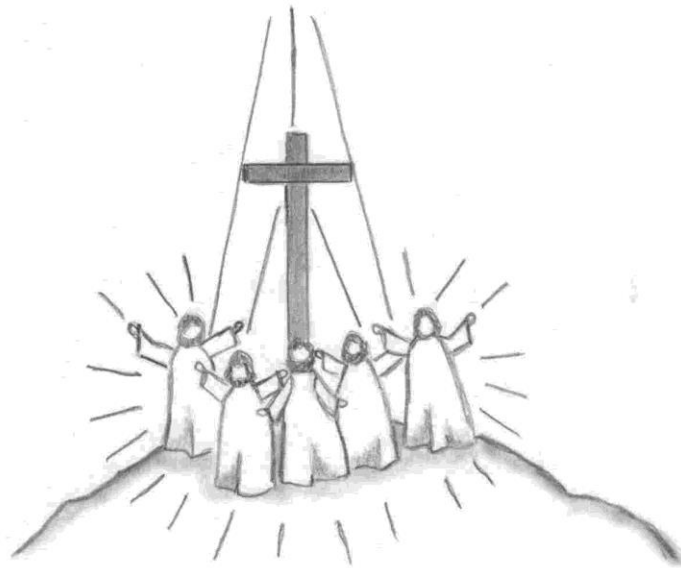


*“Proclaiming God’s Love  
in Christ and His people”*



*FIFTH SUNDAY OF  
EPIPHANY*

February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-6213

**EMAIL:**

messiahlutheran@pa.net

**WEBSITE:**

[www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org)

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# Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason  
Sam Leister  
Andrea Cameron  
June Bricker  
Bob St. Clair  
Jace White & Tai Kepler  
Barbara S. Geedey

Interim Pastor  
Lay Worship Leader  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Lector  
Acolytes  
Altar Guild

## FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 5, 2017 – 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

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we lose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

**C Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Loving God,

**C** we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

**P** Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of + Jesus Christ our Savior.

**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 "God, Whose Almighty Word" #400 LBW

\* 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, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

Shortly after the return of Israel from exile in Babylon, the people were troubled by the ineffectiveness of their fasts. God reminds them that outward observance is no substitute for genuine fasting that results in acts of justice, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and clothing the naked.

### FIRST READING

A reading from Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments, they delight to draw near to God. <sup>3</sup>"Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day, and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup>Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. <sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush, and

to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? <sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose: to lose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9a</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. [<sup>b</sup>If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, <sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. <sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.]

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 112:1-9 [10] **(responsively)**

L - Light shines in the darkness for the upright. (Ps. 112:4)

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>**For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

[<sup>10</sup>**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

**ALL - Light shines in the darkness for the upright.**

Though people such as the Corinthians are enamored with human philosophy and wisdom, Paul continuously presents God's hidden wisdom which is Jesus Christ crucified. True spiritual maturity involves judging ourselves and others in light of God's revelation in the cross.

## SECOND READING

A reading from 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. <sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [<sup>13</sup>And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. <sup>14</sup>Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. <sup>16</sup>"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.]

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.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus encourages his followers to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, doing good works and keeping God's commandments.

\* GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. <sup>14</sup>You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup>No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. <sup>17</sup>Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup>For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Sam Leister

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

#327 LBW

\* 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, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.  
A brief silence.

P Eternal God, you are one-in-three and three-in-one. Strengthen the ministry of the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation. Solidify ecumenical partnerships as they work to break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Send relief where storms and floods overwhelm. Provide shelter and safe habitat for all creatures. Protect seeds and bulbs for the spring and fall harvest. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Ignite the nations with the flame of your justice. Enlighten the leaders of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank with your wisdom; guide government officials to seek economic justice in their communities. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Comfort the afflicted, compassionate God. Accompany all who wait on death row. Reconcile families torn apart by crime or addiction. Heal the brokenhearted, the newly diagnosed, and all who suffer (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, Betty Karstetter, and Jim Yetter). And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jim Woltman, Bob Cameron, Michal Gayer, Letha Swab, Brady Mingle, Belva Fulton, Joan Foltz, Mary Ernest, John Miller, Orville Graybill, Ellen Calhoun, Harold 'Butch' Oberholtzer, Randy Clark, Joyce Doyle, Steve Bahorik, Gary Bechtold, Pete Swab (Letha & Clark Swab's daughter), Joan Fulkroad, Bill Holderman and Don Clark. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Fill those who form the faith of others with insight and energy. Multiply the fruit of their labor. Grow disciples eager to feast on your living word and embody it each day. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.



