Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Reverend William N. Esborn
Carole Nace
Andrea Cameron
Cynthia Smith
Sandy Pines
Nathan Swailes

Pastor Organist Choir Director Lector Altar Guild Acolyte

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST July 20, 2014 – 9:15 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

SHUT-INS: Marian G., Reba S., Kitty W., Flo B., Ethel B., Jean M., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B.

<u>OTHERS</u>: Tammy W., Sarah S., Rick W., Avonel W., Jesse K., Victoria R., Allison G., Jim W., Robert S., Charlene A., Travis Z., Karen C., Robert R., John M., Brenda B., Carol S., Warren M., Ron Z., Jean C.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE "Battle Hymn of the Republic"

Steffe

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

- * BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
 - P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- C Amen
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- P Gracious God,
- C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
- P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
- 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 "Praise and Thanksgiving"
- * GREETING
 - P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 - C And also with you.
- * KYRIE (sung)

P Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son: C Lord, have mer-cy.
P Chri-ste, e-le-i-son: C Christ, have mer-cy.
P Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son: C Lord, have mer-cy.

* HYMN OF PRAISE (sung)

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest; glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

- * SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken)
 - P The Lord be with you

- C And also with you.
- * PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)
 - P Let us pray...
 - C Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD

God claims the right to sole rule, because God announces things that actually do happen, while supposed divine opponents remain silent. God is Israel's redeemer, that is, the best brother or sister they ever had.

FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah 44:6-8

THE LESSON READS:

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 86:11-17 (Responsively)

L – Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth. (Ps. 86:11)

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹²I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.

¹³For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.

¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

ALL – Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth.

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

SECOND READING

A reading from Romans 8:12-25

THE LESSON READS:

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— 13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. 181 consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al-le-lu-ia. You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu—ia. Al-le-lu—ia.

Jesus tells a parable about the co-existence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

- * GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
 - P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter.
 - C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." ³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38 the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42 and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON Pastor Esborn

* HYMN OF THE DAY "Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word"

* APOSTLES' CREED ('new version') (all)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Lord, I Want to be A Christian"

Spiritual

[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].

SPECIAL MUSIC

Strung-Out Dulcimer Band

"Blessed Assurance" "Give Me The Roses"

Medley: "When The Saints Go Marching In"; "In The Sweet By & By"; "I'll Fly Away"

* SUNG OFFERTORY ('vineyards')

Let the vine-yards be fruit-full, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gather a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

* OFFERING PRAYER

- P Let us pray. Merciful God,
- C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus in praying for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

P Lord of the harvest, sow the seeds of your word throughout the world, that all your children grow into your kingdom. Use our hands to tend your garden, wherever it may be. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Send the summer winds to bring much-needed rain and blow the hope of what is unseen through your creation, that it be set free from decay to bear good fruit. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord of all nations, guide our leaders with your strength and wisdom as they search for common ground (especially). Through your mercy show them the way to justice and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Listen to the cries of your people waiting patiently for your healing hand and comforting Spirit (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Tammy Walton, Dorothy Patterson, Sarah Shellenberger, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jesse Kint, Robert St. Clair, Sr., Victoria Ricedorf, Allison Garver, Jim Woltman, Charlene Aughey, Travis Zeiders, Karen Clements, Robert Reynolds, John Miller, Brenda Brothers, Carol Sheesley Spigelmyer, Warren Mummah, Ron Zellers, and Jean Compton). Ease the sufferings of this present time and fill us with hope. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Teach your way, O Lord, to our congregation. Help us walk in your truth, grow together in your word, mirror your patience, treat one another with kindness, and sing your praises with undivided hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Lord of hosts, you are the first and the last, gathering all those who have gone before us into one. Thank you for your steadfast love and for their faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- P Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C Amen
- * THE LORD'S PRAYER ['new version'] (all)
 - P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
 - C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen

- * BLESSING
 - P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
 - C A-men, A-men, A-men (sung)
- CLOSING HYMN

"Blessed Assurance"

MEAL

- COMMUNION DIALOGUE (from Isaiah 55)
 - P Let us give thanks to the Lord.
 - C for through these gifts he comes to feed us.
 - P All you who are thirsty, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, receive bread, and eat.
 - C Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and eat.
 - P Let us come to his table with joy,
 - C for we come as God's invited guests!
- * EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
 - P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we

share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

(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 Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

- C Amen
- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 - C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"A Joyous Song of Praise"

Wesley

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Bob St. Clair NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Barbara S. Geedey

WELCOME

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the green 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 worshiping 8with 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) worshiping 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.

WE WELCOME the Strung-Out Dulcimer Band as our special music this morning.

THE STRUNG-OUT DULCIMER BAND thanks the congregation of Messiah for the privilege of allowing us to hold regular practice sessions in the Fellowship Hall throughout the year.

