

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Reverend William N. Esborn
Bob St. Clair
Andrea Cameron
Ron Yorks
Diana Wise & Tawny Mummah
Harrison Mummah

Pastor
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolyte

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST October 11, 2015 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

Those we want to remember in prayer today—please refer to [pg. 5](#) under “Prayers of Intercession.”

PREPARATION

PRELUDE:

“O God of Earth and Altar”

J. Mansfield

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark’s gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment.. Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

* 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

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

* 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 Kyrie, eleison: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P Christe, eleison: **C Christ, have mercy.**

P Kyrie, eleison: **C Lord, have mercy.**

* HYMN OF PRAISE (sung)

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the

Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth, and peace to God's people 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 **Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

WORD

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.

FIRST READING

A reading from Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

THE LESSON READS:

⁶Seek the LORD and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. ⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!

¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. ¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. ¹²For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. ¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. ¹⁵Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 90:12-17 (Responsively)

L – So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)

¹²So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

¹³**Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? Be gracious to your servants.**

¹⁴Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning; so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵**Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us and as many years as we suffered adversity.**

¹⁶Show your servants your works, and your splendor to their children.

¹⁷**May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.**

ALL – So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

SECOND READING

A reading from Hebrews 4:12-16

THE LESSON READS:

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

- * GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)
Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

- * GOSPEL: Mark 10:17-31

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

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON

- * HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult'

Andrea Cameron

* 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:

"Under His Wings"

R. J. Hughes

[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 ('vineyards')

Let the vineyards be fruitfull, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord, and give us a foretaste 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 Made alive with God in Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
A brief silence.

P Holy and ever-living God, uphold your people with your word, that we remain steadfast in our life with you. Deliver mercy and grace to us through Jesus, our high priest. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Reclaim lands and waters that have been polluted through human neglect and greed. By your creative Spirit introduce again the vibrant and diverse life you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Establish your justice through the work of judges, juries, and officers of the court. Bless them, and those whom they serve, so that your goodness will flow through them. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Pour out compassion on your servants in time of need (especially all of our shut-ins: Marian Gross, Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Ethel Bossinger, Jean McNaught, Jane Marhefka, Fay McCormick, Dorothy Patterson, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith and Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Earl & Mona Lawson, Jim Yetter, and Craig Walker. And for Sarah Shellenberger, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jesse Kint, Jim Woltman, Ed Forney, Allison Saner, Charlene Aughey, Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Charlie Rush, Allison Garver, Clara Shepps, Andy & Wesley Kinzer, Gus Keiser, Kaiden Woods, Tina Hutchinson, Leah Bridges, Michal Gayer, Judy

Grimes, Jane Ann (Ziegler) Baney, Sara Ann Aurand, Carol Jan & John Mahlin, Betsy Aumiller, Jodi Fitzgerald, Virginia Waller, Mindy Fryer, Mary Ann Bardell, Audrey Morral, Diane Layton, Gabby Baney, Josh Delancey, Larry Houtz, Kay Stuck, Karen Goss, Minnie Minick, Jennifer Hutchinson, Sam Leister, Norm Gray, Dan Brown, Max & Mary Ernest, Marcy Primak, Tina Benner, and Barbara Fairman and family). When people dwell in darkness, let the light of your truth and mercy refresh and renew them. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Knock down the barriers in our lives that keep us from following you. Show us how to open doors for others to enter into your saving presence. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Your everlasting gift of forgiveness has sustained the saints throughout all generations. Continually immerse your people in that same gift until we stand before your throne of grace. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Gather these concerns and all who are in need into your abundant care, O God, remembering your promise of mercy, through 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 Amen, Amen, Amen (sung)

* CLOSING HYMN

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

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: “Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us” D. Paxton
[“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 – Diana Wise

NEXT WEEK’S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise & Tawny Mummah

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.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to Barbara Fairman on the death of her sister, Elizabeth ‘Tib’ Dumm, who died on October 1, 2015 at Locust Grove Retirement Village. Please keep Barbara and family in your prayers.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Herm and Marge McKee by Dave, Cindy, Jim, Matt, Carolyn and Annabelle.

