

ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
17th Sunday after Pentecost September 11, 2016

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
10:15 A.M.

PRELUDE “Morning Prelude” Lau/Martin

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTERING

We will light a candle in memory of those who were lost in New York, Arlington, VA, and Shanksville, PA, on September 11, 2001, and in memory of all who have been victims of acts of terror and hatred since then. As the candle is being lit, please take time to quietly prepare your thoughts for worship.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The Lord looks down from heaven and sees all of us humans.

People: The Lord watches over those who obey him, those who trust in his constant love.

Leader: All you that are righteous shout for joy for what the Lord has done;

People: Praise him, all you that obey him.

Leader: Worship the Lord, all the earth! Honor him, all peoples of the world!

People: Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord; happy are the people he has chosen for his own!

All: May your constant love be with us, Lord, as we put our hope in you.

***HYMN** “This is My Song” #437, UMH

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus said, “Do not be afraid,” but we live in a fearful time and it is difficult to trust in God. Forgive us God, when fear controls us, dictating our thoughts and actions toward others. Help us to trust in the power of your love. May the rule of our lives be love, not fear.

Jesus said, “Love one another, as I have loved you,” but we live in a world filled with hatred and distrust of those who are different. Forgive us God, when we judge our neighbors, stereotype them, ignore them, or shut them out. Help us to love as you love: seeing the value of each human being, reaching out with healing words, and welcoming the stranger.

*RESPONSIVE READING	Psalm 37:1-11	#772, UMH
*GLORIA		#71, UMH
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH		#881, UMH

THE FIRST READING	Psalm 36:5-11	OT #573
THE EPISTLE LESSON	Ephesians 5:8-11a; 15-17	NT #245
*THE GOSPEL READING	Matthew 5:3-16	NT #5

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE	“A Shining City”	Dennis McCoy
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*HYMN	“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”	#521, UMH
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CONCERNS AND PRAYERS

During this time, you are invited to pray, either aloud or silently, for people or situations needing God’s care.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

“A LITANY FOR THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11”

We pray for all who died in the 9/11 tragedy, that they may have fellowship with your saints in a heavenly land of light and joy.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who grieve the death of family, friends, and fellow citizens. Remember them in your mercy, nourish them with patience, lift up the light of your countenance upon them and give them peace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit that they may be comforted, healed, and given courage and hope.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims AND the perpetrators of terror, war, and violence throughout the world.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who work for unity, peace, concord and the freedom of all people.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are haunted by memories of that day, for all who are hopeless and sad, all who are angry and vengeful, all who are fearful and faithless.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray that all may forsake revenge and torture and rather, seek reconciliation and peace.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray that we may never again demonize people of other religions, race, color or ethnicity.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the men and women who have given their strength, their wisdom and their lives for this country.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for firefighters, police officers, first responders and all those who were injured or gave their lives so that others might be rescued, cared for and protected.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We praise you and thank you for all the brave and courageous who were patient in suffering, faithful in adversity and selfless in sacrifice.

Lord, we thank you and praise your name.

We praise you for all who participate in interfaith dialogue and reconciliation.

Lord, we thank you and praise your name.

Finally, we praise you for all that is gracious in the lives of men and women everywhere, revealing the image of Christ.

Lord, we thank you and praise your name.

O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come unto you. In communion with all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another and all life everywhere to Christ our God, and with them, we praise your name. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

“I Believe”

Mark A. Miller

Soloists: Karen Gildea and Michelle Leddy

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Lord Most Holy, Lord Most Mighty” Roberts

***DOXOLOGY** #95, UMH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Giver of all good gifts, in these troubled times we thank you for your steadfast love, for our homes, families and friends, for all that sustains us in our daily lives, and for all that brings beauty and hope to our world. As we bring these offerings, we pray that you would guide us in their use. May our gifts, our words, our works, and our lives witness to your love and be instruments of your peace. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** “Let There Be Peace on Earth” #431, UMH

BENEDICTION

Following the blessing you may be seated as the candles are extinguished.

