

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 24th, 2019

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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Messiah Lutheran Church

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Mifflintown, PA 17059

Church Office: 717-436-6213 Email: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
Stephen Rodgers
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Barb Geedey
Diana Wise
Gabby Reed & Braedon Walton
Haley Mummah & Slone Smith

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 24, 2019 – 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: “Rise Up, O Saints of God”

L. Smith

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of the glory of God revealed in the Christ.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Mighty and loving God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We seek our own way. We divide the body of Christ. In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us. Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts, and everything that we do be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

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

C Amen.

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” #526 Green Hymnal

* 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 **O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good, to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

FIRST READING

A reading from Genesis 45:3-11, 15

THE LESSON READS:

³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" "

¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (**responsively**)

L – The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. (Ps. 37:11)

¹Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**

³Put your trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight in the LORD, who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, and see what God will do.

⁶**The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

¹⁰**In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

All – The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

SECOND READING

A reading from 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

THE LESSON READS:

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last

Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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.

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even to enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

* **GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38**

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

[Jesus said:] ²⁷"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

* HYMN OF THE DAY

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

#235 Green Hymnal

* APOSTLES’ CREED (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.**

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P United as one body in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

P We pray for the church. Fill us with a spirit of generosity and care. Lead us to forgive as we have been forgiven. Show us new ways to be helpful to others. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the earth. Grant seasonable weather for the planting and harvesting of crops. Protect farms, orchards, and gardens from damage. Bless those who till fields, those who care for livestock, and all who provide food. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the nations. For all researchers and leaders who work to resolve complex issues; for all who teach peace and reconciliation to communities in conflict; for those affected by earthquake, drought, or storms, and all who come to their aid. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For those in need. For those who lack adequate food, shelter, or access to medical care; for those unable to find gainful employment. Heal the sick, and comfort the grieving. Today we pray especially for our shut-ins, the sick, and those who may be grieving who are in our hearts and minds listed here: Kitty Walters, Jane Marhefka, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Mona Lawson, and Jim Yetter. And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Jim Woltman, Bob & Andrea Cameron, Mary Ernest, John Miller, Joan Fulkroad, Don Clark, Butch & Sandy Pines, Joyce Bradley, Minnie Minick, Austin Parker, Terry Coder, Rich Walters, Mary Sanders, Jane Ann Baney, Donna Barton, Carolina Rubio, Josh Hohol, Noel Peachey, Shirley Miller, Elienai Ramirez, Larry Miller, Ed Fraker, Ben & Dorothy Towsey, Tami Metz, Dottie Wilson, Sieber Stoner, Carol Lyter, Kay Stuck, Jasmine Vazquez, Jim Minick, Bob Bell, Curt & Judy Houtz, Pat Cook, Kevin Miller, Linda

Zimmerman, Jean Zimmerman, Edith Nipple, Will Delancey, and family of Norman B. Gloss. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For this assembly. Inspire us to be good stewards of the resources you have entrusted to us. Teach us to give freely of ourselves and to offer our lives in service. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P **Gracious calling God**, call on us with your grace again and again. Renew us daily in the peace, hope, and eternal life we have been promised and which we have been called to proclaim. As we work to call a pastor to our congregation, may we count on the prayers of all members of this community of faith to uphold us, just as we trust your Spirit to guide us. We remember, God, you are the One who called us first. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died. Even in the midst of death, give us faith to trust your promise of everlasting life. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Receive our prayers and fill us with the radiance of your love; through 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:

“This Is My Prayer”

E. Broughton

[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:

“Christ Is With Us”

arr. by Benjamin Harlan

* SUNG OFFERTORY (“Create in Me”) (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 God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

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 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.

* 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 Come to the table. Feast on God's abundant life for you.

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

DISTRIBUTION:

"Thanks For the Mercies"

M. Shea

["INTINCTION" – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

* COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

* 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)

* SENDING HYMN “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” #315 Green Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is your light. **C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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Next Week’s Lay Worship Leader – Sam Leister

Next Week’s Lector – Slone Smith

Next Week’s Altar Guild – Diana Wise

Next Week’s Acolytes – Nick Reed & Hannah Ehrisman

Offering Ushers – Olivia Mummah & Zeb Berry

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.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Stephen Rodgers 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 – C. S. Lewis, Oxford Professor, Christian Writer and self-made Theologian (1898 – 1963): There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, “thy will be done,” and those to whom God says, in the end, “Thy will be done.” All that are in Hell choose the second.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

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 the church office at 436-6213 or mlchurchoffice@gmail.com. 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.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you wish to be included on the email recipient list for the Messiah Prayer Chain, please send an email to Sam Leister at sleister@gmail.com.

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 mlchurchoffice@gmail.com for any changes or requests.

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.”

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2019 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly the 1st Sunday of May. If you are interested in serving, please contact Sam Leister or the church office.

COPIES OF JANUARY 27, 2019 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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

A VOTERS ASSEMBLY MEETING will be held today following the worship service. Business: approval of the 2018 audit and board reports.

SUNDAY'S SOLDIERS EVENT – On Sunday, March 3rd from 3-6 p.m., our Sunday's Soldiers will have a special event at the Juniata County Sportsman's Club. Our resident archery expert, Larry Wise, will be sharing his knowledge with our youth. There will be a special contest of kids v. parents!! Please contact Tawny Mummah at (717-363-7406) if you plan to attend so we can be sure to have plenty of pizza.

