

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

January 30, 2022

8:30 & 10:45

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Jesus preached on salvation in His hometown of Nazareth. But His friends and neighbors turned against Him. Question: How could something so right go so wrong? Answer: The people could not admit their need of a savior. We'll talk about that in today's sermon.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ...

*Asterisk indicates to stand as able

Prelude *Gymnopedie No. 1* Eric Satie (1866-1925), arr. N Rawsthorne

Announcements

*Call to Worship

Pastor: God of Gods, we come to worship today to hear Your good news,

People: To hear of faith, hope, and love ringing out from Your kingdom.

Pastor: We know that doubt, fear, and hatred can shake even the strongest.

People: Shape us into faithful, hopeful people.

Pastor: Fill us with Your love,

People: A love that passes all understanding.

... TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD ...

*Opening Hymn

"Rock of ages, cleft for me"

UMH361

***Opening Prayer (in unison)**

Gracious God, how often does selfishness wash through our good intentions? How often do we speak bold, sophisticated words to impress others? How often do we forget that we are what we are because of You? Remind us that our abilities are Your gifts to us. Remind us that that You loaned us some possessions in hopes that we would help others with them. If we are guilty of living only to impress others – forgive us. If we gain status only by putting someone else down – forgive us. If we do things only for applause – forgive us. If all we do sounds like clanging cymbals and noisy gongs to You – call us to repent. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

***Silent Prayer**

Response

Gloria Patri

UMH71

A Lesson for Young Disciples (10:45)

All children are invited to come forward at the invitation of the pastor. After the children's message at the 10:45 service, children ages 3 - 3rd grade may attend Kids Praise. Children will be escorted to and from Kids Praise by teachers. They will return to the sanctuary near the end of the service. The congregation will sing, as the children depart:

*Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear; Things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea, Stories of Jesus, tell them to me. (UMH#277, stanza 1)*

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

Scripture Reading

A Lesson from the Gospels

Luke 4:21-30

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

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

“Rejection and Salvation”

Rev. Scott Miller

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

At the Offertory

8:30am

“Lord of the Dance”

UMH261

10:45am

Out of the Depths Have I Called Unto Thee (Ps. 130)

Alan Hovhanness (1911-2000)

Timothi Williams, soloist

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord.

Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications.

If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand?

I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait,

My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning:

I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

***Doxology**

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

UMH94

Prayer of Dedication

... TO GO REJOICING IN GOD’S NAME!

***Closing Hymn**

“All Hail The Power of Jesus’ Name”

UMH155

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Improvisation: “Out of the Depths”

Today’s Services

The flower arrangement provided for worship today is given by Jane Spicher in celebration of her wonderful husband Rob’s upcoming birthday on Thursday, February 3rd.

Acolytes Abby and Emma Purtill

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. To donate 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. 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.

Today's Scriptures

Luke 4:21-30

²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

COVID-19 Precautions at MLUMC

Based on CDC recommendations and Allegheny County reaching substantial community transmission levels, we encourage everyone, regardless of vaccination status to wear a mask when gathering inside the church building.

We are grateful for the ability to worship together both in person on Sunday morning and online. We encourage you to continue to participate in worship in whatever way you feel comfortable. You are a part of the MLUMC community regardless of where or how you attend. Stay connected via the web site, www.mlumc.org for the most up to date information

Pastor Tom Strandburg

Keep in Prayer

Hospitalized

Mark Lewis, St. Clair

Convalescing in Care Facilities

Carolyn Dagg, Baptist Home

May Frederick, Baptist Home

Anne Hoffman, Friendship Village

Dorothy King

George Lindow, Friendship Village

Ed Reichard, Providence Point

Convalescing at Home

Shirley Baker, Bishop George Bashore,

Jean Boyer, Susan Lichtenfels,

Carol Van Sickle

In the Military

Jason Boyer, SPC Natalie Brown,

PFC William Dilla III

Maj. Zachary Allen Finch, USMC,

James Iantelli, 1st Lt. Jaskiewicz

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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

Be An Instrument of Hope & Compassion

Consider sending greeting cards to church members and friends who are in the hospital, a care facility, or at home convalescing from illness. Let's shower our friends with cards and pray for God's healing touch.

