

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

March 6, 2022

8:30 & 10:45

First Sunday in Lent

The community created by Jesus should always be the most welcoming and safest of spaces. Today's church should be a place where people can feel welcome, make connections, understand God, and let their actions be guided by Christ.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ...

*Asterisk indicates to stand as able

Prelude *Prelude in e – "The Cathedral"* (BWV533) Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Announcements

*Call to Worship

Leader: God of rainbow and promise,

People: God of the swirling waters of baptism,

Leader: God of the dark night of doubt,

People: God of comfort and call,

Leader: Dwell with us this holy season of Lent

**People: And lead us from temptation to trust, from fear to love, from despair to hope,
from sadness to joy.**

... TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD ...

*Opening Hymn "O Crucified Redeemer"

UMH425

***Opening Prayer (in unison)**

O God, you give us life; we must offer commitment. You give us Scripture; we must study. You give us children; we must serve as good role models. You give us talents; we must minister accordingly. You give us the church; we must extend fellowship. You give us the gospel; we must share the Good News. You give us each other; we must live in love. You give us money; we must invest in the eternal. O Giver of all that we call good and perfect, transform our gratitude for what you have placed within our hands into significant means of serving others as well as you. Amen.

***Silent Prayer**

Response "Freely, freely"

UMH389

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 Hebrew Scriptures

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

First fruits & tithes

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

“Welcome to Church”

Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

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

At the Offertory

8:30

“Softly and tenderly, Jesus is calling”

UMH348

10:45

O Lord, my God, to thee

attr. J. Arcadelt (c.1510-1568)

Text from Ps. 25 & 26

O Lord, my God, to thee do I lift up my soul. O Lord, in thee, in thee have I trusted.
Let me not be ashamed, Let not my foes triumph over me.
O lead me in a plain path; cast me not off, neither forsake me.
Teach me thy way, Lord, Lead me, lead me in a plain path.
O hide not thy face, Hide not thy face far from me.
Lord God, Lord God, Hide not thy face far from me. Amen.

***Doxology**

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

UMH95

Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Therefore, with your people in all ages and the whole company of heaven,
we join in the song of unending praise, singing:

[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. . .)

Through him, with him, in him, in all the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

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

AMEN.

Giving the Bread & Cup

Prayer following Communion (in unison)

God of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Music During Communion (10:45) "Eternal Lord of Love, behold your church"

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

***Closing Hymn** "Guide me, O thou great Jehovah" **UMH127**

***Benediction**

***Postlude** *Fugue in e – "The Night-watchman"* (BWV533) **J.S. Bach**

Today's Services

The flowers on the altar are given in memory of Neil Birks, a loving husband, father, and grandfather.

Acolytes Jacob and Joseph Lowe **Cross Bearer** Jim Young

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

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

26When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Keep in Prayer

Convalescing in Care Facilities

Carolyn Dagg, Baptist Home
May Frederick, Baptist Home
Anne Hoffman, Friendship Village
Mark Lewis, ProMedica, Greentree
George Lindow, Friendship Village
Priscilla Utzig, Providence Point

Convalescing at Home

Shirley Baker, Bishop George Bashore,
Jean Boyer, Susan Lichtenfels,
John Middleton, 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
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

Memorial Service for Ed Reichard

Condolences are offered to the family of long-time church member Ed Reichard, who passed away Sunday, February 13, at the age of 93. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, March 19 at 11 AM in the Sanctuary of MLUMC. The family will host a luncheon in Asbury Center following the service.

CALENDAR – SUNDAY, MARCH 6 THRU SATURDAY, MARCH 12

SUNDAY 3/6

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	Wesley

MONDAY 3/7

7:00 pm	Council Meeting	Wesley
---------	-----------------	--------

TUESDAY 3/8

10:00 am	WDM Chapel	Sanner Chapel
6:00 pm	Terrific Tuesday	Asbury
7:00 pm	Troop 23 Meeting	Wesley
7:00 pm	Troop 9023 Meeting	Network
7:00 pm	Cub Scout Planning Meeting	Epworth

WEDNESDAY 3/9

2:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Zoom
7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting	TBD
7:00 pm	Bear, Lion, Tiger, Wolf Meetings	Various

THURSDAY 3/10

6:45 pm	Lenten Prayer Service	Sanctuary
---------	-----------------------	-----------

Church Email List

Sign up to receive church communications by email. You can receive announcements and special emailings such as advisories of deaths in the congregation and closures due to inclement weather. You can also opt in to receive a PDF of our quarterly newsletter, *The Window*, instead of receiving it by mail. Just drop the form below into the collection basket or contact the office: 412-531-7131 or churchsecretary@mlumc.org.

Opt In to Electronic Mailings:

Name _____ Email Address _____

I would like to receive by email (check all that apply)

- The Window* as a PDF once a quarter
- Special emailings (deaths, closures, major church events)
- Announcements
- I would NO LONGER like to receive the mailed paper version of *The Window*