

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
Bob St. Clair
Wendy Varner
Cynthia Smith
Sandy Pines

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Worship Leader
Altar Guild

THANKOFFERING SERVICE November 11, 2012 – 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., Fannie K., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Ryan K., Sarah D., Haylee Y., Gene R., Jesse K., Susan M., Paul W., Tammy W., Josh B., Eric S., Matt H., Cade C., Linda F., JoAnn B., and Lura A.

THE PREPARATION

CHIMES
MEDITATION
PRELUDE
GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

WL: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to God's name.

C: Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as a heritage.

WL: God visits the earth and waters it; He enriches it greatly and provided the people with grain.

C: The Lord crowns the year with bounty, the pastures of the wilderness overflow.

WL: Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of His praise be heard, who has kept us among the living.

C: We will give thanks to the Lord with our whole heart! God provides food for those who fear Him; He is ever mindful of His covenant.

WL: The earth has yielded its increase; God our God has blessed us.

C: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the Earth revere Him.

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Congregational sharing **“Peace be with you.”**

THE SERVICE

+ ENTRANCE HYMN

“We Gather Together”

FIRST READING: 1 Chronicles 16:8-12

The First Lesson is from the 16th chapter of 1 Chronicles

THE LESSON READS:

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell all his wonderful acts. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Look to the Lord and his strength, seek his face always. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgements he pronounced.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

PSALM: 106:1-5

L: Praise the Lord, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: **His love endures forever.**

L: Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare his praise?

C: **Blessed are they who maintain justice, who constantly do what is right.**

L: Remember me, O Lord, when you show favor to your people.

C: **Come to my aid when you save them,**

L: that I may enjoy the prosperity of your chosen ones, that I may share in the joy of your nation,

C: **and join your inheritance in giving praise.**

+ SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

The Second Lesson is from the 5th chapter of 1 Thessalonians.

THE LESSON READS:

Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not put out the Spirit’s fire; do not treat prophecies with contempt. Test everything. Hold on to the good. Avoid every kind of evil. May God himself; the God of peace sanctify you, through and through. May your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

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? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.
Al-le-lu--ia. Al-le-lu--ia.**

GOSPEL: Luke 7:36-50

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 7th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

³⁶Now one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, so he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷When a woman who had lived a sinful life in that town learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster jar of perfume, ³⁸and as she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them. ³⁹When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

⁴⁰Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you." "Tell me, teacher," he said.

⁴¹"Two men owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt canceled." "You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

⁴⁴Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—for she loved much. But he who has been forgiven little loves little." ⁴⁸Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

HOMILY

Pastor Esborn

+ HYMN OF THE DAY "Praise and Thanksgiving"

+ APOSTLES' CREED

WL: Let us confess our faith with the Apostles' Creed:

**C: 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

(Be seated)

OFFERING

The Women of the ELCA's Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and support our partnership with God in making Christ known to all the world. We are called to offer with joy and thanksgiving what God has first given us.

(THE LOOSE OFFERING WILL BE GIVEN TO THE MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA).

ORGAN 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 "DOXOLOGY"

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'n-ly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

WL: Let us pray:

C: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, who has gifted your people with far more than we can either imagine or deserve. Bless these gifts we bring, that others in need might also experience the abundant life you intend for them. We pray in the name of our Savior, Jesus the Christ. Amen

+ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

WL: Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: we give you praise and hearty thanks for all your mercies. For your goodness that has created us, your bounty that has sustained us, your fatherly discipline that has chastised and corrected us, your patience that has been with us, and your love that has redeemed us, we praise you, O Lord. For your Son our Savior, for your Spirit our Comforter, for the lives of all people, and for the hope of the life to come; we praise you, O God.

Holy God, uphold those whose burdens are heavy this day. Hear our prayers for those who are living with physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual ills, especially (all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing

homes], and for Ryal Keresey, Sarah Dressler, Haylee Yocum, Gene Rhine, Jesse Kint, Susan Minick, Paul Woltman, Tammy Walton, Josh Beitz, Eric St. Clair, Matt Hutchinson, Cade Clark, Linda Farleman, JoAnn Beale and Lura Aughey). We pray that they may know your unfailing love.

Grant unto us, with all your gifts, a heart to love and praise you; and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your benefits by giving ourselves to your service, and cheerfully conforming in all things to your blessed will.

C: Amen

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER (new version)

WL: 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 forever.
Amen**

+ BENEDICTION

WL: Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

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

+ CLOSING HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God"

THE 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: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you
gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but
have eternal life.*

*We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through
Jesus Christ.*

*Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a
living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.*

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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 and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. 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.

(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 and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you to use your life as a witness to God's grace.

C: Amen

+ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

+ DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

CHIMES

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Christie Holderman

WELCOME

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.

TODAY IS OUR ANNUAL THANKOFFERING CELEBRATION – A special thanks to the Messiah Women of the ELCA for organizing our worship service and to all who participated. All loose offering received plus all the Thankoffering envelopes will go to the Churchwide Women of the ELCA for their many projects. None of the money is kept locally. Envelopes are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. Please make checks payable to "Messiah Women of the ELCA." Thank you for your generosity.

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!

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of husband and father, Richard Stetler, Sr., by wife and children.

