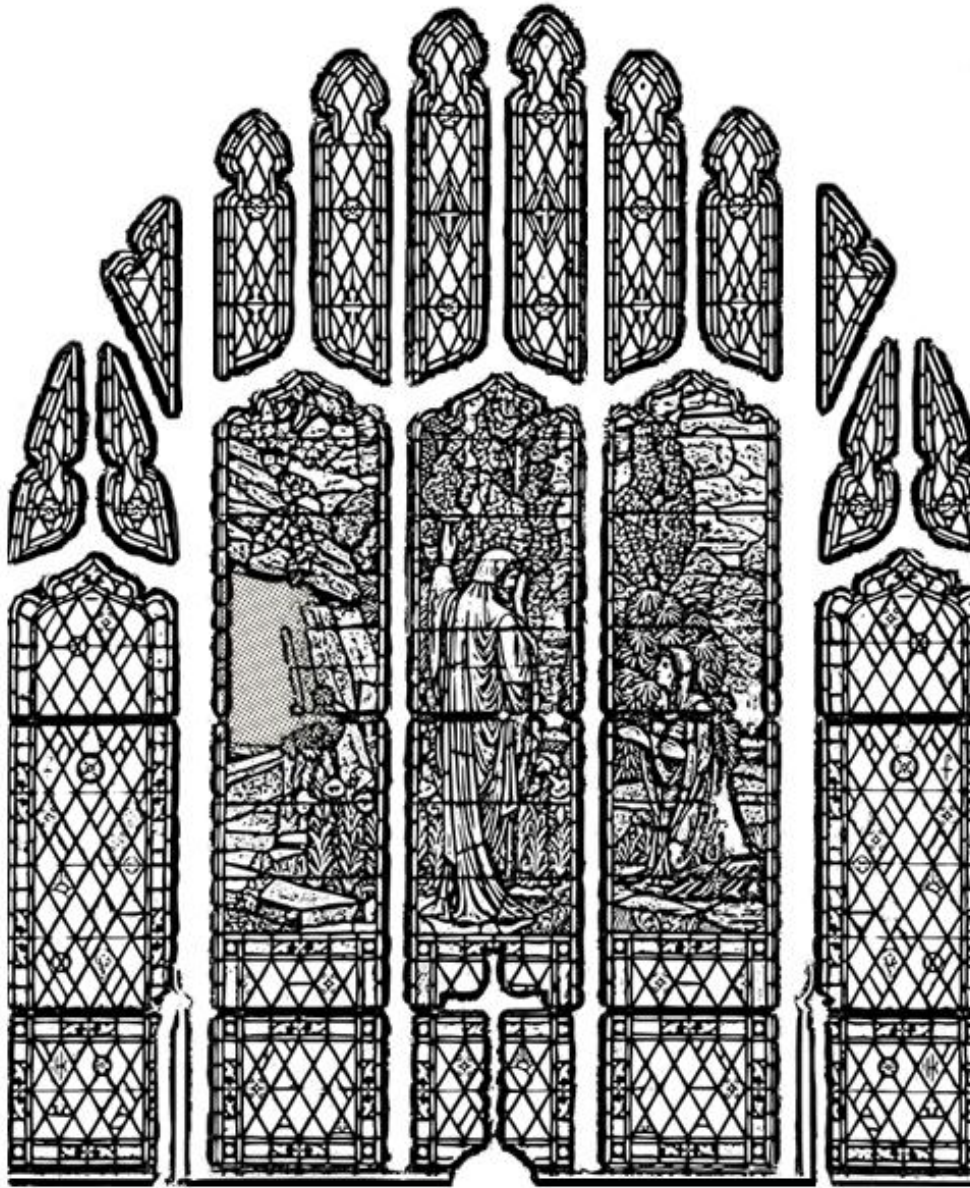


MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday, November 16, 2025, 8:30AM & 10:45AM

The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

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

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



Sunday, November 16, 2025 – The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

The theme for this year's thanksgiving and stewardship emphasis is "A New Vision, A Fresh Hope" It is inspired by the new vision statement that was released by our bishops last spring: The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections. This morning we focus on the third step - lead courageously.

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

The Prelude

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Gaël Liardon (1973-2018)

I. Fuguettes; II. Dans le Style de l'Orgelbüchlein; III. Contrechant

As the prelude begins, all are humbly asked to conclude any conversation and make use of this moment of quietude to prepare your hearts and minds for the worship of Almighty God.

