

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
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Kay Varner

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Crucifer
Acolytes
Altar Guild

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 17, 2016 – 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 “Prayers of Intercession.”

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of the glory of God to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at the baptism of Jesus—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people "as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride." By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

C Amen.

P Gathered in God's presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Mighty and loving God,

C We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our

own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

P Hear the voice of Jesus: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives." In the name of + Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

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

* GREETING

P The grace of Jesus Christ, the mercy of the Holy One, and the Spirit of the living God be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (spoken responsively)

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

* HYMN OF PRAISE (sung to the tune of "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")

1 Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good will to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

- 2 Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.
- 3 Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

* 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 **Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

The people's return to Judah after the exile was marred by economic and political troubles. Nevertheless, the prophet declares, Jerusalem and Judah will be restored. God will rejoice over Jerusalem as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride; and the people are called to the celebration.

FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah 62:1-5

THE LESSON READS:

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 36:5-10 (responsively)

L - We feast upon the abundance of your house, O LORD. (Ps. 36:8)

⁵Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.

⁷How priceless is your love, O God! All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

⁸They feast upon the abundance of your house; you give them drink from the river of your delights.

⁹For with you is the well of life, and in your light we see light.

¹⁰Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you, and your favor to those who are true of heart.

ALL -We feast upon the abundance of your house, O LORD.

The congregation at Corinth experienced division as people were comparing one another's spiritual gifts, thinking some to be superior to others. Paul invites this fractured community to trust that God's Holy Spirit has gifted them all perfectly for their mission together.

SECOND READING

A reading from 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

THE LESSON READS:

¹Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.

²You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* THE VERSE (sung to the tune of "Rise, O Children of Salvation")

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Turning water to wine at the wedding at Cana is described as the first of Jesus' signs. Through many such epiphanies, Jesus reveals that he bears God's creative power and joyful presence into the world.

* GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 2nd chapter.

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ²Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. ⁹When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

* HYMN OF THE DAY

* APOSTLES' CREED (all)

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.

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].

ANTHEM

* SUNG OFFERTORY ('Create in Me')

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

C Amen

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Giving thanks for God's great gifts, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

P You enliven your church. Inspire the body of Christ to rejoice in and make good use of the various gifts and vocations with which you have entrusted it. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You are the fountain that brings forth life. Guide us to be good stewards of all plant and animal life entrusted to our care. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In your light we see light. Shine on the path for all nations to seek peace, justice, and the well-being of all your children. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You are a refuge to those in peril. Grant help, healing, and wholeness to all who are in need of your care. We pray especially for (all of our shut-ins: Marian Gross, Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Ethel Bossinger, Jean McNaight, Jane Marhefka, Fay McCormick, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Earl & Mona Lawson, and Jim Yetter). And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Allison Garver, Clara Shepps, Andy & Wesley Kinzer, Kaiden Woods, Tina Hutchinson, Leiah Bridges, Mical Gayer, Judy Grimes, Sara Ann Aurand, Betsy Aumiller, Jodi Fitzgerald, Virginia Waller, Mindy Fryer, Mary Ann Bardell, Audrey Morral, Diane Layton, Gabby Baney, Josh Delancey, Kay Stuck, Tina Benner, Don Wert, Shirley Zeiders, Michelle Stoner, Sue Crouse, Sandy Pines, Carol Jan Mahlin and sons, Nancy Hannon, Tanner Johnson, Vincenzo Evola, Bowie Smith,

Ed Forney, Clay Ianson, Steve Dreibelbis, John Martin, and Emme Freed. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Bless the leaders of this assembly. Help them to use their gifts in this community to the glory of your holy name. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We give thanks for the faithful departed who have gone to join the marriage feast that has no end (especially Antony of Egypt and Pachomius, renewers of the church). May their lives inspire us to trust always in your promise of eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all of your beloved for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['trespasses'] (all)

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

* BLESSING

P God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angels accompany you; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

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

* CLOSING HYMN

MEAL

* COMMUNION DIALOG (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 O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child. When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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 his death, we cry out Amen. [**Amen.**] Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [**Amen.**] Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [**Amen.**]

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, 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 We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Ron Yorks

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Kay Varner

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 honor of Velma Suloff's birthday.

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 – Thomas Adams, English Clergyman (1583-1653): If thou will fly from God, the devil will lend thee both spurs and a horse.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

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.

<u>January 3, 2016 Worship Service</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
Attendance – 63	Attendance - 41
Total Offering - \$3,318.00	Offering - \$70.00
Total General Fund - \$2,365.00	

<u>January 10, 2016 Worship Service</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
Attendance – 63	Attendance – 43
Total Offering - \$2,730.00	Offering - \$64.00
Total General Fund - \$2,175.00	

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.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. Please contact Kay Varner if you are unable to attend.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY – Our youth will be holding soup pots at the rear of the church on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7, 2016. They will join young people in churches across the nation, sharing God’s love with those who need our compassion and care. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to “help our neighbors” by dropping a dollar in the soup pot on February 7th

THE NEXT VOTERS ASSEMBLY will be held on Sunday, February 21, 2016 following the worship service. Business: 2015 audit and board report.

NEW ENVELOPES – If you have not already picked up your envelopes in the Adult Sunday School Room, please do so as soon as possible. Also, be aware that your number has changed and the envelopes are now in alphabetical order according to last names. There are only 52 envelopes in each box—no colored extras for various funds. Please check the funds and the amount you wish to contribute on the front of the envelope. **IMPORTANT: On the memo line of your check(s) also please specify which funds and how much. You may use one check for several funds (specifying on both envelope and check) or write a separate check for each fund.** Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2015 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

THE SECRETARY’S WEEKLY OFFICE HOURS are as follows:

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2016 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly the 1st Sunday of May. If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Esborn or the church office.

A FIRST COMMUNION CLASS will be offered in February. Please register with the church office by January 22, 2016 if you would like your child to attend. Date and time for the class will be arranged with parents.

BAPTISMAL/NEW MEMBER CLASS – If you wish to have your child baptized or you wish to attend the New Members Class, please let the church office know by January 18, 2016 so a class can be scheduled.

THANK YOU TO ALL who donated gallon-size cans for Bethesda Mission. A total of 108 cans were collected.

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.

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.

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).

APARTMENT FOR RENT AT JAM HOUSE – The board of directors at JAM House is looking for an individual or a couple to rent the four-room apartment attached to our house. The apartment has a separate entrance, parking and all utilities are included with the \$800/mo. rent. If you know of someone who may be interested, please contact Larry Wise at 436-6629.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-Worship & Music Committee mtg. following Worship Service.
- Monday:** -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.