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

POSTLUDE “Rondo” Purcell

**Congregation stands as able*

Suggested Scripture Readings for Further Thought

Psalm 46	Romans 8:12-18	Matthew 28: 20
Isaiah 42:1-7	1 Peter 3:16-17	John 16:33
Philippians 2:14-16		1 Peter 4:12-19

“In this life we cannot always do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” - Mother Teresa

“As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.” - Nelson Mandela

WELCOME TO ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Our Vision is to be the church that displays the love of Christ and connects with people of all walks of life through our ministry, creative services, discipleship, and outreach.

“Our Mission is to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ and share God’s love with others.”

If you are visiting with us for the first time we thank you for worshipping with us and pray that this was a spiritually uplifting experience that will make a difference in the week to come.



In Memory of: Family Members
Given by: Rev. and Mrs. Harry Irwin III

WORSHIP SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Liturgist: Kermit Fitzgerald
Scripture Reader: Eileen McCoy
Prayers: Bill Gildea
Guest Organist: Fran Treisbach

LAST WEEK

ATTENDANCE WEEK: 35

Please remember to sign in each Sunday.

OFFERING WEEK:

Envelope (General)	\$3,885.00
Plate	19.00
Flowers	65.00
Miscellaneous	18.00
Ministries of Kindness	<u>132.00</u>
Total	\$1,420.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CENTRAL DISTRICT NOMINATIONS WORKSHOP

COMING SEPTEMBER 17: This workshop sponsored by our Central District will be led by Carlotta Madison and Tom Ebersole. This workshop is designed for pastors and lay members of the Nominations Committee, and will be held Saturday, September 17, 9:00 a.m. to noon, at Asbury UMC, 1441 Pine St., Norristown, PA 19401

CHURCH PICNIC: We will hold our annual church picnic on Sunday, September 18, immediately following the worship service. The church will provide hot dogs and hamburgers. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex where folks can sign up to bring an appetizer, salad or dessert. John Keenan has agreed to once again serve as our “grillmaster,” and Cynthia Oberholtzer has agreed to be our coordinator.

2016 CHARGE CONFERENCE: 2016 Charge Conference is **October 29, 2016; 1:00 P.M. at Haws Ave.** Forms are due in the office by October 10, 2016, to allow time for preparing them for transmission to Central District Office.

MINISTRY IN THE COMMUNITY

TABS for SHRINERS HOSPITALS for CHILDREN – Thank you for saving those tabs from cans: soda, soup, cat food, to name a few. Every tab you save counts and makes a difference.

SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK – **Tuna Fish** in water, **Boxed Cereals, Pancake Mix** (*that can be mixed with water*) & **Syrup**, are also items that are in short supply.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Carol Gajewski, Silver Stream Center, 905 Penllyn Pike, Spring House, PA 19477; **Ed Miller**, Golden Living Center, 25 W 5th ST, Lansdale PA 19446; **Henry Schlotterer**, Arden Courts, 620 W Valley Forge RD, King of Prussia, PA 19406; **Thelma Smee**, Cokesbury Village, Healthcare Center, 726 Loveville RD, Hockessin, DE 19707; **Bill Swier**, Regina Nursing Home, RM 211, 550 E Fornance ST, Norristown, PA 19401; Elizabeth(**Betty**) **Wright**, Gwynedd Square Nursing Home, 773 Sunnyside Pike, Lansdale PA 19446 B32B

PRAYERS FOR ENCOURAGEMENT & HEALING: Edith Barbone, Lois & Tom Benning, Brooks Family, Robin Blattner & the Blattner Family, Ben & Dolores Curll, Stephen, Matt & Will Deering, Scotti DeMartinis & Jenny & Family, William Eliasson, Jessie Emerson, David Frees, Sue & Anthony Fuschetto, Marian Giangliulo, Cecelia Hampton-Fitzgerald, Mary Ann Keating, Sandy Killian, Meaghen King, Roger Layne, Eileen Lenzi, Marilyn Lewis, Bill McCarron, Damon Oliver, Sherri Rinehart, Caroline Schwab, Gabe & Sherbi Seerattan, Hazel Shanaman, Mason Shapiro, Henry Solis, Linda Swier, Jim Thompson, Earl Walter, and Wayne Wylie, Sr.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE ARMED SERVICES: Daniel Fineran, (Marine) and Brett Santai, (Navy)



ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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