

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059
Church Office / 4366213

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
Stephen Rodgers
June Bricker
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Linda Clark
Clint and Jamie Miller
Harrison Mumma & Caden Swailes
Jace White
Ray & Jane Miller

Interim Pastor
Lay Worship Leader
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Cup Communion
Acolytes
Crucifer
Greeters

Christ The King November 20, 2016 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

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

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears so utterly contradictory that the king should be crucified with the criminal. This victory appears for all the world as ignominious defeat. Yet through the gate of death our Lord opens the door to paradise.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of God the Father of glory; in the name of God the + Son, our Redeemer; in the name of God the holy and life-giving Spirit.

C Amen.

P The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C We acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know

that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed.
Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; and work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and + forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” #210 LBW

* GREETING

P From the one who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the first fruits of the resurrection, grace and peace be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

* KYRIE (sung)

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 wellbeing 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 **A men**

* HYMN OF PRAISE (I – All Women, II – All Men, C – Congregation)

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (sung)

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)

P Let us pray...

C **O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

Today's reading builds on the common ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, the Lord will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

The First Lesson is from the 23rd chapter of Jeremiah.

THE LESSON READS:

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

Ps. – Intoned by Cantor

R – “Rejoice, the Lord is king! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!”

¹God is our ref-¹uge and strength, a very present¹ help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;

³though its waters | rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken; God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R**

⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD, what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰**"Be still, then, and know that | I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."**

¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. R

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

The Second Lesson is from the 1st chapter of Colossians.

THE LESSON READS:

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* THE VERSE (sung by Choir)

Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Alleluia. [Revelation 22:13]

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

* GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 23rd chapter.

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Stephen Rodgers

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

#309 LBW

* NICENE CREED (all)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the

**Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P With the people of God gathered here and throughout the world, we offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

For Christ's church on earth and for those who proclaim the good news of your reign, that all divisions cease, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

P For your creation in all its beauty, for water and land, plants and animals, and for those who advocate for the just use of the earth, that all creatures enjoy life abundant, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

P For government leaders, for those who provide justice and safety, and for those in war-torn places, that all be guided by the peace of the Lord, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

P For the alienated, for the sick and suffering, for those living with HIV/AIDS, and for those in need of reconciliation (especially for all of our shutins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Jean McNaught, Jane Marhefka, Fay McCormick, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Mona Lawson, Sara Ann Aurand, and Jim Yetter). And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jim Woltman, Bob Cameron, Michal Gayer, Mary Ernest, Josh Delancey, Ellwood Miller, Marylou Hazard, Letha Swab, John Miller, Brady Mingle, Belva Fulton, Edith Nipple, Joan Foltz, Velma Suloff, and Janie Shearer, that God provide them with skilled medical practitioners and counselors, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

P For those traveling this week, for those gathered with family and friends, for protection from inclement weather, and for the body of Christ gathered here, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P In thanksgiving for all the saints who lived their lives giving thanks to God and are now at rest, that their witness strengthen our confidence in the resurrection to eternal life, let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

P Almighty God, you have promised to hear those who call upon your name. We commend all our spoken and silent prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.”**

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 (‘vineyards’)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, 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, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

* 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

MEAL

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung responsively)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

* PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(sung) **C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the firstborn of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Sung) Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. 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

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Share in the inheritance of all the saints. Come to the table prepared for you.

* LAMB OF GOD (sung)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel).

DISTRIBUTION

["AT CHANCEL RAIL" – come forward by the aisle on your right; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Stand around the chancel rail to partake and return by the aisle to the left of your seat].

* COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

* POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (sung)

C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We give you thanks, shepherding God, that you have gathered your scattered flock again this day, feeding us richly with the food of Paradise. Accompany us as we serve you all the days of our lives, and gather us with the saints in the day of our death; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P God who loves us, who gives us eternal consolation and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word; and the blessing of almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you forever.

C Amen, Amen, Amen (sung)

* CLOSING HYMN “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” #559 LBW

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Diana Wise

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Braedon Walton & Hannah Ehrisman

NEXT WEEK'S CRUCIFER – Tai Kepler

NEXT WEEK'S GREETERS – Don & Barb Geedey

WELCOME

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 or indicate such in the Friendship Pads being sure to include your contact information. 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.

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.

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR COMMUNION. Wine and wheat wafers are used and if you so desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel.

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.

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.

JUST A THOUGHT – Walter Elliott, American Catholic Priest (1842 – 1928): Perseverance is not a long race, it is many short races one after another.

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.

THE DEADLINE for all items to be included in the Sunday bulletin is **Thursday noon**.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for **one month**. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact Judy directly at the church office at 436-6213 or at messiahlutheran@pa.net. If you have anyone who is a “last minute” addition after the bulletin has been printed on Fridays, please fill out an orange prayer card in the pew and lay it on the stand where the gluten free wafers are placed PRIOR to the morning worship service.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR NEW CHOIR/CRUCIFER/ACOLYTE GOWNS: We have had our current gowns for about 15 years. They have become worn, and some have stains that can't be removed. We also need more/different sizes for the crucifers and acolytes. They will be the same style and in white, but a little lighter, cooler fabric. We already have \$1000 (from a memorial in memory of Sam Zeiders) and still need \$1368 towards a total bill of \$2368 for 19 gowns and 2 more rope cinctures. We will be keeping the salvageable gowns as backups as needed. If you would like to contribute to this project, please mark your check on the note line “CHOIR GOWNS” or if giving cash, put in an envelope also marked “CHOIR GOWNS.” We thank you in advance, and appreciate any amount you feel you can contribute to this project.

