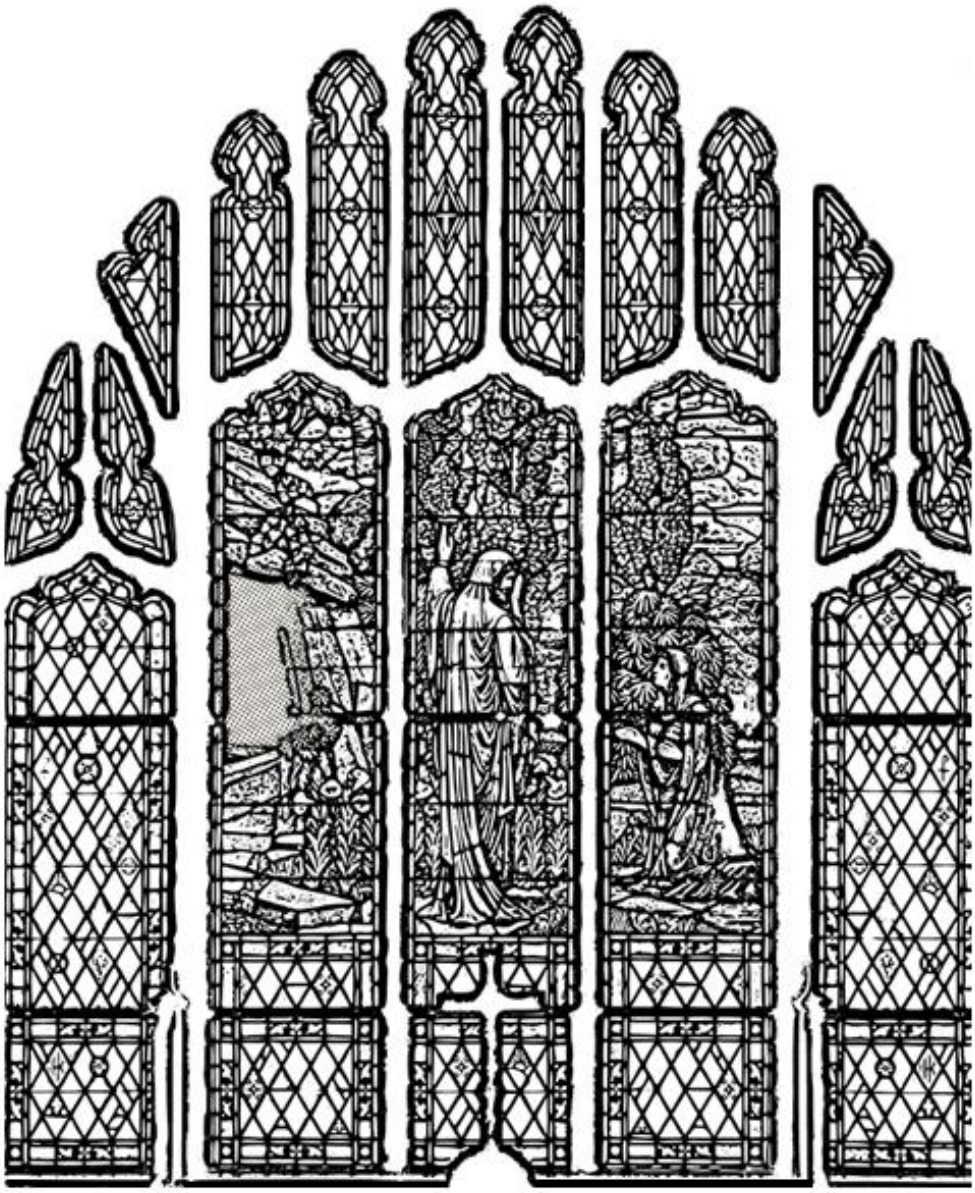
Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church



Sunday, November 1, 2026, 8:30AM & 10:45AM

All Saints Day

3319 West Liberty Avenue ··· Pittsburgh, PA 15216 ··· 412-531-7131

The Rev'd Thomas Q. Strandburg, Pastor ··· *tstrandburg@mlumc.org*

Sunday, November 1, 2026 – All Saints Day

Our challenge is to cooperate with God and with each other. The challenge for churches is to be solid in their preaching and teaching, yet willing to collaborate with people of different faiths—or no faith—to serve a world in need. As we move forward in faith, God's call is to love boldly!

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

The Prelude 10:45am *O Welt, ich muss dich lassen* (Op. 122, no. 3) Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
("O world, I must now leave thee")

We welcome Mr. Franklin Mosley to MLUMC as he substitutes at the 8:30am service this week while Mr. Stecker is out of town.

The Introit (10:45) *Eternal Light, Shine in my Heart* Music: Scheidt/Calvisius, last v. descant AMV Stecker; text: Christopher Idle

Eternal light, shine in my heart; eternal hope, lift up my eyes;
eternal power, be my support; eternal wisdom, make me wise.
Eternal life, raise me from death; eternal brightness, help me see;
eternal Spirit, give me breath; eternal Savior, come to me:
until by your most costly grace, invited by your holy word,
at last I come before your face to know you, my eternal God.