JUST A THOUGHT – Francis Quarles, English Poet (1592 – 1644): True obedience neither procrastinate nor questions.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

The next Voters Assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2012 following the morning worship service. Business: Quarterly reports of the boards and voting on 2013 proposed budget.

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.

AVERAGE WEEKLY OFFERING needed to fund 2012 expenses is \$3,250. Offering received on 11/04/12 was \$_____.

RECEIVED IN STAINED GLASS FUND on Sunday, November 4, 2012: \$____. This brings the total received to \$____ of the total \$85,890 needed for the project. Balance needed to complete funding is \$_____.

LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLES by Augsburg Fortress are available in the church office for anyone who would like one. Cost is normally \$35.00 but we were able to get them at the sale price of \$18.75 plus shipping.

POINSETTIAS to decorate the church for Christmas may be placed in honor or in memory of someone, or to the Glory of God. The cost is \$8.00 for a 6½" plant with 3 to 4 blooms. You may order by calling the church office at 436-6213.

CAN TREE – Donations of gallon-size canned food is again being collected this year, now through December, for the "can tree" in the Adult Sunday School Room to benefit Bethesda Mission. Everyone is encouraged to donate as many cans as you are able. Cans will be delivered to Bethesda Mission later in December.

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.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT – Women of the ELCA will be sponsoring 6 children this year for the Christmas Angel Project. A poster with the information is on the bulletin board in the kitchenette. Gifts are to be wrapped, labeled with the children's name and family number, and returned to the Sunday School Room by December 2, 2012.

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).

WE NEED YOUR HELP – Through ELCA Disaster Response, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is responding in areas affected by Hurricane Sandy. In the Caribbean, through our global church partnerships, we are providing basic needs such as food, water and shelter. Throughout the United States we are working hand-in-hand with synods and ministry organizations, who are experts at outreach in their communities. **Gifts to ELCA Disaster Response, designated for "Hurricane Sandy" will be used entirely (100 percent) in response to this disaster.** Join the ELCA Disaster Response and help provide the type of immediate and long-lasting support that is already underway in the affected regions.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE will be held December 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church for those who are having a difficult time as a result of a death, job loss, health concern, or general sadness this Christmas season. You do not need to be alone in your pain. Come join us and hear prayers, scripture and music that acknowledge God's presence with us.

PART TIME JOB AVAILABLE – The DeLauter Youth Center has an opening for a Director/Coordinator of youth activities beginning January 1, 2013. The center is open from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week. Students from grades 9-12 come Tuesday nights and students from grades 4-8 come Thursday nights. Volunteer help is set up for Thursday nights with the younger students. Approximately 15 to 25 students participate each night. Total number of work hours is about 5 hours per week. The director/coordinator is responsible to organize basketball, volleyball, dodge ball, etc. each night. There is a computer room and pool room downstairs separate from the gym and a small game room upstairs with lots of equipment and supplies. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and must enjoy supervising students. This is a paid hourly position. The Center is open October through May and closed in the summer. If you are interested, please contact Fred Harris at 436-8706 or Ed Beaver at 436-9382.

COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSALS will be held on the following dates from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Juniata High School music room. (Even if you cannot attend all of the rehearsals, please don't hesitate to join the group).

Tuesday, November 13
Tuesday, November 20
Monday, December 3
Tuesday, December 11

This year's 16th annual Christmas Cantata performance "Season of Wonders" will be held Sunday, December 16, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in the Juniata High School auditorium.

THE INTERNATIONAL GIFTS SALE will be held at Cedar Grove Brethren in Christ Church on Friday, November 16, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, November 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's sale offers baskets, jewelry, toys, pottery, Christmas ornaments, and international foods by organizations like Ten Thousand Villages, SERRV, Women at Risk International, and BeadForLife. By shopping fair trade you will help skilled artisans in third world countries receive a fair price for their handcrafted wares, create employment opportunities and assist them in being able to pay for uniforms and books in order to send their children to school and provide better opportunities for their future. For more information, visit our website at www.juniatainternationalgiftssale.com.

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

BASIC NEEDS:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, PERSONAL AND BABY CARE PRODUCTS, PAPER AND CLEANING SUPPLIES.

HOLIDAY MEAL NEEDS:

TURKEYS, CRANBERRY SAUCE, STUFFING, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, INSTANT MASHED POTATOES, CANNED SWEET POTATOES, GRAVY MIX, CAKE MIX AND READY MADE ICING.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will be holding a blood drive at the following location:

Friday, November 30th
Walker Grange Hall
1:00 pm – 7:00 pm
William Penn Hwy., Mexico

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

NURSE'S NOTES – To stay limber as the years go by, consider taking Vitamin D. In a study, 70 to 79 year olds with the highest Vitamin D levels were the least likely to have trouble walking and stair-climbing. The vitamin repairs muscle, maintaining the lower body strength needed for those activities, explains study author Denise Houston, PhD, RD, of Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC. (*Prevention Magazine*, October 2012, pg. 34)

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Thankoffering Sunday.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-11:30 a.m., Fall Fest in Fellowship Hall.
-2 p.m., Worship service at Brookline.
- Monday:** -OFFICE CLOSED.
-NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
-7 p.m., Bible Study?
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal in Fellowship Hall.
- Friday:** -7 p.m., Square Dancing in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-Voters' Assembly following worship service.
-7 p.m., Community Thanksgiving Service at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.