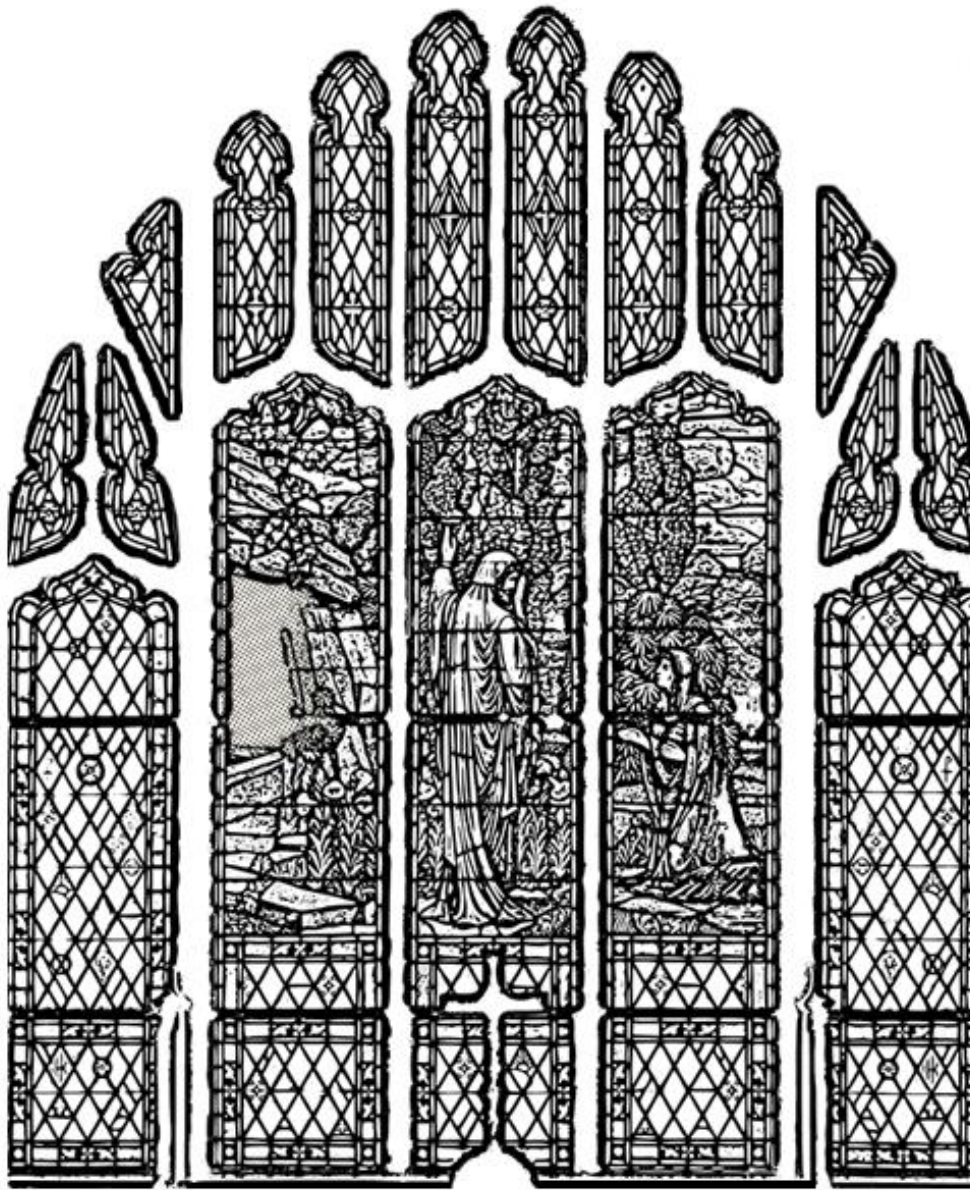


MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday, November 2, 2025, 8:30AM & 10:45AM

All Saints Sunday

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

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



Sunday, November 2, 2025 – All Saints Sunday

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 first step - love boldly.

