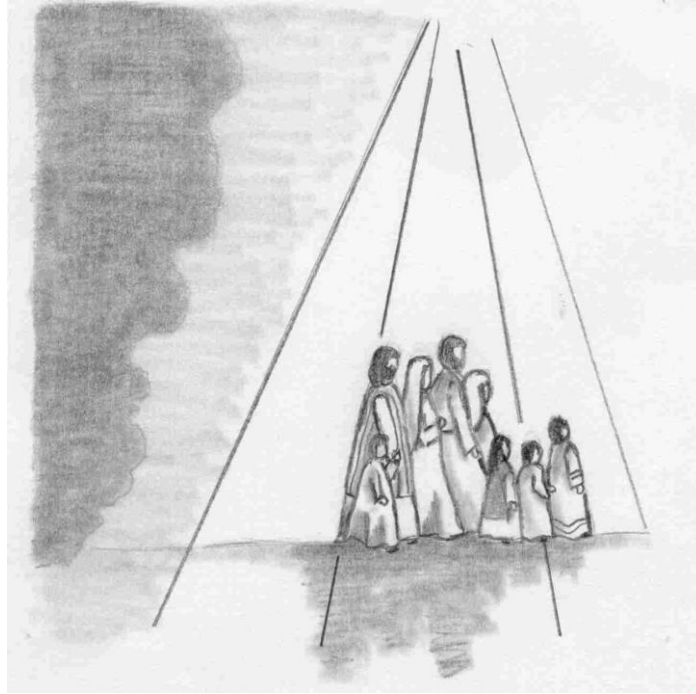


*“Proclaiming God’s Love
in Christ and His people”*



***THIRD SUNDAY OF
LENT***

March 19th, 2017

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

EMAIL:

messiahlutheran@pa.net

WEBSITE:

www.mlcmifflintown.org

The artwork is by Sharon Geiser. Permission to use this copyrighted graphic is limited to congregational use.
This bulletin cover provided by www.scholia.net and is made available without cost.

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
Jim Bahorik
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Jean Compton
Tawny Mummah
Harrison Mummah & Braedon Walton
John & Kim White

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT March 19, 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: “There is a Green Hill Far Away” L. A. Warriner
[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Merciful God,

C forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet. We were silent when we should have said something. We acted when we knew better. We were still when we know we should have moved. For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P People of God, look to the + Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—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

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

#561 LBW

* GREETING

P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (C - 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 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.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)

P Let us pray...

C Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put the Lord to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to the Lord. The Lord commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the Lord among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:1-7

The First Reading is from the 17th chapter of Exodus.

THE LESSON READS:

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95 (responsively)

L – Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation. (Ps. 95:1)

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.

³For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

⁸"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.

⁹There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'

¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger, "They shall never come to my rest."

ALL – Let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus' death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

The Second Reading is from the 5th chapter of Romans.

THE LESSON READS:

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* LENTEN VERSE (sung)

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Jesus defies convention to engage a Samaritan woman in conversation. Her testimony, in turn, leads many others to faith.

* GOSPEL: John 4:5-42

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 4th chapter.

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

⁵[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." ²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he? ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³²But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." ³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him

because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Jim Bahorik

#327 LBW

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

* 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.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Lifting our voices and turning toward God, let us pray for the church, the earth, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P O God, let your church on earth, justified and reconciled through Jesus Christ, be bold in its proclamation of the gospel. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P In your hands are the depths of the earth and the sea which you made. Make us faithful inhabitants of this earth, caring for the waterways and their creatures. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Lead the nations of the world away from the wilderness of sin and evil, and toward the light of love and peace. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P To those who are thirsty for love, for justice, for peace, for belonging, give the water of life. For those who are suffering or in pain, bring healing balm and peace (We pray especially for all of our shut-ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Jean McNaught, Jane Marhefka, 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, Joan Foltz, Mary Ernest, John Miller, Orville Graybill, Harold 'Butch' Oberholtzer, Randy Clark, Joyce Doyle, Steve Bahorik, Gary Bechtold, Pete Swab (Letha & Clark Swab's daughter), Joan Fulkroad, Bill Holderman, Don Clark, Dani White, Seth Arentz, Tom Lyter, Charlie Stouffer, Andrea Cameron, Laine Guiser, Rowe Shepps, Tom Ernest, and Teresa Kauffman. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Lead this congregation in service to others. Embolden the faithful here with your promise and your presence. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We give thanks for the witness and testimony of the saints who have gone before us into eternal life (especially Joseph, guardian of Jesus). Let us boast in the hope they have shared, a hope that does not disappoint us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

"I Rest In the Lord"

F. Ritter

[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 (sung)

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 sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

MEAL

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P With his Body and Blood, Jesus Christ delivers us from the power of darkness.

C and leads us into the Kingdom of God.

P Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death,

C even to death on a cross.

P He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities,

C and on him was the chastisement that made us whole.

P Here at his holy table he feeds us now with his Body and Blood.

C Glory to you, our Lord and Savior; with your Body and Blood you redeem the World.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C We praise you, O God.

P Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C We bless you, O God.

P We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C We thank you, O God.

P 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 love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

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.

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

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

COMMUNION:

“At the Appointed Hour”

T. Birchwood

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 Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace.