PLEASE NOTIFY the church office for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. At this time of the year, in particular, there are a lot of activities and some coordination is needed so events are not “overbooked” in any specific areas of the church (this also applies to church groups who meet in the church). Please contact the office at 436-6213 or email messiahlutheran@pa.net for any changes or requests.

THE VOTERS’ ASSEMBLY MEETING DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO Sunday, November 27, 2016 following the worship service. Business: Vote on proposed budget for 2017 and board reports. Copies of the 2017 budget are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

PPC MEETING DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO Sunday December 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, November 21, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. **(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE).**

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS **THURSDAY NOON**.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

November 13, 2016 Worship Service

Attendance – 73

Total Offering - \$2,689.00

614.00

General Fund - \$2,075.00

Sunday School

Attendance – 21

Other Funds

Sunday School - \$ 57.00

Benevolence - 125.00

Building Fund - 370.00

Choir Gowns - 10.00

Flowers - 52.00

\$ 614.00

MESSIAH’S DOORS will be unlocked at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings for Sunday School and Worship.

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS – Any Messiah member who wishes to receive the monthly financial reports and the weekly tallies by email, please send Ann Beaver (annbeaver@embarqmail.com) your email address.

HARD COPIES OF THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY are now available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

COPIES OF OCTOBER PPC MINUTES are available on the piano in the Adult Sunday School Room.

DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS this year will be held Sunday, November 27, 2016, the first Sunday of Advent. Please join us for a light lunch provided by the Fellowship Committee following the Worship Service. Decorating will follow lunch.

HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE 2016 will be held Sunday, December 4th during the morning worship time. Please come join us! This is a special service with Christmas Carols, and learning about the meaning behind our traditions.

CANDLELIGHT, CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE—ALL ARE WELCOME! The 2016 combined Christmas Eve Service will begin at 7:30 p.m. with Prelude beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please plan to attend this beautiful service for the whole family including music (featuring a special anthem with combined Jr. & Sr. Choir), Communion, and Candle Lighting in celebration of anticipation of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!

MESSIAH UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENTS:

- 1) Sunday, November 27th: This is the First Sunday of Advent. Please join us as we decorate our church after the morning service and a light lunch provided by the Fellowship Board.
- 2) Sunday, December 4th: “Hanging of the Greens” Service during morning worship time.
- 3) Saturday, December 24th: Combined Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 7:30 p.m. with Prelude beginning at 7:00 p.m.

CAN TREE – Donations of gallon-size canned food is again being collected this year through the end of December to benefit Bethesda Mission. Everyone is encouraged to donate as many cans as you are able.

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.

KNITTING CLASS is finished for the rest of 2016. Classes will resume on January 9, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER FINANCIAL REPORT PACKETS (with green covers) are available on the piano. If you have any questions, call Ann Beaver at 436-9382.

HOME COMMUNION – The Compassionate Services Committee is again looking for people who would like to give Communion to our shut-ins. A rotating schedule of our shut-ins is used on a quarterly basis. If interested in this important ministry, contact Don Geedey. Phone: 436-6433 or Email: geedey@centurylink.net.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to press quilt tops for “The Needlers.” Tops can be taken home and pressed and brought back to the church. Anyone who is interested, please contact one of “The Needlers.”

WEIS AND GIANT GIFT CARDS are available to purchase from the Disciples Class. This is a very important outreach ministry that helps neighbors in need in our own community. We thank each and every one for continued support of this very worthwhile project.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2017 at Susquehanna University, Selingsgrove. 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 the church office.

WEEKLY CHURCH 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.

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

NEW BATH-SIZE BARS OF SOAP (4oz. to 5oz., preferably Ivory or unscented Dove) is continuously collected 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.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT – Women of the ELCA will be sponsoring 6 children this year for the Christmas Angel Project. A poster with the information for the children is on the bulletin board in the Kitchenette. Gifts are to be wrapped, labeled with the child’s name and family number, and returned to the Adult Sunday School Room by **December 4th**.

ITEMS FOR THE SEAFARERS BAGS will be collected through next summer, that way everyone will get to take advantage of any holiday saving and after Christmas sales for the winter items. Items needed are:

- 1 sweatshirt, preferably hooded (sizes L-XL)
- 3 pairs of socks (thermal or white gym socks)
- 1 pull-over T-shirt (sizes M-L)
- 1 knit heavy winter cap

COMMUNITY

A CHRISTMAS TEA will be held in the Social Room of the Port Royal Lutheran Church at 10:00 a.m. on December 15th. Everyone is invited to join us for carols, food and fellowship in celebration of the Christmas Season.

HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS

(Food items still needed)

TURKEYS, TURKEY BREASTS (AROUND 12 LBS.), HAMS (3-5 LBS), STUFFING,
INSTANT MASHED POTATOES, CANNED SWEET POTATOES,
GRAVY MIX OR CANNED GRAVY, CAKE MIX AND
READY-MADE ICING OR OTHER DESSERT MIX, CANNED FRUITS OR
A \$20 DONATION WILL PURCHASE ONE COMPLETE MEAL!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Christ the King Sunday.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Confirmation Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. Lay Worship Leader: Stephen Rodgers.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Property Committee meeting in Choir Room.
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -THANKSGIVING DAY.
- Friday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
- Sunday:** -First Sunday in Advent/Food Pantry Sunday.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School /Confirmation Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. Lay Worship Leader: Sam Leister.
-Voters’ Assembly following worship service. Business: vote on proposed 2017 budget and board reports.
-Lunch in Fellowship Hall followed by church decorating.