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

The Prelude

Prelude and Fugue on "Nun Danket alle Gott"

Percy Fletcher (1879-1932)

The Introit (10:45)

Burial Sentences

William Croft (1678-1727)

I am the Resurrection and the Life, saith the Lord:

He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth.

And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:

Whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we shall carry nothing out.

The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

As the chimes sound following the introit, all rise, in either body or spirit, for the procession.

*Opening Hymn

"On Jordan's stormy banks I stand" (vv.1-3)

UMH 724

*The Greeting & Call to Worship

Beth Merrill Neel

✠ The Lord be with you.

✠ **And also with you.**

✠ Children of God: welcome!

✠ **Welcome to this place of love and grace,**

✠ Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

✠ **God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community,**

✠ God invites all of us to share in the good news:

✠ **We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.**

✠ In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

***Opening Prayer**

Said by all, with one voice.

**God, we give you thanks for our community of Christian believers,
and we praise you for opportunities to join in mission and ministry
with United Methodists and our partners around the world.**

**Help us to use our hands to serve those on the margins,
our hearts to show love to all people,
and our words to shine your light into the darkness. Amen.**

***Silent Prayer**

***Response**

"On Jordan's stormy banks I stand" (v.4)

UMH 724

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.**

WARD BARNES

BP. GEORGE BASHORE

WALTER BLOOM

BETTY BROWN

CLEON CORNES

JOSEPH FESTOR

EARL KOHNFELDER

JOHN MIDDLETON

JOSEPHINE NEWMAN

FRED SIERSDORFER

CHARLOTTE SONNE

MICHAEL STAAB

STEVEN STOCKTON

PRISCILLA UTZIG

SUSAN ZIRPOLI

***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 (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 First Letter of John

1 JN. 4:11-18

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn**

"Come down, O Love Divine"

UMH 475

***The Second Lesson**

A Reading from the Gospel according to Matthew

MT. 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, 35 and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

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: 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) "When we all get to heaven" UMH 701

The Anthem (10:45 am) "Ubi caritas" from *Four Motets* Maurice Durufle (1902-1968)

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

*Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be glad in this.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart.*

*The Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

UMH 94

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*The Great Thanksgiving *This morning's communion setting, Setting B, is found at UMH 18*

℣ 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:

Sung call and response style:

**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

Communion Anthem (10:45)

O Taste and See

Ralph Vaughn Williams

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is, blessed is the one that trusteth in God. (Ps.34:8)

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

Prayer following Communion

**Lord of heaven,
in this holy meal you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels
and to the spirits of the saints made perfect:
as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship,
so may we come to share their joy in heaven;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

According to the use of the Church of England

***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

March in C

Charles W. Cadman (1881-1946)

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

Prayer Concerns

The saints of God in our lives, in thanksgiving to God for the examples they have left for us, and that God might comfort those who mourn.

For **Our Nation and its leaders**, as our country holds elections this week.

The family and loved ones of the late **Cleon Cornes**, and especially Vera Jane, his widow.

The citizens of **Jamaica**, recovering from the effects of Hurricane Melissa.

George Gittens, recovering from a recent stroke.

Jean Crosby, in St. Clair Hospital.

Pat Macey, who is under hospice care and desires prayers that her pain may be minimal.

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 **Canada** and **The United States**. *(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

SILAS WARD AND ASHER WARD, ACOLYTES

COURTNEY SCHMIDT, CROSS BEARER

MR. STECKER (8:30AM) AND LIZZIE DILLER (10:45AM), LECTORS

THE CHOIR OF THE MT. LEBANON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MS. TIMOTHY WILLIAMS, STAFF MEZZO-SOPRANO

MR. KIRBY DILWORTH, STAFF TENOR

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

THE REV'D THOMAS Q. STRANDBURG, SENIOR PASTOR

*The altar flowers this morning given by
Pete, Beth, and Trevor Santore
in loving memory of beloved members of the
McKendry & Santore Families.*

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