Ed Reichard is in the Healthcare unit at Providence Point. Cards for Ed can be sent to his wife Betty Lou:

Ed Reichard

100 Adams Avenue

Apt. 632

Pittsburgh, PA 15243

Mark Lewis is in St. Clair Hospital. Cards for Mark can be sent to his wife Judy:

Mark Lewis

908 Valleyview Rd.

Pittsburgh, PA 15423



Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

The youth are having their annual "Souper Bowl" lunch to support their summer mission trip. Instead of our usual luncheon, we will be serving the soup to-go. Available flavors include: chili, roasted butternut squash soup, and chicken noodle soup. The soup is sold by the quart and will come with a choice of oyster crackers or corn bread muffins. Free-will donations will be accepted for each quart. The soup will be available from 8:30 am until 12 noon on Sunday, February 13th at the church. Preorders are required and accepted until Friday, February 11th. Order by contacting Stephanie Lowe at youth@mlumc.org or 412-584-5446.

A Presentation and Discussion on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Building the Beloved Community: How Everyone Can Play Their Part will be presented by educator, writer, and facilitator for equity and racial justice, Dr. Ali Michael. The Mt. Lebanon community-sponsored discussion is on Sunday, February 20, at 6:30 pm in the auditorium of Mt. Lebanon High School. The entire community is invited and encouraged to participate.

Terrific Tuesday – A Lenten Experience for March

Terrific Tuesday is starting on Tuesday, March 1 and will continue through March 8, 15, 22 and 29. It includes a commemoration of Shrove Tuesday on March 1st, and ends with a musical nod to Charles Wesley on the anniversary of his death. In between will be a focus on Rob Fuquay's study, "The Passion Play." More details to follow.



UMW cookie sale was a big success – thanks to all of you!

Thank you to everyone who baked, boxed, and bought Christmas cookies at the annual UMW cookie sale!

Your generosity resulted in a profit of over \$1,000, which will be given to the local and global organizations that help women, children, and youth, including places like Family Promise, the Ruth M. Smith Center in Sheffield, Pa., Red Bird Mission and the Henderson Settlement in Kentucky, and our district UMW.

We encourage you to learn more about these organizations by visiting their websites where you'll see all the good work they're doing in these challenging times. Stay tuned for more opportunities to help support the UMW's mission of giving this spring and beyond!

Note to Our Livestreaming Viewers

If you are reading this bulletin and announcements while or after viewing the 10:45 service online, please consider sending the church an email telling us what you think of our livestreaming service. For you, how does it compare to attending a service in-person? Were you satisfied with what you saw and heard? What improvements would you like to see? Send your comments to info@mlumc.org. Thank You!

Sunday Livestream Worship

MLUMC has recently installed cameras and upgraded the sound system in the sanctuary to enable our message to reach well beyond the walls of the church on a weekly basis. Your help is now needed to ensure we can offer this ministry every week. There are three jobs we are looking to help staff:

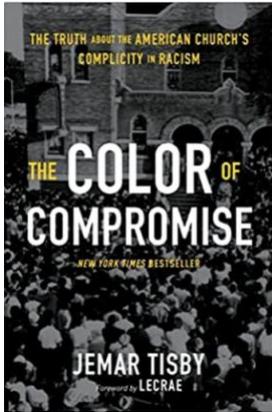
1. **Running the slide show** - this role follows along in worship and advances the slides for liturgy and hymns. it is as easy as a single button push.

2. **Running the Livestream** - This role uses a simple button pad to activate preprogrammed camera sequences to change camera shots during the service. The shots are laid out in a script to follow along with the bulletin.

3. **Running the sound system** - this role makes minor adjustments to the sound during the service to account for speaker volume and turn microphones on/off when they are used.

Content and setup will be done and ready for you to participate in worship each week. Curious? You can sit in the balcony at the 10:45 service to get a look at the operation. For more information or to volunteer, contact Kirk Lowe, klowe1@gmail.com or Monica Kao,





The Color of Compromise The Truth about the American Church's Complicity *By Jemar Tisby*

Join church member and librarian Laura Ward and Kim Rhoton on a four-week discussion of this book's narrative of how people of faith have historically worked against racial justice.

The discussion, taking place on four Mondays, begins January 24, skips February 7 and ends February 21. The group will meet on ZOOM at 7 pm. To register and to receive the link, contact Kim Rhoton: krhoton@mlumc.org.

CALENDAR – SUNDAY, JANUARY 30 THRU SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5

SUNDAY 1/30

8:30 am	Worship	Sanner Chapel
8:30 am	The Gathering	Asbury
9:30 am	Sunday School	Various
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
6:00 pm	Youth	Zoom

TUESDAY 2/1

7:00 pm	Troop 23 Meeting	Wesley
7:00 pm	Troop 9023 Meeting	Network

WEDNESDAY 2/2

1:00 pm	Staff Meeting	Welcome Center
2:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Zoom

THURSDAY 2/3

8:30 am	Northside Lunch Prep	Asbury
7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

SATURDAY 2/5

10:00 am	Food Distribution	Food Pantry
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