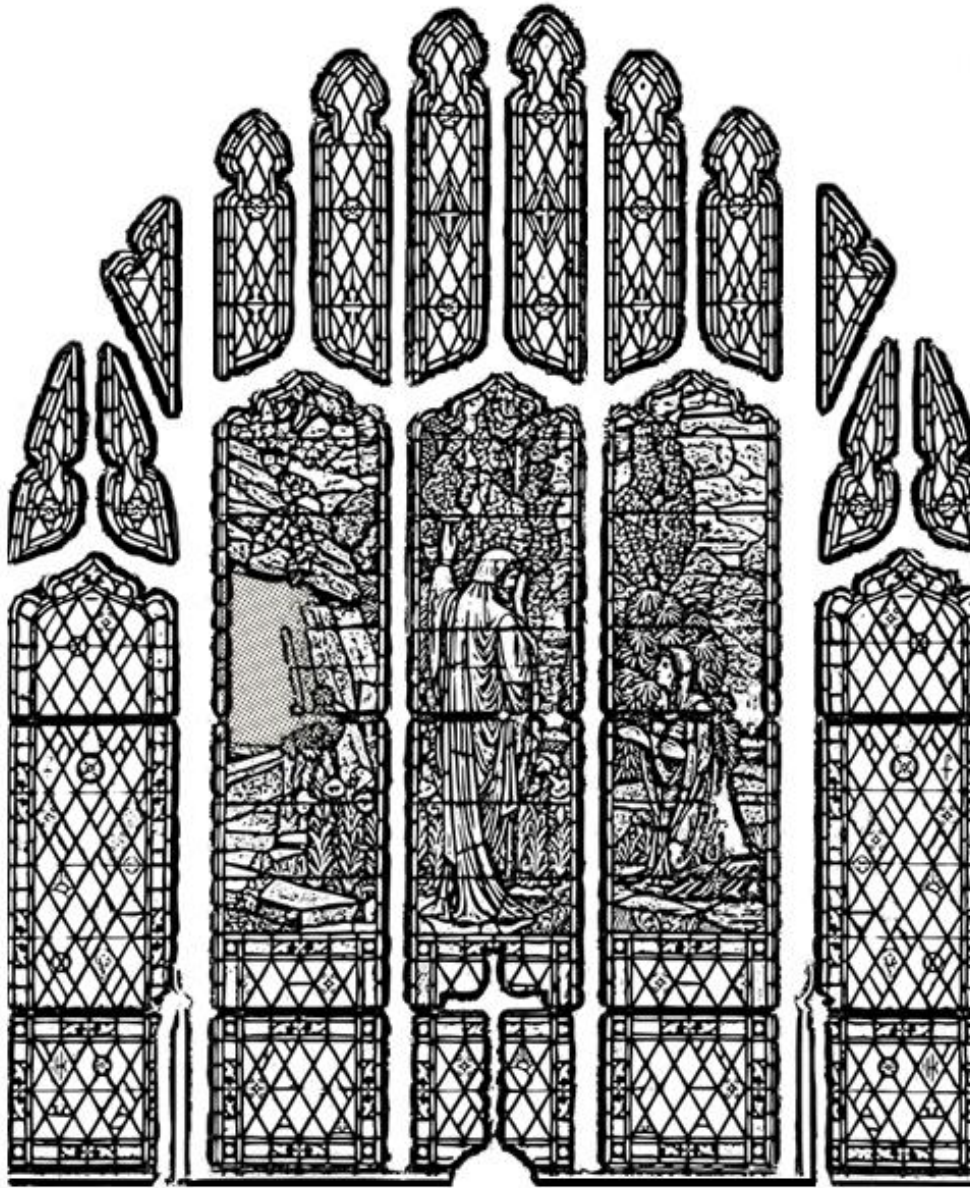


MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday, July 28, 2024, 8:30AM & 10:45AM

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

3319 WEST LIBERTY AVENUE ... PITTSBURGH, PA 15216 ... 412-531-7131

THE REV'D THOMAS Q. STRANDBURG, PASTOR ... tstrandburg@mlumc.org



Sunday, July 28, 2024 – The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

We're all familiar with the feeding of the 5,000, five loaves and two fish. But there's more to the story. When the disciples are terrified on a stormy sea, Jesus offers them the miracles of provision and peace by telling them that he is everything they'll ever need.

**Indicates an invitation to stand in spirit or posture, as able.*

The Prelude

*The Greeting

∇. The Lord be with you.