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

* DISMISSAL

P Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CLOSING CHIMES

Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

NEXT WEEK'S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Rev. James Bricker

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Tawny Mummah

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Nathan Swailes & Tyler Rosenberry

NEXT WEEK'S GREETERS – John & Kim White

VISITORS INFORMATION

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 purple 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.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Jim Bahorik, 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 – St. Theresa of Avila, Spanish Nun and Mystic (1515 – 1582): My soul is like a mirror in which the glory of God is reflected, but sin, however insignificant, covers the mirror with smoke.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at 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. 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. 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.

NEW MEMBER AND FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES will be offered at Messiah. Anyone who is interested may call the church office at 436-6213 or email messiahlutheran@pa.net or contact Sam Leister at 436-8589 or sleister@nmax.net

MEMBERS OF MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH will be traveling to Sight and Sound Theatres on Saturday, May 6, 2017 to see a presentation of Jonah. The tour includes motor coach transportation, buffet lunch at Shady Maple Smorgasbord, and a matinee show ticket. See bulletin flyer for details and contact Kate Swailes with any questions. [Invite your friends and family members.](#)

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.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

March 12, 2017 Worship Service

Attendance – 63
 Total Offering - \$2370.00
 855.00
 General Fund - \$ 1515.00

Sunday School

Attendance – 27

Other Funds

Sunday School -	\$ 74.00
Benevolence -	110.00
Building Fund -	125.00
World Hunger -	50.00
Summer Camp -	<u>496.00</u>
	\$ 855.00

GET EXCITED FOR CAMP THIS SUMMER! Campers of all ages are invited to come to Mount Luther this summer and take advantage of all the programs they have to offer! There are traditional, specialty and trip camps for school-aged kids and Family Camp for kids and adults. Mount Luther is located five miles west of Mifflinburg in Union County. This year’s theme is “The Water of Life” giving campers a new awareness of how water and life are gifts from God. Don’t forget that if you register before April 1, 2017 you receive a discount on your camp fee. Or, if you bring a friend to camp who’s never been there, you and the friend (or sibling or church buddy) can both get \$25 off your registration.

KATE SWAILES is serving this year as our camp person, a liaison between Mount Luther and our congregation. Because we have a camp person, you can see her to get an additional discount in the camp store! For more information on summer camp programs, you can contact Kate or visit the camp website at www.campmountluther.org. Submit your registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. Kate will submit the forms to Mount Luther.

THANK YOU – I would like to thank all of the Parish Fellowship committee members for helping to cook, serve, and clean-up the sauerkraut meal on Sunday, March 5th following church. I am so thankful for my committee and their help. I would also like to thank the members of Messiah’s congregation for attending the meal. Your commitment to our church is invaluable and I thank God for your support and willingness to keep our congregation strong. The meal was a great success and again thank you.

Barb Geedey

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

FEBRUARY FINANCIAL REPORT PACKETS (with YELLOW 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.

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.

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.

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.

THE NEXT MEETING OF MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Cynthia Smith will be devotional leader.

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; BABY
SUPPLIES: DIAPERS (SIZES 4-6), BABY SHAMPOO,
BABY LOTION, DIAPER RASH OINTMENT.
DONATIONS OF CASH/GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE: 7:00 p.m. April 13th at St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church with Pastor Dan Kerlin preaching.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE: 12:00 Noon April 14th at Messiah Lutheran Church with Pastor Chris Mathiason preaching and Sam Leister assisting with the service.

*THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED TO WORSHIP EACH WEDNESDAY OF LENT (MARCH 8 TO APRIL 5) AT 7:00 P.M. AT ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH.

THE COMMUNITY WOMEN'S LENTEN TEAS will begin on March 1st with fellowship at 9:30 a.m. and Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. The study will be on the book "Wind in the Wilderness." Teas will be held at the following locations:

March 22	St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
March 29	Aldersgate Methodist Church
April 5	St. Jude's Catholic Church

PORT ROYAL COMMUNITY LENTEN TEAS will begin on March 7th at 10:00 a.m. each Tuesday during Lent and will be hosted by the Port Royal Presbyterian Church. The theme will be They Knew How to Pray. Teas will be held on the following dates:

March 21	Speaker: Pastor Nancy McClure	Topic: The Prayer Life of Hannah
March 28	Speaker: Ted Kepner	Topic: The Prayer Life of David
April 4	Speaker: Skip Kepner	Topic: The Prayer Life of Paul
April 11	Speaker: Pastor Crystal Lyde	Topic: Your Prayer Life

COMMUNITY MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST SPEAKERS FOR PORT ROYAL:
(7:00 a.m. at the Port Royal Community Building)

March 25	Rev. Phil Persing	First Baptist Church
April 1	Mr. Warren Wagner	Free Spring Church of the Brethren
April 8	Mr. Don Musser	Faith Community Church
April 15	Rev. Bob Landis	River Church

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Confirmation Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church (Lay Worship Leader: Jim Bahorik).

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.
-6—9 p.m., Juniata Valley Quilters in Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday: -9:30 a.m., Women's Lenten Tea at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.
-8 p.m., Choir rehearsal in Rearick Room.

Thursday: -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.

Sunday: -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Confirmation Class.
-FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader: Rev. James Bricker).
-Worship & Music Committee meeting following worship service.
-7 p.m., PPC meeting in Youth Area.

Monday: -(March 20), 11:30 a.m., Memorial Service for Fay McCormick at Messiah.