

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059
Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn
Andrea Cameron
June Bricker
Cynthia Smith
Sandy Pines

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT February 17, 2013 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

Marian G., Reba S., Sue C., Flo B., Ethel B., Virginia F., Goldie K., Jean M., Cassie S., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Ryan K., Jesse K., Susan M., Tammy W., Lura A., Pat and Joe F., Dan C., Betty K., Wilma P., Patty S., Destiny D., Margaret B., Lucy C., Martha S., Jim M., Audrey L., Joice W., Josh B., George and Lorraine H., Morgan T., and family of Pastor Maureen W.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who brings us safely through the sea,
who gives us water from the rock, who leads us into the land of milk and honey.*

C Amen

P Let us come home to God, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

P Merciful Father,

C we have sinned against heaven and before you. We do not fully live as your sons and daughters. We use your gifts to our own ends. Forgive us and restore us, that we may resist all that draws us away from you, and be at peace with one another. Amen

P We are reconciled to God through Christ; for his sake, God does not count our trespasses against us. Once dead in sin, we are now alive to God. Once lost, we now are found. God clothes you in the finest robe of all, the righteousness of + Jesus Christ, forgiving you all your sins and making of you a new creation.

C Amen

* SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Congregational sharing: **"Peace be with you."**

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN

"Jesus, Still Lead On"

* GREETING

P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (**C - spoken**)

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (**spoken in unison**)

P Let us pray...

C O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The First Reading is from the 26th chapter of Deuteronomy.

THE LESSON READS:

¹When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me." You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (responsively)

L *God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)*

¹You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

²you will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."

⁹Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰no evil will befall you, nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.

¹¹For God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

¹²Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and viper; you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴I will deliver those who cling to me; I will uphold them, because they know my name.

¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶With long life will I satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

ALL God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways.

SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13

The Second Reading is from the 10th chapter of Romans.

THE LESSON READS:

^{8b}"The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* LENTEN VERSE **(sung)**

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

* GOSPEL: Luke 4:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 4th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ²where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

⁵Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸Jesus answered him, "It is written,

'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ⁹Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' ¹¹and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ¹²Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

* APOSTLES' CREED (all)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He 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

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Returning to the Lord with all our heart, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

A brief silence.

P For those preparing for baptism, and for all who walk amid the Lenten desert, that you lead us to hunger for your word of life. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P For all the realms of the world, and for those in authority, that they may use their power with humility. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P For desert and wilderness terrains, and for those who make pilgrimages to holy places and sacred ground. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P For those tested by illness, temptation, addiction, or inner struggle (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Ryan Keresey, Jesse Kint, Susan Minick, Tammy Walton, Betty Karstetter, Lura Aughey, Wilma Pyles, Jo and Pat Forney, Dan Connor, Marian Gross, Patty Shearer, Destiny Devlin, Margaret Bryner, Lucy Cargill, Martha Stouffer, Dorothy Patterson, Jim McLaughlin [son of Steve and Christine McLaughlin], Audrey Landis, Joice Wilson, Josh Beitz, George and Lorraine Hazard, Morgan Treaster, and family of Pastor Maureen Wagner), that you enfold them in the holy wings of your presence. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P For this assembly, that what we confess with our lips we may show forth in our lives. Hear us, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We give thanks for all our holy ancestors who journeyed through the wilderness and now dwell in your promised land of rest. May we follow them in lives of faithful service. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

OFFERING
OFFERTORY

[Please pass the Friendship Pad down your pew for all to sign and then back to the center aisle so everyone has the opportunity to read the names. We request that our guests also give us their home address. Thank you].

ANTHEM

* SUNG OFFERTORY (sung)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

MEAL

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P With his Body and Blood, Jesus Christ delivers us from the power of darkness.

C and leads us into the Kingdom of God.

P Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death,

C even to death on a cross.

P He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities,

C and on him was the chastisement that made us whole.

P Here at his holy table he feeds us now with his Body and Blood.

C Glory to you, our Lord and Savior; with your Body and Blood you redeem the World.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C We praise you, O God.

P Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C We bless you, O God.

P We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C We thank you, O God.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C Amen

* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['trespasses'] **(all)**

C 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, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P All who thirst, all who hunger, come and be filled with the goodness of God.

(In hospitality and attempting to meet the needs of individuals, Messiah now offers gluten free communion hosts. If you wish to receive gluten free hosts, please come to the side where Pastor Esborn is serving).

DISTRIBUTION

["INTINCTION" – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

* COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P O God, in this holy meal you have embraced us and gathered us into your arms of compassion and protection. Release us now to go on our way in these forty days, ready to see our work as prayer, ready to fast from complacency, and ready to share with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

SENDING

* BLESSING

P God our Father bless you and shield you. Christ our Mother shelter you and carry you. God the Holy Spirit guide your journey + both now and forever.

C A-men, A-men, A-men (sung)

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God!

CLOSING CHIMES

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Sam Leister
NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines

WELCOME

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the purple portfolios placed on top of the sound control system. In addition, headsets are available in the narthex for our sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit not only in the Friendship Pads, but also in the guest book provided in the narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the pastor. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshipping with us. We invite you to return. Visitors are invited to commune with us if they are baptized and, if with us in our faith, they trust Jesus' promise of the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ.

WE INVITE EVERYONE (members and visitors) worshipping with us today to sign the Friendship Pads during the Organ Offertory. If you are a visitor, please be sure to include your address when signing. Please also place a check mark in the box (beside your name) if you are communing today and have not as yet given us a record of your participation in the sacrament during this quarter. (A new quarter begins in January, April, July, and October). The pads are found on the aisle seat of each pew in the nave, and in each section of the Adult Sunday School Room.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the weekly bulletin for one month. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for more than one month, please call the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of the 104th birthday of Ethel Bossinger by her family.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

DIAL-A-PRAYER (436-2100) IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS DAILY!