***Opening Hymn "Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above" UMH 709**

***The Greeting & Call to Worship**

℣ The Lord be with you.

℟ **And also with you.**

℣ Jesus did not come to establish denominations.

℟ **He came to bring salvation to all who call upon his holy name.**

℣ Let us cast aside all that which is petty and irrelevant.

℟ **Let us put away childish things that only serve to bring division and duress.**

℣ The Lord calls us as one. God sees us as one.

℟ **We are the church together!**

***Opening Prayer**

Said by all, with one voice.

O Lord, our Savior,
you have warned us that you will require much of those to whom much is given;
grant that we, whose lot is cast in so goodly a heritage, may strive together more abundantly to extend to others what we so richly enjoy;
and as we have entered into the labors of others, so to labor that others may enter into ours, to the fulfillment of your holy will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord: Amen.

St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

***Silent Prayer**

***Response** **"I sing a song of the saints of God"** **UMH 712**

LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY

℣ Ever living God, this day revives in us memories of loved ones who are with us no more. What happiness we shared when they walked among us; what joy when, loving and being loved, we lived our lives together.

℟ **Their memory is a blessing forever.**

℣ We see them now with the eye of memory, their faults forgiven, their virtues grown larger. So does goodness live, and weakness fade from sight. We remember them with gratitude and bless their names.

℟ **Their memory is a blessing forever.**

℣ We give you thanks that they now live and reign with you. As a great cloud of witness, they surround us with their blessings and offer you hymns of praise and thanksgiving.

℟ **They are alive forever more. Amen.**

MARJORIE E. EHNI
BLANCHE FERN FRANK
MARY E. GARBER
NANCY L. GULLBORG
DONALD S. LANGSTON
KATHLEEN WILMOTH MICHAEL
BETTE LOU REICHARD
CLARK H. REMINGTON
MARIANNE MCDONALD SIERSDORFER
JOSH STAAB
QUAY STRANDBURG
JOHN S. WHITE

***Response** **Hymn of Promise** **UMH 707**

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 the Epistle to the Thessalonians**
1 THESS. 2:9-13

You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

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

***Hymn** **"O what their joy and their glory must be"** **UMH 727**

***The Second Lesson** **A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew**
MT. 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show

deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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 "Forward in Faith: Love Boldly" Rev. Strandburg

***The Sign of Peace**

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

Announcements

At the Offertory

The Offertory Hymn (8:30 am) **"Marching to Zion"** **UMH 733**

The Anthem (10:45 am) *Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower* A.M.V. Stecker

Composed in memory of Mary Garber (1939-2026)

World Premiere Performance

Thee will I love, my strength, my tower; Thee will I love, my hope, my joy.
Thee will I love with all my power, With ardor time shall ne'er destroy.
Thee will I love, O Light Divine, So long as life is mine.

Thee will I love, my life, my Savior, who art my best and truest friend.
Thee will I love and praise forever, for never shall Thy kindness end.
Thee will I love with all my heart--Thou my Redeemer art!

Thee will I love, my crown of gladness; Thee will I love, my God and Lord,
Amid the darkest depths of sadness, and not for hope of high reward:
For Thine own sake, O Light divine, so long as life is mine.

***The Doxology & Prayer of Dedication** **UMH 94**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

***The Great Thanksgiving**

This morning's communion setting is found at UMH Setting C, UMH 20

℣ 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 continues in prayer, and concludes with the following words:

…we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory: Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest!

… as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.

The pastor continues in prayer, and concludes with the following words:

… all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Amen!

Giving of the Bread & Cup

Hymn during Communion "O come and dwell in me" UMH 388

Prayer following Communion

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
You have graciously accepted us as living members
of your son our savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage to love and serve You
with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***The Sending Hymn "For all the saints" UMH 711**

***The Dismissal**

℣. Let us bless the Lord.
℟. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Benediction & Recessional**

The Postlude 10:45am *Sortie-Improvisation*

Prayer Concerns

Erma Henry, *recovering from a recent stroke in a rehabilitation facility.*

Donna Strandburg, *sister-in-law to Pastor Tom, recovering from lung transplant surgery at Cleveland Clinic.*

Jim Lutz, *recovering from recent surgery.*

Mark Cerneskie, *recovering from illness.*

Joyce Campbell, *sister of Nancy Marshall, struggling with ongoing health issues.*

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**

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 **Canada** *and* **the United States of America.** *(Prayer Cycle of the World Council of Churches).*

Leaders in Worship this Morning

Asher Ward and Silas Ward, Acolytes

Glen Connell. Cross Bearer

Rob Spicher (8:30am) and Derick Florian (10:45am), Lectors

Mr. Franklin Mosley (8:30am), Substitute Musician

The Choir of the Mt. Lebanon United Methodist Church

Mrs. Sarah Boice Stecker, Substitute Director

The Rev'd Thomas Q. Strandburg, Senior Pastor

The altar flowers this morning given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of all who are now at peace with our Lord.

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.