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 – D. L. Moody, Evangelist (1837 – 1899): The way to be saved is not to delay, but to come and take.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2015 ATTENDANCE 60. TOTAL OFFERING \$2,520.75—GENERAL FUND \$2,289.00—SUNDAY SCHOOL \$136.75.

OCTOBER 4, 2015 ATTENDANCE 68. TOTAL OFFERING \$4,255.25—GENERAL FUND \$3,574.00—SUNDAY SCHOOL \$56.25.

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.

CHANGE OF ENVELOPE – Please note that your church envelope will look different in 2016. Resource Management Director, Bob Hazard approved Bob St. Clair’s research to make a change of envelope for a savings of \$200. More information will be forthcoming when the envelopes arrive.

THE SECRETARY’S WEEKLY OFFICE HOURS beginning on October 6, 2015 will be as follows:

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

COPIES OF PPC MINUTES from July and August meetings are available on the piano in the Adult Sunday School Room for anyone who would like one.

GIANT STORE GIFT CARDS are also now available as well as the Weis Cards to purchase from members of the Disciples Class.

BLANKET SUNDAY ENVELOPES may still be returned. You may put them in the offering plates or give them to Cynthia Smith (additional envelopes are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room). Please make checks payable to Messiah Women of the ELCA.

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.

FALL REMINDERS FOR JUNIATA COUNTY THRIVENT MEMBERS – The election dinner will be held on October 25, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's, Licking Creek. Bring a guest and they will receive a Weis Gift Card. RSVP by calling Don at 436-8856 or Kathy at 436-2401 by October 18th. There will be an explanation of your NEW Thrivent programs. If you are an Advocate, please try to attend. Also, there will be a Highway clean-up on October 28 at 9:30 a.m. (meet at Deb Cramer's, Stetler Rd.). Lunch at Walnut Cheese Nook when done! Remember to direct your Choice Dollars. NOTE: Thrivent Action Team—if you need help with your Thrivent Action Team Project, call Don at 436-8856. Remember benefit members can request two action teams and associate members one action team per year. Seed money of \$250 is available for each event.

THANK YOU to all my church friends for prayers and get-well cards. Thanks to Pastor Bill for his visits and prayers.

Minnie Minick

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 continue to collect items for School Kits. Items needed are: 4—70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper 8" X 10½". One 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, one pencil sharpener, one blunt pair of scissors, 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, 5 ballpoint pens, one box of 16 or 24 crayons, and one 2½" eraser. Items should be placed on the round table in the Adult Sunday School Room. School Kit items will be sent along with the blankets in October.

COMMUNITY

MEALS-ON-WHEELS needs volunteer cooks, drivers and people to help assemble meals. **Cooks are especially needed for the 5th Tuesday and 5th Friday of the month.** If you have some spare time and can help, please call Dottie Heck at 436-6002 or 717-348-1950 (cell).

HEAVENLY CARAMELS – Heavenly.....and.....delicious! Perfect for gift giving! To order: call Westminster Church Office at 436-2219, Eddi Kay Gill at 436-6834 or Connie Benner at 436-2304. Deadline to order is **October 15, 2015.**

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR OCTOBER:
CASH, CHECK OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS
NON-PERISHABLE FOODS
VEGETABLES & FRUITS FROM YOUR GARDENS
PERSONAL CARE & BABY CARE PRODUCTS
PAPER PRODUCTS

SYNOD GROW Team – Save the Dates

- October 31, 2015: Building Youth Groups at Camp Mount Luther
- November 21, 2015: Family Advent Night at Messiah in Williamsport
- February 19-20 or 26-27, 2016: GROW in the SNOW Retreat at Camp Mount Luther

WATCH FOR DETAILS IN UPCOMING BULLETINS CLOSER TO THE DATES!!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Cate. Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
- Monday:** -6 p.m., Knitting Class in Jr. Church Room.
-7 p.m., Bible Study in Library area.
-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.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-Worship & Music Committee meeting following Worship Service.
-7 p.m., PPC meeting in Youth Area.