

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

October 16, 2022

8:30 & 10:45

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Persistence in prayer is a virtue, says Jesus in his Parable of the Unjust Judge. The parable is preceded by a few words of introduction. The parable which follows, Luke announces, is "about their [the disciples'] need to pray always and not to lose heart." (v. 1) Yet, in a world like ours, it is so easy to "lose heart."

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME ...

*Asterisk indicates to stand as able

Prelude

Greeting

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; sing the glory of God's name.

People: **All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.**
Psalm 66:1-2a, 4 (NRSV)

Choral Introit (10:45) BEECH SPRING ("Come ye sinners, poor and needy") *The Sacred Harp* (1860)

Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: We sing praises to you, O Lord!

People: **Our lips praise you and will not be silent.**

Leader: We raise prayers to you, O Lord!

People: **Our souls praise you and will not be silent.**

Leader: We bring ourselves to you, O Lord!

People: **Our deeds praise you and will not be silent.**

... TO GIVE PRAISE TO GOD ...

*Hymn

"Come, ye sinners, poor and needy" (vv.1-3)

UMH 340

*Opening Prayer (in unison)

You have brought us, O God, to another Lord's Day, when we are privileged to worship you with our brothers and sisters in Christ. May we have unity of mind and heart as we open ourselves to the movement of your Holy Spirit. As your love grows within us, may we have rich fellowship with you and with one another. In Christ's name. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Response

"Come, ye sinners, poor and needy" (v.4)

UMH 340

... TO CELEBRATE THE FAMILY OF FAITH ...

Sacrament of Baptism 10:45

Baptismal Covenant II, UM Hymnal #39

*Ava Jane Ionadi,
Daughter of Vincent and Jennifer Ionadi*

Congregational Response:

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life
and include *Ava Jane* now before you in your care?

People: **With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.
We will surround *Ava Jane*
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that she may grow in service to others.
We will pray for her,
that she may be a true disciple,
who walks in the way that leads to life.**

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.**

Message for Young Disciples

Rev. Tom Strandburg

*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**. Children will be escorted to and from Kids Praise by teachers. They will return to the sanctuary near the end of the service.*

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

Scripture Reading

A Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

Jeremiah 31:27-34 A covenant of the heart

Response

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn

"Creating God, your fingers trace"

UMH 109

Scripture Reading

***A Lesson from the Gospels**

Luke 18:1-8 Parable of the Unjust Judge

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. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Sermon

"Persistence in Prayer"

Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg

***The Apostles' Creed (standing)**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**The Apostles' Creed (ecumenical version)*

***The Sign of Peace**

**Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.**

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

Offertory

8:30	"Lord, whose love through humble service"	UMH 581
10:45	<i>God's Peace ("Come away from rush and hurry")</i>	

trad. American tune, text Marva Dawn

***Doxology "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow" UMH 94**

Prayer of Dedication

TO GO REJOICING IN GOD'S NAME!

*Hymn

“Blow ye the trumpet, blow!”

UMH 379

Benediction

Postlude

Today's Services

The flower arrangement provided for worship is given in celebration of the 8th wedding anniversary of Rob and Jane Spicher on October 18th.

Acolytes Ashe and Silas Ward

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, and \$66 for the chancel.

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 posted to iTunes. Full service recordings are also available

Today's Scripture

Jeremiah 31:27-34

²⁷The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. ²⁸And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. ²⁹In those days they shall no longer say: “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.” ³⁰But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. ³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Luke 18:1-8

18Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. 2He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. 3In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' 4For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, 5yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" 6And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. 7And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? 8I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Keep in Prayer**Convalescing in Care Facilities**

Carolyn Dagg, The Greenery
Anne Hoffman, Friendship Village
Priscilla Utzig, Providence Point

Convalescing at Home

Bishop George Bashore,
Jean Boyer, Liz DiPietro,
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
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,
LTC Matthew C. Wesmiller,
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski,
Sgt Michael Zimmerman

Albright Society Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of The Albright Society will be held on Friday, October 28 at 6:00 PM in Wesley Hall. A social time will be held until 6:30 when dinner will be served. Afterwards we will hear information how our endowment has been vital for our church's ministries. The Albright Society is open to any people who have remembered our church in their wills and/or made a contribution to our endowment. Please call the church office at 412-531-7131 by October 24 if you wish to attend.

Kerygma Adult Sunday School October Schedule— All Welcome!

Oct 16	Bible Lesson Part II	Pastor Tom
Oct 23	Book of John	Clark Remington
Oct 30	Book of John Part II	Clark Remington

Class meets at 9:30 in the Kerygma room off the balcony. Questions? Contact Deanna Baird (fraubaird@aol.com) or Martha Clarke (mwc@cs.cmu.edu).

CORR Anti-Racism Summit

Towards an Anti-Racist Church: The Intersection of Faith and Race

Western PA Conference Commission on Religion and Race (CORR) is holding an anti-racism summit October 20-22. This is a hybrid event, so participants may attend virtually or in person. The summit will be a 3-day learning journey focused on equipping individuals who are currently involved in anti-racism work with the tools needed to transition into more active advocacy. To read more about the summit and to register, please go to the Conference website: [CORR Antiracism Summit](#)

MLUMC Staff

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Nancy R. Lutz, Director of Handbells
Joanne Dempe, Financial Secretary
Kirk Lowe, Multimedia/Sound
Natalie Miller, Multimedia/ The Gathering

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16 THRU SATURDAY OCTOBER 22

SUNDAY 10/16

8:30 am	Worship	Sanner Chapel
9:30 am	The Gathering	Asbury Center
9:30 am	Sunday School for All Ages	Various
10:45 am	Worship	Sanctuary
	Kids Praise	Welcome Center
6:00 pm	Youth Group	Various
6:30 pm	BSA Eagle Board of Reviews	Various
7:00 pm	Fall Festival Movie Night	Welcome Center

MONDAY 10/17

7:00 pm	Chapel Bells	Handbell Room
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TUESDAY 10/18

6:00 pm	Terrific Tuesday	Asbury Center
7 pm	Boy Scout Troop #23	Wesley Hall
7 pm	Boy Scout Troop #9023	Network

WEDNESDAY 10/19

7 pm	Trustees Meeting	Welcome Center
7 pm	Classic Book Discussion – <i>Grapes of Wrath</i>	ZOOM
7 pm	Cub Scout Meetings	Various

THURSDAY 10/20

1:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	ZOOM
6:30 pm	Promise Bells	Handbell Room
7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room