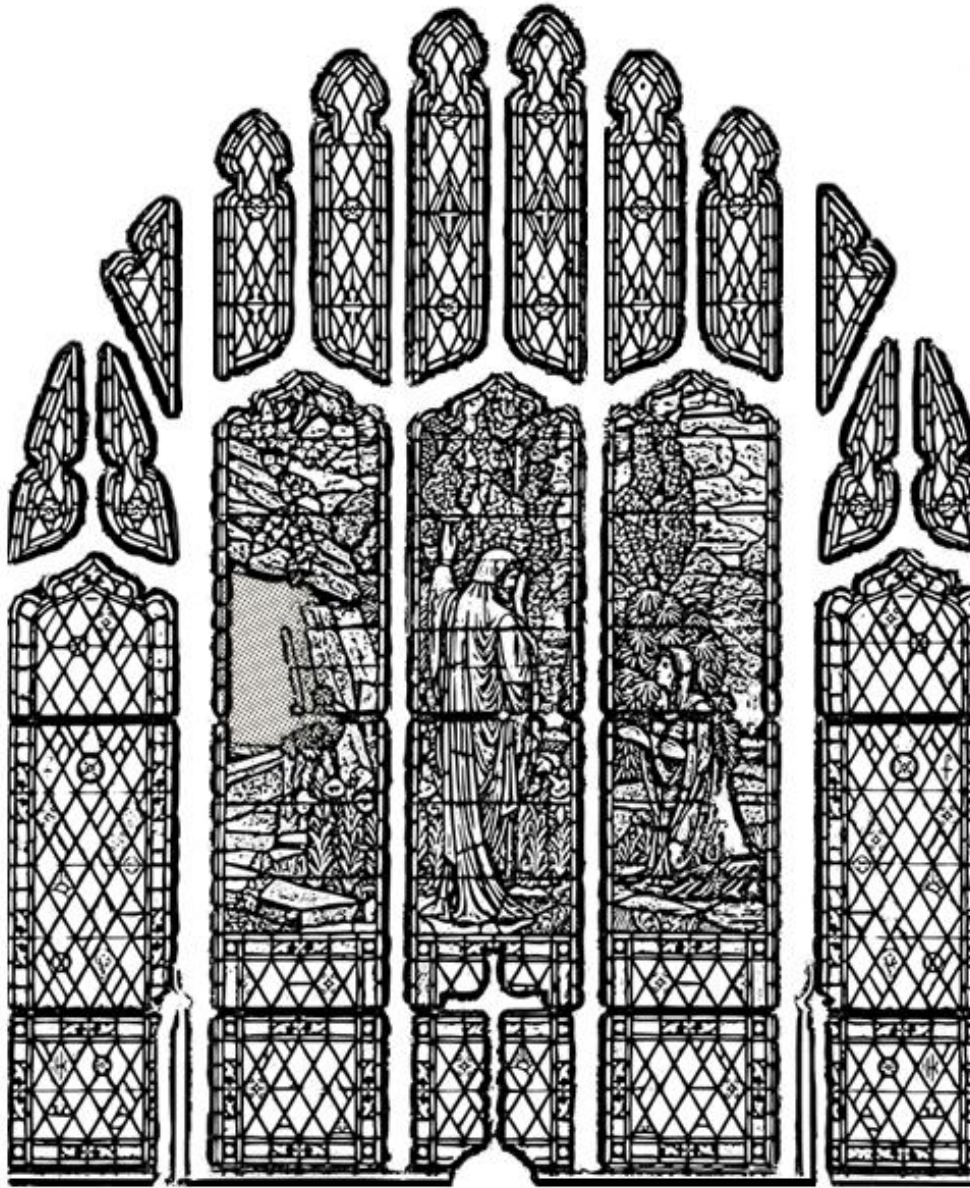


MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday, August 2, 2026, 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, August 2, 2026 – The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus knew his crowd, based on their past. He was concerned about their present and concerned about their future. He was being himself, the one who was and is and is to come, and then later he made the big announcement, "I am the bread of life." "I am what you crave."

