” HYMN TO JOY Setting by Michael Burkhardt

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!
2. All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee. (*con't next page*)

4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
love divine is reigning o'er us,
binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward,
in the triumph song of life.

TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH ...

Message for Young Disciples

Kim Rhoton, Director of Christian Education

Children will remain seated with their families. Due to the challenges posed by COVID-19, Kids Praise cannot be held as usual. We look forward to its return as soon as conditions will allow.

... TO HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED ...

Scripture Reading

A Lesson from the Gospels

Mark 16:1-8 Three women discover the empty tomb

Response

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

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. 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.

Sermon

"Stone-Rolling & Doom-Scrolling"

Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

Anthem

"I will not leave you comfortless"

Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)

*I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you yet again: alleluia.
And your heart shall be joyful: alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (Jn. 14:18)*

... TO OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TO DEDICATE OUR LIVES ...

A Word About the Offering

For hygienic reasons, the offering plates will not be passed through the congregation. You are invited to place your offering in the plates at the entrance as you leave, or take advantage of one of our many options for giving – by mail, automatic debit (forms are available from the table in the Narthex), or online.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following

words . . .) And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

[Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25]

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following words . . .) As we proclaim the mystery of faith:

[Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25]

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

(The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following

words. . .) Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

[Musical Setting E, U.M. Hymnal, p. 25]

AMEN.

Giving the Bread and the Cup

The bread and cup have been prepared in a hygienic fashion and received as you entered the sanctuary. Please consume as instructed by the pastor.

Prayer following Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit to give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

10:45 am

*Response to the Gospel: *"Hallelujah Chorus" from Messiah* G.F. Handel (1685-1757)
Led by members of the choir; all are invited to sing.

... TO GO REJOICING IN GOD'S NAME!

*Hymnal #306

"The strife is o'er, the battle done"

VICTORY

Antiphon: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

1. The strife is o'er, the battle done;
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun:
Alleluia!

2. The powers of death have done their
worst,
but Christ their legions hath dispersed;
let shouts of holy joy outburst:
Alleluia!

3. The three sad days are quickly sped;
he rises glorious from the dead;
all glory to our risen Head!
Alleluia!

4. Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee:
Alleluia!

*Benediction

*Postlude

8:30 am *The Heavens declare the Glory of God* (Ps. 19) Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

10:45 am *Awake the Trumpet's Lofty Sound* G.F. Handel
Prelude G.E. Holmes

Musicians participating in this service

Chancel Choir

Bethany Mingle
Sarah Boice
Kirby Dilworth
J. Patrick McGill

Handbell Choir

Linda Minnotte
Deb Artim
Linda Boice
Sarah Boice
John Esaias
Betsy Rayner

Brass Quintet

Josh Boudreau, trumpet
Stephen McGough, trumpet
Bryan Adkins, horn
Gonzalo Fernandez, trombone
Robert Tupper, bass trombo

Percussion

James Conkle, timpani

Mr. Richard Minnotte, Conductor

Mr. A. Mitchell V. Stecker, Minister of Music and Organist, Mt. Lebanon UMC

Today's Service

Acolytes Emily and Evan Shoff

Cross Bearer Brad Shoff

Today's Scriptures

Mark 16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Podcasts of Sunday Sermons Catch up on messages from MLUMC. Pastor Tom Strandburg and Pastor Scott Miller contribute podcasts of Sunday sermons on a rotating basis. Sermons can be found at <http://mlumc.buzzsprout.com> or navigate to the site from the link on our webpage, 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.

Keep in Prayer

Convalescing in Care Facilities

May Frederick, Baptist Home
John Katshir, Asbury Heights
Olivia Woods, Baptist Manor

Convalescing at Home

Jim Arena, Bishop George Bashore,
Jean Boyer, Joseph Festor,
Ezra Gibson, Susan Lichtenfels,
George Lindow, Carol Van Sickle,

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,
LTC Scott B. Rushe,
Pvt. Max Siergert, USMC
Pastor Rick Townes,
Maj. Azizi Wesmiller,
Maj. Matthew C. Wesmiller,
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski,
Sgt Michael Zimmerman

Holiday Office Closings The Church office will be closed on Monday, April 5, 2021.

Church Council Meeting There will be a Church Council Meeting on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7 PM on Zoom. Please contact the church office by Thursday, April 1st if you would like the link to attend.

Do No Harm Meeting Sunday, April 11 The next Sunday evening Do No Harm meeting will be on April 11th at 7pm via zoom. After a very special reading by Bernice Merchant, the group will watch a short video from Reconciling Ministries Network. For more information contact Louanne Baily lbaily0@gmail.com