

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## *THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT*

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

***EMAIL:***

[mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)

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# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason  
The Rev. Thomas Martin  
Andrea Cameron  
Bob St. Clair  
Diana Wise  
Kay Varner  
Zeb Berry & Harrison Mummah  
Nick Reed & Hannah Ehrisman

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

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 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: “He Leadeth Me” D. Paxton

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Lent is a season of repentance. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

**C Amen.**

P In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God at the margins,

**C We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.**

P Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of + Christ, leading you from death into 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 "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" #343 Green Hymnal

\* 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 Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

To those who have experienced long years in exile, the return to their homeland is a celebration of abundant life. God calls them into an everlasting covenant of love. Those who return to the Lord will enjoy new life and forgiveness, because God's ways are not our ways.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-9

The First Reading is from the 55<sup>th</sup> chapter of Isaiah.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup>Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. <sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup>See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup>See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. <sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Cong: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 63:1-8 (**responsively**)

L – O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you. (Ps. 63:1)

<sup>1</sup>O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

<sup>2</sup>**Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, that I might behold your power and your glory.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise.

<sup>4</sup>**So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.**

<sup>5</sup>My spirit is content, as with the richest of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

<sup>6</sup>**when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

<sup>8</sup>**My whole being clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.**

**ALL – O God, eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you.**

Paul uses images from Hebrew story and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

The Second Reading is from the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter of 1 Corinthians.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup>And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. <sup>11</sup>These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup>So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup>No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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.

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

\* GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

<sup>1</sup>At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>[Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' <sup>8</sup>He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Rev. Thomas Martin

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

#457 Green Hymnal

\* 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 Seeking the grace, mercy, and love of almighty God, we offer our prayers for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation.

A brief silence.

P Holy God, build up the body of Christ and cause the gifts of your Spirit to grow among us. Lead us to recognize your saving work through the spiritual practices you encourage. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

- P Water the earth with gentle rains and melting snow. Provide clean water for drinking, washing, and nourishing plants that will bear fruit for your creatures. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P Uphold people who speak your righteousness in the face of religious or political persecution. Receive martyrs (like Oscar Arnulfo Romero, whom we commemorate today) into your everlasting peace. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P Provide relief for those suffering and in pain. 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, Linda Zimmerman, Jean Zimmerman, Edith Nipple, Will Delancey, Fred Dowling, and Avonel Waller. Grant wisdom to health care workers who seek to diagnose ailments, and bring healing to patients. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P Promote unity within your church and among the nations. Uncover the common threads in our shared humanity, and keep us from making hasty judgments about others. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- 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. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P Knit together the communion of saints, and bind us to Christ, our head. Through the diversity of gifts present in our communities, help us to overcome our limitations and increase our understanding of ourselves and others. Hear us,
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways; through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

“Blessed Jesu”

G. Faure

[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 Generous God, you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest.

**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 Christ has prepared the feast. Come to the table where all are welcomed home.

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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION: "The Lovely Name of Jesus" J. Southbridge  
["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 Tender and merciful one, at your feast, you fed us who brought nothing, turning our emptiness into joy. Filled with your abundant grace, send us now to be ministers of reconciliation, mending broken hearts, working for justice, and striving for peace among all people, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C Amen.**

## SENDING

### \* BLESSING

P God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, + bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

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

### \* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## CLOSING CHIMES

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NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP LEADER – Rev. Erin Bovendam/GUEST SPEAKER – Chad Hershberger

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Hope Miller & Gabby Reed

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING USHERS – Julia Martin & Haley Mummah

## 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 The Rev. Thomas Martin. We welcome him and pray God's blessing on him as he ministers to us this morning.

JUST A THOUGHT – David Martyn Lloyd-Jones, Welsh Protestant Minister, Preacher, and Doctor (1899 – 1981): A man's God is that for which he lives, for which he is prepared to give his time, his energy, his money; that which stimulates him and rouses him, excites, and enthuses him.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 on June 14 and 15, 2019 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly on Sunday, March 31, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, McAlisterville. If you are interested in serving, please contact Sam Leister or the church office.

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](mailto: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.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CAMP MOUNT LUTHER or to print the camp registration form, visit [www.campmountluther.org](http://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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 31<sup>st</sup>, 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.

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

MUSIC SUNDAY will be held this year on Mother's Day, May 12, 2019. We are celebrating this year by having our own "homegrown" musicians perform for our service on Mom's special day. This includes instrumentalists from Tuscarora Junior High School, our junior and senior choirs, our organist, as well as others from our congregation who have musical talents, including our very own Christina Martin! Come join us for a service celebrating Mom and celebrating the music of our church....and a surprise from the Fellowship Committee following the 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.

PPC WILL MEET this evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, March 25, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room.

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 MARCH 17, 2019

<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Other Funds</u>	
Worship Service – 62		Benevolence -	\$ 95.00
Sunday School - 21		Building Fund -	\$ 265.00
Total Offering	\$2,577.00	Sunday School -	\$ 67.00
Other Funds	<u>\$ 520.00</u>	Flowers -	\$ 68.00
General Fund	\$2,057.00	Summer Camp -	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
		Total	\$ 520.00

**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.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA DAY OF LEARNING & RENEWAL EVENT will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at Messiah Lutheran Church in New Berlin. Esther Bratton of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church will be one of the presenters. The day will be based on travels to Liberia.

## **COMMUNITY**

### **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR APRIL:**

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, SHAMPOO, DEODORANT, CLEANING SUPPLIES, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, DISH SOAP, ALL PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS, AND DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES will be held at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church every Wednesday (March 13 – April 10) beginning at 7:00 p.m.

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 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

### **WOMEN'S COMMUNITY 2019 LENTEN TEA SCHEDULE:**

- March 27 St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
- April 3 Aldersgate United Methodist Church
- April 10 Messiah Lutheran Church

Fellowship begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by the Bible Study titled "Final Words" at 10:00 a.m.

### **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Worship Leader: The Rev. Thomas Martin).  
-PPC meeting in Youth Area.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitting Class in Jr. Church Room.  
-6:30 p.m., Property Committee meeting in Choir Room.  
-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Friday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
- Sunday:** -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY/YOUTH SUNDAY SERVICE & HEALING SERVICE.  
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Worship Leader: The Rev. Erin Bovendam/Guest Speaker: Chad Hershberger).

**EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM  
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**



Easter Sunday is April 21, 2019 and in keeping with Messiah Lutheran Church tradition, Lilies you purchase will be “planted” around our altar to help us celebrate the special occasion.

Please complete the order form below and attach **a check**, made payable to “**Messiah Lutheran Church**” and print **Easter Lilies** in the memo line. Then, please attach the check to the order form and place it in the offering plate or return to the church office by **April 12, 2019**. *PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR ORDER!!*

FLOWERS MAY BE PICKED UP FOLLOWING THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 AM.

Thank you for helping to beautify our space and for supporting our church!

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**EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST THE DEDICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Please check one: In Honor Of ( ) OR In Memory Of ( )

I would like to order the following:

Easter Lilies (4 to 6 blooms) \$8.50 # of plants \_\_\_\_\_ X \$8.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_