℞. And also with you.

*Call to Worship

∇. The earth shakes and the water quivers.

℞. **The wind whistles and the sun listens.**

∇. The beauty of creation mingles with the power of creation.

℞. **Awed in wonder and trembling with fear, we seek a safe place,**

∇. A place to voice our awe in song,

℞. **And welcome God's love that conquers our fear.**

*Opening Hymn

"Sing praise to God who reigns above"

UMH 126

*Opening Prayer

Said by all, with one voice.

Holy God, joy of the universe, it is your awesome love that brings us here.

You awaken within us a loving response, which hungers and thirsts for your truth and beauty. As we worship you, please do not give us the blessings we want but the ones we most need.

Satisfy us with the truth that we may need, though such truth might be most uncomfortable, and confront us with your holy beauty, that brings us healing.

Through Christ Jesus your joyful Son.

Amen!

*Silent Prayer

*Response

"Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me"

UMH 393

A Message for Young Disciples (10:45 am)

As the young disciples gather at the front of the church, all sing:

**This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's word, bread and cup, prayer and song: This is where children belong.**

The young disciples (3 yr. - 3rd grade) then depart the sanctuary for Kids Praise.

Teachers will lead them back to the sanctuary prior to the conclusion of the service.

The First Lesson

A Reading from the Epistle to the Ephesians

EPH. 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn**

"Sweet hour of prayer"

UMH 496

***The Second Lesson**

A Reading from the Gospel according to John

JOHN 6:1-21

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a

boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down."

Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. 20 But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

Lector: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Said by all, with one voice.

**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, the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

The Sermon

"Thallassophobia"

Rev. Strandburg

***The Affirmation of Faith**

UMH 882

All are invited to stand, in spirit or in posture, and to face the altar as the affirmation of faith is recited.

Pastor: Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

**All: 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 Sign of Peace**

℣. The peace of Christ be with you.

℟. And also with you.

*The people are now invited to share signs of peace with their fellow members of Christ's body.
Extended conversation would ideally and most appropriately be reserved until the end of the service.*

Announcements

At the Offertory

The Offertory Hymn

"Rescue the perishing"

UMH 591

***The Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

UMH 94

***The Sending Hymn**

"Give to the winds thy fears"

UMH 129

***The Dismissal**

☩. Let us bless the Lord.

℞. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Benediction**

The Postlude

The people remain in place until the altar party has retired.

Please remember in prayer:

Convalescing in care facilities

Priscilla Utzig, Providence Point
Carol Fairgrieve, Providence Point
Jo Newman, Friendship Village

Convalescing at home

Bishop George Bashore
Jean Boyer
Carol Van Sickle
Don Langston
Susan Lichtenfels
Dawn Lonsinger

Serving in the military

Jason Boyer
SPC Natalie Brown
PFC William Dilla III
Maj. Zachary Allen Finch
1Lt. Shaun Hay
LCpl. Wyatt Hoover
James Iantelli
1Lt. Jaskiewicz
Sgt. Keith Kimmell
Sgt. Brendan Lamport
Sgt. Matthew McConahan
Thomas Orda
David Poncel
Sgt. Steven Reitz
LTC Scott B. Rushe
Pvt. Max Siegert
Pastor Rick Townes
Maj. Azizi Wesmiller
LTC Matthew Wesmiller
Sgt. Keith Scott Winkowski
Sgt. Michael Zimmerman

Leaders in Worship this Morning

JOETA D'ESTE (8:30AM) AND MARCY PICARDI (10:45AM), LECTORS

MR. A. MITCHELL V. STECKER, MINISTER OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

THE REV'D THOMAS Q. STRANDBURG, SENIOR PASTOR

*The flowers on the altar given by
Erma Henry
in honor of her brother,
John F. Kleylein,
a U.S. Air Force veteran.*

*For information about furnishing altar flowers for future services,
contact Lizzie Diller at 412-860-3614. The cost is \$45 per arrangement.*

Musicians Wanted

If you or a member of your household plays one of the following instruments:

Flute

Tenor Saxophone

Bassoon

Clarinet

French Horn

Trombone

Trumpet

Baritone (Treble or Bass Clef)

Tuba

then

We Want You!

to play in a new church ensemble for our outdoor unity service on

August 11

We will be playing music that is accessible to instrumentalists of all skill levels, and musicians of all ages are enthusiastically invited to take part.

Questions? Interested in Taking Part?

Contact Mr. Stecker for music and rehearsal times (TBD):

MStecker@mlumc.org