

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn
Brent Snyder
Andrea Cameron
Barbara S. Geedey
Barbara S. Geedey

Pastor
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 21, 2013 – 9:15 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., Jean M., Cassie S., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Florence B., Jesse K., Tammy W., Wilma P., Audrey L., Josh B., George and Lorraine H., Karl and Margaret G., Sarah D., Clara S., Justin T., Connor L., Carol D., Don L., Don and Arlene D., Darlene Y., Arielle D., Wib T., Sarah S., Bill S., Gwen S., Troy B., Rick F., Riley C., Kitty W., Allen H., Harry W., Esther L., and Joan F.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." Almighty God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"—to heed the word from above. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, with Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the words of life.

* 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 "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

* 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 Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest.
Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may
treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen**

WORD

The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long—awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.

FIRST READING

A reading from Genesis 18:1-10a

THE LESSON READS:

¹The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a}Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 15 (**Responsively**)

L – LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? (Ps. 15:1)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

4In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

ALL – LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill?

Sometimes Paul preaches with great attention to theological concepts. Here, however, Paul offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is “Christ in you.” Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.

SECOND READING

A reading from Colossians 1:15-28

THE LESSON READS:

¹⁵[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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 uses his visit to two sisters as an occasion to remind disciples that an important aspect of obedience is single-minded devotion to Jesus and his word.

* GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 10th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

³⁸Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

* HYMN OF THE DAY "Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup"

* 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

[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

* SUNG OFFERTORY ('vineyards')

Let the vine-yards be fruit-full, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er 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 Confident in God's compassionate rule and enduring love, let us lift up the needs of the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P Dwell in the hearts of your people and mold us in your likeness. With Christ as our head, live and move in us, that we may be your hands reaching out to the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give us eyes to see and ears to hear the wonders of your miraculous creation. Inspire in us an awe and appreciation for each tiny insect and every towering oak. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Reconcile all warring tribes and nations, and tear down the walls that divide us, that the peace of Christ may bring harmony and accord. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Hold us together when we are shattered, bring healing when there is no cure, and heed our pleas for those in pain or trouble (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes]), and for Jesse Kint, Tammy Walton, Wilma Pyles, Dorothy Patterson, Audrey Landis, Josh Beitz, George and Lorraine Hazard, Karl and Margaret Guss, Sarah Dressler, Clara Schlegel, Justin Tabb, Connor Lauver, Carol Dasen, Don Lewis, Don and Arlene DeLauter, Darlene Yutzy, Arielle Dougherty, Wib Taylor, Sarah Shellenberger, Bill Stoner, Gwen Swisher, Reba Sigler, Troy Burd, Rick Fultz, Riley Cooper, Kitty Walters, Allen Hall, Harry Woltman, Esther Long, and Joan Nace Foltz). Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Dine with us in the sweet communion of a shared meal and send your Spirit to joyfully dance among us. Grant us also times of rest and reflection, sitting at the feet of Jesus to listen. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Bring us at the last to that day when we will feast with all your saints at the great wedding banquet prepared for us in your eternal home. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of mercy, hear the cries of your people, and answer us according to your steadfast love; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

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

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Michelle Stoner

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 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of my dad and mom, Mortimer and Mary Yocum, by daughter Nancy Yocum Kreiner.

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 – William S. Plummer, Bible Scholar: The bond of the Covenant is able to bear the weight of the believer's heaviest burden.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN WILL BE UPDATED – The current Prayer Chain will be deactivated and a new one started. If you would like to receive emails for persons needing prayers, please contact Stacie Kint at dskint@nmax.net. A new phone chain will also be established. If you wish to receive phone calls for persons needing prayers, please contact Stacie at 436-6341.

MESSIAH IS IN NEED of a new treasurer to replace Ken Eyler after his many years of service. If you would like details, please contact Executive Director Guy Dillman or Pastor Esborn.

QUIET COMMUNION – Each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. (during June, July and August), a Quiet Communion Service will be held in the Jr. Church/Showers Class Room for those who are unable to attend on Sundays during the summer. Pastor Esborn, Jim Bahorik and Andrea Cameron will be presiding over these services.

PPC MEETING will be held this evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. All members are asked to attend.

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

SOAP PROJECT: “***Rub-a-dub-dub, let’s fill the tub!***” Women of the ELCA are collecting new bath size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of any brand soap in its original wrapping (boxes are accepted) for Lutheran World Relief. Please place soap in the wash tub in the Adult Sunday School Room.

SEAFARERS PROJECT - Women of the ELCA are collecting items for the Seafarers Christmas gift set through October. Please place collected items below on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room:

- casual T-shirts, medium & large (no slogans, etc.)
- sweat shirts, large & extra-large
- 3 pairs of socks
- 1 heavy knit winter cap

COLLECTION OF ITEMS FOR SCHOOL KITS (July, August and September) – Now is the time to be watching for the start of school sales for items for our school kits at stores like Wal-Mart, K-Mart, and Target. Items needed:

- 4 (70 sheet) notebooks, 8 x 10½ wide or college ruled paper “no loose leaf paper”
- 1 (30 centimeter) ruler or one with cm. on one side and inches on the other
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 blunt pair of scissors
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- 5 black or blue ballpoint pens
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1 2½” eraser

Place any items on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you would rather give money for these items, you may give it to Cynthia Smith or any other WELCA member.

Reminder: USS WELCA Convention will be held on Saturday, July 27, 2013 at Camp Mt. Luther (open to all women). Contact Barb Geedey at 436-6433 if you are interested in attending. We had a good attendance last year and hope for the same this year.

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).

FREE OPEN POOL SWIM – The Juniata County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will hold their second annual free pool swim at the Central Juniata Pool in Mifflin on Thursday, July 25 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This swim is open to everyone and we are hoping to have an even bigger crowd than last year. Bring a swimsuit and lawnchair if you like and join us for the fun. Hot dogs and other refreshments will be served. Hope to see you there!

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JULY

FRESH PRODUCE AND ANY OTHER FOODS,
BABY WASH, DIAPER RASH OINTMENT, WIPES, DIAPERS (SIZES 4-6), PULL-UPS (ALL SIZES),
PAPER PRODUCTS (PAPER TOWELS, TOILET PAPER, AND TISSUES)

WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS TO LOCAL STORES

PLASTIC AND PAPER GROCERY BAGS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED

PHONE: 436-9718 – CONTACT: KATHY QUEITZSCH
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 44, 114 N. MAIN ST., MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
HOURS: MON/WED 2:00-6:00 PM, SAT 9:00-1:00

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Summer Worship/Communion.
-7 p.m., PPC meeting in Youth Area.
- Monday:** -8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -OFFICE CLOSED (during July & August).
-6:30 p.m., Quiet Communion in Jr. Church Room.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
- Sunday:** -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
-9:15 a.m., Summer Worship/Communion.