



Mt Lebanon Evangelical Presbyterian Church

255 Washington Rd. • Pittsburgh PA 15216 • 412.531.3387 • mlepc.org

Making and Growing Followers of Jesus

September 6, 2026

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)

Dear Church Family and Friends,

This Sunday I hope you will join us as we conclude our summer sermon series, *Stories in Stained Glass*, exploring the last two windows, ‘Fortitude’ and ‘Peace’.

‘Fortitude’ is an old-fashioned word that means having the courage and perseverance to remain steadfast in faith when life is difficult. It does not mean that we never feel afraid, worried, or uncertain, but for a Christian, Fortitude comes from trusting that God is always with us and we do not face the dark valleys of life alone.

When Joshua stood on the edge of the Promised Land facing an overwhelming and frightening task, God told him, *‘Be strong and courageous.’* God also gave him the reason why he could be courageous, *‘The LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.’* (Joshua 1:9)

The Apostle Paul lived trusting in this same promise from God. Even while he was a prisoner, Paul had *‘the peace of God, which transcends all understanding,’* and knew with confidence, *‘I can do all things through him who gives me strength.’* (Philippians 4:13)

‘Fortitude’ is trusting that *‘I can face what lies ahead because God is with me.’* And ‘Peace’ is having the certainty that *‘I do not need to be afraid of what lies ahead because God is with me.’*

I wonder if there is something in your life right now that requires a little more courage, perseverance, or peace. This Sunday we will be reminded that as we journey through this world, God will give us the courage to face what comes, the strength to endure it, and the peace to trust Him through it. I look forward to worshiping with you this Sunday!

In the name of the One who gives us Fortitude and Peace,

Pastor Cinda