JUST A THOUGHT – D. L. Moody, Evangelist (1837 – 1899): The way to be saved is not to delay, but to come and take.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2013 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. If you are interested in serving, please contact the pastor or the church office.

LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLES by Augsburg Fortress are available in the church office for anyone who would like one. Cost is \$24.00 each.

THE AUDIT FOR 2012 will be completed by Monday, February 11, 2013. It will be emailed to those members having email. Copies will be available on Sunday, February 17. Voters Assembly will follow after the morning service on Sunday, February 24, 2013.

THE 2013 CAMPING BROCHURES and registration forms for Camp Mt. Luther are available in the church office or online at www.campmountluther.org (please note that if you register online, you still need to get a health form signed by a doctor). Any young people planning to attend one of the church camps this summer are asked to get their registrations in before April 1st for the early discount.

A CARD SHOWER is being held in honor of Ethel Bossinger's 104th birthday on February 23, 2013. For those who would like to send a card, her address is:

Locust Grove Retirement Village
69 Cottage Drive, Room 210
Mifflin, PA 17058

THE NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE for July, 2013 through June, 2014 will be completed by June 1st. We are currently in need of more people to serve on Altar Guild, as a few of our long-serving members have asked to have their names removed from the list. If you would like to serve, please either call the church or contact Bob St. Clair. All Altar Guild members will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve!

EASTER LILIES to decorate the church on Easter Sunday, may be placed in memory or in honor of someone or to the Glory of God. Cost will be \$10.00 for a plant with 4 to 7 blooms. You may call the church office at 436-6213 to place your order.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA continuously collect new bath-size bars of soap (4 oz. to 5 oz., preferably Ivory or unscented Dove) as an on-going project for Lutheran World Relief. Please place soap in the basket on the blue table in the Sunday School Room.

PERSONAL CARE KITS are the project for the Women of the ELCA for the beginning of 2013. Needed for the project are the following items:

- dark colored bath towels approximately (52 x 27),
- adult toothbrushes (can be large packages of more than 1)
- sturdy combs with wide teeth

Please donate as many items as you are able. You can share God's grace and love by providing simple comfort, starting with a bath! Soap is always needed too! (any brand in original wrapping).

COMMUNITY

MEALS-ON-WHEELS needs volunteer drivers, cooks and people to help assemble meals. If you have some spare time and can help, please call Dottie Heck at 436-6002 or 717-348-1950 (cell).

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY LENTEN TEA will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at St. Jude's Catholic Church. This year's study will be from the book "Give Up Something BAD for Lent." Fellowship time is 9:30 a.m. followed by the program at 10:00 a.m.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICE, sponsored by the Twin-Boro Ministerium, will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Pastor Gary Krabill will be preaching on the theme "By Faith: Noah."

MIFFLINTOWN MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST will be held on Saturday, February 23, 2013, 7:00 a.m. at JP Pancake House with Martha Carlson as the speaker.

THE STAFF OF HOSPICE: THE BRIDGE, Spring Volunteer Training Sessions will be held at the convenience of the participants at the Hospice office located at 305 Fourth Avenue, Pleasant Acres, Lewistown, PA. Volunteer jobs include office work, such as filing and helping with mailings, serving as a companion and support to the patient with end-stage illnesses and their families by providing a listening ear, reading to patients, offering words of comfort, and running errands. There are also opportunities to help with events such as grief day camp for kids, the annual Memorial Service, monthly support group luncheons and evening meeting, Tree of Life Tree Lighting, and the Butterfly Release. There is a particular need for volunteers who are available to provide companionship to patients while their family members run errands or go to doctor visits and also bereavement volunteers who contact family members on a bi-monthly basis by phone to offer support following the death of a loved one. Please phone the Hospice office at 242-5000 if you can help.

NEED HELP GETTING TO YOUR TREATMENTS? – Your American Cancer Society can provide you with a ride to your cancer-related treatments. The Road to Recovery program provides volunteer transportation for cancer patients to and from their appointments. If you need a ride or would like to volunteer to drive, please call 814-234-1023 for more information.

START OUT 2013 ON THE ROAD TO GOOD HEALTH! – As seen on NBC's "The Biggest Loser" there is a way to tell how "old" your arteries are and if you are at risk for a stroke or heart disease. The Prevention Health Screenings group has the ability to tell you this by offering a quick, painless, non-invasive health test. On Saturday, March 2, 2013 beginning at 9:00 a.m. you and community members are invited to participate in the available health screenings at Messiah Lutheran Church. Along with the heart disease screening, there will be 7 other tests you can choose from. The costs vary depending on how many screenings you have done. You must have an appointment and appointments are first-come-first-served—so register early. Call 1-800-257-3516 or go to www.preventionhealth.org for more information.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS (all-you-can-eat) will be held every Friday beginning February 8th until March 22nd from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at St. Jude's Catholic Church, Mifflintown. Cost will be \$10.00 for adults, \$6.00 for kids 6—12 years old, and kids 5 and under FREE. Sponsored by St. Jude's Knights of Columbus.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY
ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS; TISSUES;
OVER-THE-COUNTER PAIN, COLD AND FLU MEDICINES.
WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS FOR LOCAL STORES

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
- Monday:** -OFFICE CLOSED.
-NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -9:30 a.m., Women's Lenten Tea at St. Jude's Catholic Church.
-7 p.m., Community Lenten Service at Aldersgate Methodist Church.
-8 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
- Friday:** -7 p.m., Square Dancing in Fellowship Hall.
- Saturday:** -7 a.m., Men's Prayer Breakfast at JP Pancake House.
- Sunday:** -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church