P We thank you for all the saints who dared to shine with the light of Christ. Compel us to shine freely and witness to your abundant grace each day. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**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 The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

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

\* CLOSING HYMN

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

#482 LBW

## 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.**

**\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

(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** O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day—that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**\* DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

**C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

Postlude

Carl Wilhelm Kern

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NEXT WEEK'S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Ron Yorks

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Harrison Mummah & Braedon Walton

**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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Miller by family.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Sam Leister, an Authorized Lay Worship Leader of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Authorized Lay Worship Leaders have received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and also have been authorized by the bishop of the synod to preside at the Eucharist in specific situations. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is committed to ordained ministry as the primary means for filling the needs of this church for Word and Sacrament, but at this place in the church's pilgrimage, the church's inability to provide all congregations with full-time ordained pastoral ministry presents a challenge. On any given Sunday, congregations have needs that cannot be met by available ordained ministers. Therefore, because it is the bishop's responsibility to meet the Word and Sacrament needs of the congregations in this synod, synodically authorized lay worship leaders are trained to meet this need. On behalf of the whole church, Bishop Collins is deeply gratified by the ministry of these servants of the Gospel.

JUST A THOUGHT – Michael Ramsey, Archbishop of Canterbury (1904 – 1988): Calvary is the key to an omnipotence which works only and always through sacrificial love.

**CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at [diskint@nmax.net](mailto:diskint@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](mailto: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.

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](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net) for any changes or requests.

**WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:**

<u>January 29, 2017 Worship Service</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	
Attendance – 58	Attendance – 28	Sunday School -	\$ 54.00
Total Offering - \$2381.50		Benevolence -	180.00
		Building Fund -	<u>110.00</u>
			\$344.00
General Fund - \$ 2037.50			

BAKE SALE – The youth of Messiah will hold a bake sale following the church service on March 5<sup>th</sup> in order to raise funds for the cost of camp at Mt. Luther this summer.

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

MESSIAH WILL BE HOSTING Chad Hershberger, Director of Camp Mt. Luther, on Sunday, March 5, 2017. This will also be Messiah Youth Sunday for 2017. The youth will be helping throughout the service and will also provide the anthem that day.

TODAY IS SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY and our youth will be holding soup pots at the rear of the church. 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 and also by donating a can of soup today. Proceeds will go to the Juniata County Food Pantry.

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](mailto:annbeaver@embarqmail.com)) your email address.

COPIES OF DECEMBER PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

A FIRST COMMUNION CLASS will be held for any youth who are interested. Parents may contact the church office at 436-6213 or Sam Leister at 436-8589. A date and time will be set based on those who wish to attend.

2017 CAMPING BROCHURES AND REGISTRATION FORMS for Camp Mt. Luther are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room or you may register online at [www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org). Please note that if you register online, you still need to get a health form signed by a doctor. Any young people planning to attend one of the church camps this summer are asked to get their registrations in before April 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid a late fee.

BAPTISMAL/NEW MEMBER CLASS will be held for those who are interested. If you wish to have your child baptized or you wish to attend the New Member Class, please call the church office at 436-6213.

DECEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT PACKETS (with red covers) are available in the back of the sanctuary. 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."

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, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly the 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

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**

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY**  
ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, PERSONAL  
CARE PRODUCTS: SHAMPOO, DEODORANT,  
TOOTHPASTE, TOOTHBRUSHES AND LOTION.  
DONATIONS OF CASH/GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

### **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** -Souper Bowl Sunday.  
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion. (Lay Worship Leader: Sam Leister).
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitters in Jr. Church 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:** -7 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader: Andrea Cameron).  
-Fellowship Hall reserved for Cub Scout Banquet.

**Messiah Lutheran Church  
Youth Sunday Dinner  
March 5, 2017**



You are invited to attend the Youth Sunday Dinner at Messiah on Sunday, March 5, 2017 in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service. The menu will consist of Pork and Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Hot Dogs, Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cole Slaw, Fresh Vegetables, and Ice Cream with toppings for dessert (provided by the Board of Parish Fellowship).

Reservations can be made by detaching the bottom portion of this sheet and placing it in the offering plate by **February 26<sup>th</sup>** or by calling the church office at 436-6213.

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**Messiah Youth Sunday Dinner**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number  
Attending \_\_\_\_\_