KATE SWAILES IS SERVING AS OUR CONGREGATION'S CAMPERSON with Camp Mount Luther again this year. She has information on programs for the summer, as well as other events throughout the year. If you have additional questions, you can contact her or the camp office at (570) 922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org. Since our congregation has a camperson, each camper from our church will receive Camel Bucks from Kate for use at the camp store this summer! Summer brochures are now available for Camp Mount Luther. Church camping is an important faith developer of our young people.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CAMP MOUNT LUTHER or to print the camp registration form, visit www.campmountluther.org. Submit your camp registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. We ask that you submit your registration form and payment to Kate prior to April 15th so that we receive the early registration discount. The remaining portion of the cost of camp will be covered by various fund-raising events, donations, etc. Kate will submit the registration forms to Mount Luther. There is also a posting on the Youth bulletin board listing upcoming events at Camp Mount Luther. On March 31st, Chad Hershberger, Director of Camp Mount Luther, will be at our church to share information about this year's programs as part of our Children's Service.

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.

THE WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on Sunday, March 3, 2019 in the Library following the worship service.

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.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2019

| <u>Attendance</u> | | <u>Other Funds</u> | |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Worship Service – 56 | | Benevolence - | \$ 90.00 |
| Sunday School - 28 | | Building Fund - | \$ 210.00 |
| Total Offering | \$2,354.00 | Sunday School - | <u>\$ 55.00</u> |
| Other Funds | <u>\$ 355.00</u> | Total | \$ 355.00 |
| General Fund | \$1,999.00 | | |

CHURCH OFFICE CHANGE OF HOURS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Open Monday, February 25th 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Closed Tuesday, February 26th.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

NEW BATH-SIZE BARS OF SOAP (4 oz. to 5 oz., 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.

WELCA WILL BE COLLECTING items for the Seafarers' Kits through Spring as this is the best time to get good sales of the needed items. Anyone who would like to contribute can bring items to the church and place them in the container provided for them. The items needed are: one sweatshirt (hooded or unhooded in sizes L-XL), 3 pairs of socks (thermal or white gym socks), one casual pull-over T-shirt in sizes M-L, and one heavy winter cap. The Seafarers enjoy sports teams and Nascar heroes.

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MARCH:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD AND FLU MEDICINES, COUGH DROPS, PAPER TOWELS, DISH DETERGENT, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, AND DIAPERS (SIZES 4, 5 & 6). DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

THE ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE will be held on March 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Messiah. Service will be a County-wide worship service involving all Juniata County Lutheran Churches (Centre, Thompsontown, Messiah, Port Royal, St. Paul's, St. Stephen's, and Trinity Lutheran Churches).

PORT ROYAL MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST SPEAKERS. Breakfasts will be held on Saturdays during Lent at 7:00 a.m. at the Port Royal Community Building.

- March 9: Mr. Stew Kehler, Matamoras Methodist Church
- March 16: Rev. Warren Peachey, Retired Pastor
- March 23: Mr. Mark Partner, St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- March 30: Rev. Mike Neiman, Shamokin Dam Baptist Church
- April 6: Rev. Leroy Yoder, Shade Mt. Fellowship Church
- April 13: Rev. Dave Gingrich, Delaware Mennonite Church
- April 20: Rev. Ken Hepner, Cedar Grove Brethren in Christ Church

PORT ROYAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL CHICKEN PIE LUNCHEON will be held on Thursday, February 28, 2019 in the Social Room from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. (in the event of bad weather, snow date will be Friday, March 1st). Both 'eat in' and 'take out' orders are by reservation only. The deadline for orders is **Wednesday, February 21st**. Cost: \$8.00 per chicken pie (order includes applesauce or slaw, as well as a piece of cake). 'Eat in' orders also include a drink. To place advance orders, please contact either Georgia at 717-527-4040 or the church office at 717-527-4581.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:**
- Food Pantry Sunday.
 - 9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
 - 10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader: Stephen Rodgers).
 - Voters' Assembly meeting following the Worship Service.
 - 7:00 p.m., Ash Wednesday choir rehearsal at Port Royal Lutheran Church.
- Monday:**
- 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., church office will be open.
 - 6:30 p.m., Knitting Class in Jr. Church Room.
 - 8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:**
- Church office closed today.
 - 9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:**
- 7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal in Rearick Room.
- Sunday:**
- 9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
 - 10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader:
 - 7:00 p.m., Ash Wednesday choir rehearsal at Messiah.
 - Music & Worship Committee meeting in Library following Worship Service.
 - 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., Sunday's Soldiers archery event at Juniata Co. Sportsmen's Club.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A CONGREGATIONAL MEAL ON
ST. PATRICK'S DAY**



**Sunday, March 17, 2019 in
Messiah's Fellowship Hall following the Worship Service**

**Ham and Green Beans will be provided
by the Board of Parish Fellowship**

Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish (**if they are able**). The covered dish can be anything (preferably something green) but anything is acceptable—be creative! There are a lot of vegetables, salads, and dessert recipes to choose from. Please wear something green!

(tear off bottom of sheet and place in the offering plate)

Name(s)_____

Bringing covered dish () YES () NO_____