

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059
Church Office / 436-6213

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
The Rev. Paul Kampa
June Bricker
Andrea Cameron
Briley Holderman
Christie Holderman
Caden Swailes
Larry & Shirley Covert

Interim Pastor
Worship Leader
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolyte
Greeters

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST September 18, 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

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recall that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

* 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 “Just As I Am, without One Plea”

* 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 God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

FIRST READING

A reading from Amos 8:4-7

THE LESSON READS:

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

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

PSALM: Psalm 113 (Responsively)

L – The LORD lifts up the poor from the ashes. (Ps. 113:7)

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴**The LORD is high above all nations, God's glory above the heavens.**

⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

⁶but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

All – The LORD lifts up the poor from the ashes.

The Pastoral Epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

SECOND READING

A reading from 1 Timothy 2:1-7

THE LESSON READS:

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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 tells the curious story of a dishonest man who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

* GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 16th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.'³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my

master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Pastor Paul Kampa

* HYMN OF THE DAY "O Master, Let Me Walk with You"

* 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:

[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, 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 Rejoicing in the Spirit's work among us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

P Giver of the feast, bless your church and all who hunger and thirst. Nourish us richly with your word and meal, and send us as signs of your living presence in the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Ruler of the earth, bring forth an abundant harvest from fields, orchards, and gardens. Renew fields that will soon lie fallow. Feed and protect all wild creatures. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of the nations, we pray for places in the world affected by conflict, war, and turmoil. We pray that your perfect peace and order be restored. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God of our weary years, we remember before you those among us who are sick or who are recovering from illness or surgery (especially all of our shut-ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Jean McNaight, 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, and Edith Nipple. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God our beginning and ending, we thank you for hope even in the midst of despair. Visit this assembly with your light and truth. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P God of our silent tears, we remember the faithful departed who make up the great cloud of witnesses. Gather us all in praise around your throne. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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

“On Eagle’s Wings”

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.

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

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 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 – Christie Holderman

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTE – Haley Mummah

NEXT WEEK'S GREETER – Randy Clark

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) 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.

WE WELCOME Pastor Paul Kampa as our worship leader and pray God's blessing on him as he ministers to us this morning.

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.

JUST A THOUGHT – Jonathan Edwards, Preacher and Theologian (1703 – 1758): Love is the sum of all virtue, and life disposes us to do good.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at dkint@nmax.net. If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

September 11, 2016 Worship Service

Attendance – 63

Total Offering - \$4,190.00

\$ 837.00

General Fund - \$3,353.00

Sunday School

Attendance – 34

Other Funds

Sunday School - \$ 25.00

Benevolence - 185.00

Building Fund - 605.00

Memorial Fund - 22.00

\$ 837.00

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.

PPC WILL MEET on Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

COPIES OF THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY are now available online. Please check over the information and if you have a correction, notify the church office or Bob St. Clair.

COPIES OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY PPC MINUTES are available on the piano in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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.

REMINDER: The Thrivent lunch will be held today in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service.

3-RING BINDERS ARE AVAILABLE in assorted sizes in the church office. Anyone who would like one may stop in during regular office hours.

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

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.”

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

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.

SCHOOL KITS – We will be collecting items for School Kits beginning in June. Items needed are: 70-sheet notebooks, college-ruled paper 8 x 10½ inches, 30 centimeter rulers or rulers with cm on one side and inches on the other, pencil sharpeners, blunt scissors, unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel pens), boxes of 16 or 24 crayons, and 2½ inch erasers. Items may be placed on the table with the basket in the Adult Sunday School Room.

COMMUNITY

MEALS-ON-WHEELS - Volunteer cooks, drivers and people to help assemble meals are always needed. Please continue to support Meals-On-Wheels at their new location at Cedar Grove Brethren in Christ Church. Contributions can be sent to Juniata Meals-On-Wheels, P.O. Box 251, Mifflintown, PA 17059.

THE CROP WALK will be held this year on Sunday, October 9th at Walker Township Park. A promoter for each church is needed. Please email Graham Fowler at pastor.lostcreekpres@gmail.com if you are interested in being the promoter for your church.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER

FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE AND ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS,
BABY CARE ITEMS SUCH AS SHAMPOO/BABY WASH,
DIAPER RASH OINTMENT, LOTION AND POWDER
WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS.
(VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR A NUMBER OF POSITIONS)

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Confirmation Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. Worship Leader: The Rev. Paul Kampa.
-Worship & Music Committee meeting following worship service.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitting Class in the Jr. Church Room.
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 a.m., United Way Breakfast in Fellowship Hall.
-7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
- Saturday:** -8 a.m.—4 p.m., Juniata County Quilters Guild social in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School & Confirmation Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. Lay Worship Leader: Andrea Cameron.
-FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
-Thrivent Luncheon in Fellowship Hall.