

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street

Mifflintown, PA 17059

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

Pastor  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Organist  
Lector  
Altar Guild

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 17, 2010 – 10:30 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., Brett S., Kevin R., Mary Martha G., Sara D., Avonel and Rick W., Dorothy S., Fred T., Sam Z., Ken G., Mac M., Harold W., George H., and Norman G.

### PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

"Sortie"

G. Blake

*[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

*Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is the encouragement of the Christ of the gospel today. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.*

*Today the church commemorates Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, who was martyred early in the second century.*

### \* 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. 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 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

\* 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 O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**WORD**

*Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."*

FIRST READING

A reading from Genesis 32:22-31

THE LESSON READS:

The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup>So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup>Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup>Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**Cong: Thanks be to God.** (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 121

*L – My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth. (Ps. 121:2)*

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

**2My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

**4Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches over you; the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

**6the sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

**<sup>8</sup>The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth forevermore.**

**All – My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.**

*Paul continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.*

SECOND READING

A reading from 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

THE LESSON READS:

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup>and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

<sup>4:1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**Cong: 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 of a hateful judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.*

\* GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

*P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.*

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I

have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

*P The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

\* HYMN OF THE DAY "Jesus, Still Lead On"

\* 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

"To Be At Peace"

F. Ritter

*[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

Choir

\* 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.**

\* OFFERTORY 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 God hears the cry of the poor and is near to all in need. Let us pray for our neighbors, our world, and ourselves, trusting in God's mercy and love.*

*A brief silence.*

*P Your Word, O God, gives life to the world. Give patience and understanding to all who wrestle with your word in the church, that your gospel of love and compassion might always be guiding us. Hear us, O God.*

**C Your mercy is great.**

*P Your Word, O God, brought forth creation. Bless all who dedicate their lives to the care and healing of what you have made, and help us all be good stewards of your gift of life. Hear us, O God.*

**C Your mercy is great.**

*P Your Word, O God, gives wisdom and insight. We pray for all who make decisions on behalf of your people, especially for judges, juries, and courts, that they would exercise their authority with justice. Hear us, O God.*

**C Your mercy is great.**

*P Your Word, O God, is good news to the poor. Bring joy to all who suffer any kind of need (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], Brett Smith, Kevin Reynolds, Mary Martha Gilbert, Sara Dressler, Avonel and Rick Waller, Dorothy Swab, Fred Towsey, Sam Zeiders, Ken Geedey, Ray Bramm, Mac McLaughlin, Harold Woodward, George Hazard, Sr., and Norman Gloss, Jr.), that they might be rich in the love and support of your people. Hear us, O God.*

**C Your mercy is great.**

*P Your Word, O God, transforms the world. We pray for our congregation's ministries of evangelism, that you would use our hands and feet and voices to embody your love for this community. Hear us, O God.*

**C Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

*P Your Word, O God, is our hope and safety. Watch over our going out and coming in, that we and all who have hoped in your salvation (especially Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, and name/s) might find our rest in you. Hear us, O God.*

**C Your mercy is great.**

*P All this we ask, gracious God, together with all that is known to you alone, in the name of your risen and anointed Son, through the power of your life-giving Spirit.*

**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

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

**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 and Savior 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

“Postlude On ‘Lasst Uns Erfreuen’ “

G. Peterson

NEXT WEEK’S LECTOR – Ed Beaver

NEXT WEEK’S ALTAR GUILD – Christie Holderman