

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
Louis Lynch
Ed Beaver
Ann Beaver

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SERVICE OF THE WORD FOR HEALING July 31, 2011 – 9:15 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

Helen C., Marian G., Reba S., Sue C., Flo B., Ethel B., Virginia F., Cathryn R., Arlene M., Goldie K., Jean M., Cassie S., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Paul W., Bob C., Linda R., Jesse K., Audrey M., Conner L., George and Mary Lorraine H., Laurie F., Christy H., Mary W., Kitty W., Mason B., Beth S., Steve M., Luella M., and Floyd C.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the Eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

* 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" p. 13 in bulletin

* 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 **Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

WORD

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all the people, with promises that previously had been limited to the line of kings. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah 55:1-5

THE LESSON READS:

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 (**Responsively**)

L – You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.

¹⁶You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.

¹⁸You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹You fulfill the desire of those who fear you; you hear their cry and save them.

²⁰You watch over all those who love you, but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD; let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.

ALL – You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

SECOND READING

A reading from Romans 9:1-5

THE LESSON READS:

I am speaking the truth in Christ — I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit — ²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

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.

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

* GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to

sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

* HYMN OF THE DAY "The Church of Christ, in Every Age"

p. 14 in bulletin

* 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

Melvin Shoemaker

* SUNG OFFERTORY ('vineyards')

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, 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 Led by the Holy Spirit, and with the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

P You desire that all people come to you. Give your church a passion to reach out to others with the good news of your love for all humankind. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P You created a world in which all life is sustainable. Open wide our hearts and minds, that those who are blessed with abundance live simply so that others may simply live. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P You are the Lord of all nations and all peoples. Create understanding among all people of faith so that we may together work for global peace (especially). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P You turn no one away. In your compassion feed the hungry, cure the sick, and calm the fearful (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], Paul Woltman, Bob Cameron, Linda Rhine, Jesse Kint, Audrey Morral, Connor Lauver, George Sr. and Mary Lorraine Hazard and family, Laurie Funk, Christy Hall, Mary Weiland, Kitty Walters, Mason Beward, Beth Smith, Jean McNaught, Steve McLaughlin, Luella McLaughlin and Floyd Covert). Grant them the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P You provide the bread of life for your people. Nourish this congregation on the body and blood of your Son, that we may be strengthened to serve. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P You sustain us in our faith. We give you thanks for the witnesses who have gone before us. May their example guide us until we are joined with them in glory. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

THE RITE OF HEALING

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

P Those who wish to receive the laying on of hands as a commitment to God's power to heal may come forward to the altar rail. This may include those in need of physical, emotional, or mental healing. It may include those in need of reconciliation in their relationship to God or neighbor. It may include those who wish to commit their ministry of healing into the hands of God: as a doctor, nurse or health care worker.

(Then for each individual the following is said with the laying on of hands):

P I lay my hands upon you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, beseeching him to uphold you and fill you with grace, that you may know the healing power of his love.

C Amen

P (Name), I anoint you with oil in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

* PRAYER OF COMMITMENT (for all)

P The almighty Lord a stronger tower to all who put their trust in him, to whom all things in heaven, on earth, and under the earth bow and whom they obey—be now and evermore your defense, and make you know and feel that the only name under heaven given for health and salvation is the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

Merciful Lord God, constant source of all healing, we give you thanks for all your gifts of strength and life, and above all we thank you for the gift of your Son, through whom we have health and salvation. As we wait for that day when there will be no more pain, help us by your Holy Spirit to be assured of your power in our lives and to trust in your eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

p. 15 in bulletin

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

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 – Sam Leister

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Christie Holderman

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) 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.

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 loving memory of Richard Nace by Carole and 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 – Emily Dickinson (1850), "Confidence in daybreak modifies dusk."

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

ALL MEMBERS OF MESSIAH AND FRIENDS are invited to a Pool Party at the Mifflin Pool on Wednesday, August 3, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Please bring a snack to share!