The Introit (10:45)

Introit for the 22nd Sunday after Trinity

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

ANTIPHON: If thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities: O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with thee: that thou mayest be feared, O God of Israel.

PSALM VERSE: Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord. O Lord, hear my voice.
Glory be...

All rise, in body or spirit, at the sound of the chimes.

*Opening Hymn

"Jesus, lover of my soul"

UMH 479

* The Greeting & Call to Worship

after Ps. 145

✠ The Lord be with you.

✠ And also with you.

✠ Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! One generation shall extol your works to another,

✠ We shall declare your mighty acts.

✠ They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty,

✠ On your wondrous works we will meditate.

✠ They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds,

✠ We will declare your greatness.

✠ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,

✠ We shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

*Opening Prayer

Said by all, with one voice.

O Lord God, we gather in your presence with open hearts and humble spirits,
seeking your wisdom to guide our steps and your light to illuminate our path.
Lead us not only in the grand decisions

but in the quiet moments of discernment.

Let Your voice echo in our conscience, stirring courage where there is fear,
and clarity where there is confusion.

Inspire within us a leadership that reflects Your grace—

A leadership that listens before it speaks, serves before it commands,
and loves before it judges.

May we be vessels of your purpose, stewards of your truth, and bearers of your peace.

Empower us to lead with integrity, humility, and boldness,
so that in all we do, your name is glorified. Amen.

*Silent Prayer

*Response

“Lord, be glorified”

TWFS 2150

Inserted below

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor 1, Tenor 2) in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, each corresponding to a voice part. The lyrics are: '1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.', '2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.', '3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.', and '4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.' The second system contains four lines of lyrics: 'In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.', 'In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.', 'In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.', and 'In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.' The music features a mix of whole, half, and quarter notes, with some rests and ties. The bass line is played on a grand staff with a bass clef and a key signature of two sharps.

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.
2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.
3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.
4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied; be glo-ri - fied.

In my life, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.
In our song, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.
In your church, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.
In your world, Lord, be glo-ri - fied to - day.

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.

The First Lesson

A Reading from the book of Joshua

JOSH. 1:1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant, saying,

"My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall lead this people to possess the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go.

"This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*Hymn

"We, thy people, praise thee"

UMH 67

***The Second Lesson**

A Reading from the Epistle to the Ephesians

EPH. 6:10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power; put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for our struggle is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and, having prevailed against everything, to stand firm.

Stand, therefore, and belt your waist with truth and put on the breastplate of righteousness and lace up your sandals in preparation for the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

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

"A New Vision: Lead Courageously"

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 & "Mission and Outreach Moment"

At the Offertory

The Offertory Hymn (8:30 am)	"Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go"	UMH 438
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The Anthem (10:45 am)	<i>Somebody's knocking at your door</i>	Trad. Spiritual, arr. Raymond Wise
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***The Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

UMH 94

***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

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT:
IV. Cantus à la Basse; V. Pédale Solo

G. Liardon

Prayer Concerns

*The family and loved ones of **Betty Brown**, whose memorial service was held here yesterday.*

Clark Remington, *struggling with illness.*

The Rev'd **Deborah Ackley-Killian**, *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**

*This week, we remember and pray for Christ's body throughout the world, especially remembering this week the church in **Aotearoa/New Zealand** and **Australia**. (Prayer Cycle of the World Council of Churches).*

Please remember the special concerns of those in our community and throughout our world in your personal prayer life throughout the week. If you wish to solicit prayers from the congregation for any matter (health, travel, special concerns, etc.), please contact the church office to have your concern added to the prayer list.

Leaders in Worship this Morning

KALEB KNABB AND JJ KNABB, ACOLYTES

TREY KNABB, CROSS BEARER

KATHY TREMBLAY (8:30AM) AND STACEY ROSLECK (10:45AM), LECTORS

THE CHOIR OF THE MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MR. BRENTON RAHMAN, CHORAL SCHOLAR

MR. KIRBY DILWORTH, TENOR

MR. A. MITCHELL V. STECKER, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & LITURGY

THE REV'D THOMAS Q. STRANDBURG, SENIOR PASTOR

*The altar flowers this morning given by
John and Laurel (Summit) Walczyk
in honor of the 40th anniversary of their wedding,
which is celebrated today.*

*The flowers in Sanner Chapel this morning given by
the family of Betty Brown,
who had recently celebrated her 100th birthday,
and whose memorial service was held in our church yesterday.*

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