TAMMY WALTON IS NOW AT BROOKLINE MANOR – If you would like to brighten her day with a note, her address is Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Room 301, Mifflintown, PA 17059.

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.

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 – St. Theresa of Alvila, Spanish Nun and Mystic (1515 – 1582): My soul is like a mirror in which the glory of God is reflected, but sin, however insignificant, covers the mirror with smoke.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at dskint@nmax.net. If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

WEDNESDAY EVENING "INFORMAL COMMUNION" will be held during the summer months at 6:30 p.m. for those who cannot make it to services on Sunday mornings and still wish to partake of the Lord's Supper.

THE COLLECTION BOX FOR THE BACKPACK PROGRAM will remain in the Adult Sunday School Room for several more weeks if you would still like to contribute any of the following items:

- --Any single serving "meals" (Mac 'n Cheese, Spaghetti, Ravioli, Lasagna, soups, cans of chicken, Vienna sausages, etc).
- --Fruit cups of all varieties (Applesauce and peaches were the most popular last summer).
- --Pudding cups.

- --Chips, pretzels, popcorn, trail mix (HUGE favorite last summer), granola bars, cookies, any other single serving snack item.
- --Juice boxes (any and all flavors).

<u>PLEASE</u>, if you open a window in the church at times other than normal church times, <u>please</u> be sure to close the window before you leave the building. We do not want to have rain or people getting into the church.

HELP AVAILABLE – If you or someone you know needs help with home repairs or yard work, there are volunteers in our community who may be able to help. For more information, contact Michael "Doc" Johnston at 436-9209, or Cynthia Smith at 436-8512.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA continuously collect new bath-size bars of soap (4oz. to 5oz., 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 Adult Sunday School Room.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA are collecting items for the School Kits during July, August and September. We are asking for help from the congregation for the following items:

- --300 notebooks (4 go with each kit), wide-or-college-ruled, 8 x 10½ inches (no loose-leaf paper)
- --75-30 centimeter rulers or rulers with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- --75 pencil sharpeners
- --75 blunt scissors
- --375 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- --375 ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- --75 boxes of 16-24 crayons
- --75 (2½ inch) erasers

We already have the 75 bags that are needed to fill with the items listed above. Wal-Mart is presently selling notebooks for 25 cents a piece. Donated items may be placed on the round table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THE WELCA SYNODICAL CONVENTION will again be held at Camp Mt. Luther on Saturday, August 2, 2014. See Barb Geedey for registration forms if you are interested in attending or have questions pertaining to the event. The cost is \$40.00 for a brunch and lunch plus the use of the facility and speakers. NOTE: We are collecting small nail clippers (with or without files) to take to the Synod Convention. Target and K-Mart are two places that have them for a good price.

THE NEXT MEETING OF MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will be Thursday, August 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Meeting will consist of short devotions and putting together the personal care kits.

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).

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY JULY UPDATE

It's been a busy and exciting summer at the Food Pantry with the Big Tree Festival and WJUN Country Showdown fundraisers and the Summer Backpack Lunch Program in full swing. Thank you so much for all the great community support! So far our Backpack Program has signed up over 100 children in grades K-8 – children who might otherwise be spending the summer hungry are having fun filling up their backpacks with nutritious lunches every week.

In May 2014, the Food Pantry served 323 families in need – a total of 898 individuals. A special thank you to Free Spring Church of the Brethren for providing volunteers for the month of May.

Donations are beginning to slow down as families head off on vacation. Please don't forget that hunger doesn't take a vacation in the summer! If you'd like to come give us a hand we can always use volunteers!

HELP NEEDED: <u>Backpack Program</u> – Wednesday and Saturday 1-5 <u>Computer Expert</u>-flexible hours. Especially need someone familiar with Access Program and updating to Windows 8.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JULY

FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE AND ANY OTHER FOODS, DISH SOAP, ALL-PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS, PAPER PRODUCTS (PAPER TOWELS, TOILET PAPER, TISSUES)

MONETARY AND GIFT CARD DONATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL! WE ALWAYS NEED RECYCLED PLASTIC SHOPPING BAGS!

FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to noon and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to noon

Closed on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday Address: P.O. Box 44, 114 N. Main St., Mifflintown, PA 17059 Phone: (717) 436-9718 Contact person: Kathy Queitzsch Email: jcfoodpantry@embargmail.com

For more information, visit our website at jcfoodpantry.com and "Like" us on Facebook!

Our vestibule is open to receive donations 24 hours a day!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -9:15 a.m., Summer Worship/Communion.

-7 p.m., PPC Organizational meeting of new board members.

Monday: -8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday: -CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED (during July & August).

-6:30 p.m., Quiet Communion.

Sunday: -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.

-9:15 a.m., Summer Worship/Communion.