CHURCH ORGANIST for weekly services, beginning immediately, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 3 South Third Street, Mifflintown, PA. Allen Digital Electric Organ and Kurzweil Electronic Keyboard. Candidates should contact Ed Beaver at ebeaver41@yahoo.com or at 436-9382 for information, including salary. Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at www.mlcmifflintown.org.

THANK YOU to members of Messiah for the prayers, cards and altar flowers during my recent surgery and recuperation. Thanks also to Pastor Bill for his visits and phone calls. All were greatly appreciated.

Mary Weiland

THANK YOU to Messiah for your support all these years in allowing us to use your Fellowship Hall for our 4-H Seeing Eye Puppy Club meetings. We will now be meeting at the Port Royal Lutheran Church.

Sincerely,

Jim & Jean Swartz, Hunter Hepner, Tanya Hepner, Ashley Swartz, Amy Whitesel, Josh Whitesel, Marley Swartz, Greg Lungner, Jensen Swartz, Serina Spancake, Kathy Queitzsch, Caitlin Queitzsch, Micah Whitesel, Greg Spancake, Althea Swartz, Alleighcia Hepner, Marsha Freed, and all the puppies who have passed through your doors!

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.

Messiah Women of the ELCA will meet on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth with each attendee bringing a reading as the program for the evening. We will also begin assembling the Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief.

SUPPLIES FOR THE HEALTH KITS goal of 70 kits has been reached. We thank everyone who has contributed to this project. The kits will be sent with the quilts following Blanket Sunday, October 2, 2011.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA are gathering School Kits for the October shipment of World Relief. A School Kit may provide the only supplies for children returning to school after the disruption of war. School Kits help parents continue their children's education, even while living in refugee camp, for example. A School Kit may also be used in adult literacy classes. (Reprinted with permission from Lutheran World Relief). July and August is a good time to collect school supplies as many stores have great sales. There will be plastic bags on the blue table in the Sunday School Room with a list of supplies needed. Take a bag and fill it with the items and return it to the table. It will send the message to those in need, around the world, that we care about them.

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR AUGUST: FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE, ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS,
PAPER PRODUCTS: TOILET PAPER, FACIAL TISSUES, PAPER TOWELS, STORAGE BAGS AND
WRAPS, AND PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS.

We are still suffering empty shelves in the personal care items, cleaning supplies, baby supplies, and paper product sections. Any help will be greatly appreciated by us and our

neighbors in need.

Donations of cash and Weis or Schlegel's gift cards will also be gladly accepted.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS blood drives will be in the Mifflintown area on the following dates:

Monday, August 8th

1:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Port Royal United Methodist Church

Saturday, August 13th

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

St. Jude's Council, Knights of Columbus

(All donors will receive a coupon for an ice cream cone at all of the above sites, courtesy of McDonald's, Lewistown)

The need for blood never diminishes because blood is a perishable medicine. Individuals who are in general good health, are age 17 or older and weigh at least 110 pounds are eligible to donate blood every 56 days. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800 Red Cross. Please bring Red Cross donor cards, photo ID or two other forms of identification to the donor site.

NURSE'S NOTES – June 2, 2011 the US Agriculture relegated its famous food pyramid to history. In its place we will be seeing an easier guide to the types and amounts of foods we should be including in our diets every day. Named MyPlate, the new guide divides a typical plate into four portions: fruit, vegetables (which together take up half of the plate), protein, and whole grains. A small circle sitting beside the plate represents dairy products. The Agriculture Department has created a web site, ChooseMyPlate.com, that elaborates on the guidance reflected in the plate's design. It includes tip sheets with recommendations for a healthy diet.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
-9:15 a.m., Early Worship Service/Communion & Service of Healing.
- Monday:** -8 p.m., AA meeting.
- Wednesday:** -OFFICE CLOSED (July & August).
-6-8 p.m., Pool Party at Mifflin Pool.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal in Fellowship Hall.
-7 p.m., Thrivent meeting in Library.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Early Worship Service/Communion.