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

The Prelude *"I Will Sing of My Redeemer"* McGranahan, arr. Berry

***Opening Hymn** **"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"** **UMH 154**

*** The Greeting & Call to Worship**

✠ The Lord be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

✠ We put our trust in Jesus Christ who said, "I am the bread of life."

✠ **We are fed by the body of Christ and by the Word of God which is our food.**

✠ We are nourished and sustained by God's life-giving spirit.

✠ **We receive Christ's promise to fill our hunger and quench our thirst.**

✠ Christ gives life to the world through his broken body and spilled blood.

✠ **We come to Christ's table to receive his gifts with joy. Christ is our living bread! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

***Opening Prayer**

Said by all, with one voice.

**Awesome and majestic God,
your creative power, your glory and holiness
were experienced by your people of old
as clouds and fire guiding them to freedom.
They believed that no one could see your face and live.
How blessed, therefore, are we,
for you have revealed your face to us in Jesus—
the human face of your love.
You also equip us for our journey through life and beyond,
by breathing new and everlasting life into our very beings,**

through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

These people of old believed that it was your presence with them which made them a chosen and special people.

We praise and adore you, O God, for making our lives so special, by choosing to share your life with us in and through Jesus.

May this time of worship and the service of our lives reveal our thanksgiving and our wonder that you should so care for us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Silent Prayer**

***Response**

"Because Thou Hast Said"

UMH 635

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 (school-age children) then depart the sanctuary for Kids Praise. Teachers will lead them back to the sanctuary prior to the conclusion of the service. Nursery is available for younger children; please see an usher for directions.

The First Lesson

A Reading from Genesis

GENESIS 32:22-31

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place

Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn**

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

UMH 618

The Second Lesson

A Reading from Matthew

MATTHEW 14:13-21

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

“Jesus Bread”

Pastor Strandburg

***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

“Amazing Grace”

Arr. Dengler

***The Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

UMH 94

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

℣. 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 will continue in prayer, after which the Bread and the Cup will be offered to the congregation.

Prayer following Communion (in unison)

**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.

***The Sending Hymn**

"This Is the Feast of Victory"

UMH 638

***The Dismissal**

℣. Let us bless the Lord.

℟. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Benediction & Recessional**

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

The Postlude

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Bradbury, arr. Keveren

Prayer Concerns

The Family of Kathleen W. Michael, *whose life was celebrated in our sanctuary on July 31st*

The Family of Clark H. Remington, *whose life was celebrated in our church on August 1st*

The people of Venezuela, *recovering after the recent earthquake.*

Gayle Radnich, *who received a recent diagnosis of a health condition.*

Gary Henry, *undergoing cancer treatment.*

Norma Buhrman, *enduring serious illness.*

For those serving their country or community as first responders or in the armed forces, especially:

SPC **Russell Dale** - CPT **Shaun Hay** - LTC **Azizi Wesmiller** - LTC **Matthew Wesmiller**

2LT **Keith Cable** - LTC **Zachary Allen Finch** - CPL **Wyatt Hoover**

We pray for victims of violence in our nation and around the world.

This week, we remember and pray for Christ's body throughout the world, especially remembering this week the church in

Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Rwanda. *(Prayer Cycle of the World Council of Churches).*

Leaders in Worship this Morning

LIZ DIPINETRO (8:30AM) AND STACEY ROSLECK (10:45AM), LECTORS

MS. NANCY MCGILL, WORSHIP ACCOMPANIST

PASTOR THOMAS STRANDBURG, PREACHER

The altar flowers this morning given by
Bette Lou, Dave, Tim and Beth
to the Glory of God and in loving memory of,
Ed Reichard,
in honor of his birthday on August 3rd.

*To provide flowers for a future service of worship,
please call the church office at 412-531-7131,
or use the form linked through the QR code below.*

