

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## *THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER*

May 5<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)

***WEBSITE:***

[www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://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.scholix.net](http://www.scholix.net) and is made available without cost.

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Church Office: 717-436-6213 Email: [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)

The Rev. Chris Mathiason  
Jim Bahorik  
Bob St. Clair  
Andrea Cameron  
Haley Mummah  
Kay Varner  
Nick Reed & Hope Miller  
Slone Smith & Hannah Ehrisman

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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 5, 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: “Prelude Fantasia”

R. W. Thygerson

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The disciples make a big splash and breakfast with the risen Jesus in the gospel. Wading in the water (remembering our baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating the holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us, with Peter, again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him bringing the Easter life to others.

### GATHERING

\* ENTRANCE HYMN “Blessing and Honor” #525 Green Hymnal

\* GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

**C And also with you.**

\* KYRIE (C - sung)

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L 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.**

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE I & II Choir (C – Congregation)

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

\* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (sung)

P The Lord be with you

**C And also with you.**

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)

P Let us pray...

**C Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

Each of us has a story of meeting God's grace. Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation, beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

The First reading is from the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" <sup>5</sup>He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." [<sup>7</sup>The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup>Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." <sup>11</sup>The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup>and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." <sup>13</sup>But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; <sup>14</sup>and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; <sup>16</sup>I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." <sup>17</sup>So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup>And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup>and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, <sup>20</sup>and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."]

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 30 (read responsively)

L – You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.**

<sup>3</sup>You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful; give thanks in holy remembrance.**

<sup>5</sup>God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

<sup>6</sup>**While I felt secure, I said, "I shall never be disturbed.**

<sup>7</sup>You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

<sup>8</sup>**I cried to you, O LORD; I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

<sup>9</sup>"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"

<sup>10</sup>**Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me; O LORD, be my helper."**

<sup>11</sup>You have turned my wailing into dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

<sup>12</sup>**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

**ALL – You have turned my wailing into dancing.**

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship on the Lord's Day. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."

SECOND READING: Revelation 5:11-14

The Second reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Revelation.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>11</sup>Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup>singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

<sup>13</sup>Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" <sup>14</sup>And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

\* THE VERSE (Congregation)

**Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

\* GOSPEL: John 21:1-19

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

## THE GOSPEL READS:

<sup>1</sup>After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. <sup>2</sup>Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. <sup>3</sup>Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>5</sup>Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. <sup>7</sup>That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. <sup>8</sup>But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

<sup>9</sup>When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." <sup>11</sup>So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. <sup>12</sup>Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. <sup>13</sup>Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. <sup>14</sup>This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

<sup>15</sup>When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." <sup>16</sup>A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." <sup>17</sup>He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup>Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." <sup>19</sup>(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

### \* THE VERSE (Congregation)

**Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain; Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ANTHEM

SERMON

Jim Bahorik

Junior Choir

Jim Bahorik

\* HYMN OF DAY “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies” #265 Green Hymnal

\* NICENE CREED (all)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P You call your disciples to follow the way of the cross by their words and works of love. Make your church a place of welcome and empathy for all people. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Every creature in heaven and on earth sings your praise. Give us deep appreciation for the vibrant diversity of creation—flowers and streams, animals and bugs, sunsets and stormy skies. Help us to conserve the beauty around us. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Come to the aid of those who are persecuted, oppressed, or imprisoned by hostile governments. Walk with refugees and immigrants as they seek safe homes. Raise up leaders who are generous and hospitable to migrant families. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Bring relief to bodies weary with pain or sickness. Bless doctors, nurses, hospice workers, home health care providers, therapists, social workers, and all caregivers who demonstrate your love in acts of healing and tenderness toward those in need. 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, 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, 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, Eddi Kay Gill, Jeff Dowling, Mike Maugans, Deanna Fawver, Matt Hutchinson, and Betty Ranck. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P You feed us at your holy table and send us out to feed others. Bless those who fish, bake, and cook, restaurant servers, grocery store workers, and food pantry volunteers. Open our eyes to your grace present in every meal that we share. 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 All honor and glory and blessing belong to you. We praise you for the faith of the saints. Be near us as we await the day when we will feast with the risen Christ forever. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen 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:

“Blest Be The Tie”

D. Wells

[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].



\* **SUNG OFFERTORY ('vineyards')**

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

\* **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** Risen One, as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in this meal. Nourish us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake.

**C** **Amen.**

**MEAL**

\* **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung responsively)**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And al-so with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

\* **PREFACE**

**P** It is indeed right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

\* **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

**P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**(Sung) Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. 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 Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, gives everyone a place at the welcome table.  
Alleluia! Come to the feast.

\* LAMB OF GOD (sung)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

(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:

“Chapel Windows”

R. Blake

**[“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.**

**\* POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (sung)**

**C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev’ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord.  
**C Amen.**

**\* THE SENDING AND BLESSING OF COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

**P** As we go into the world serving the ministry of Christ, may those who will extend this meal to the homebound take from the Lord’s Table what we have received here today; the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and his promise of forgiveness. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
**C Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\* BLESSING**

**P** The blessing of the living God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, and keep you from harm, and fill you with courage.  
**C A-men, A-men, A-men. (sung)**

**\* SENDING HYMN** “Jesus Calls Us; O’er the Tumult” #494 Green Hymnal

**\* DISMISSAL**

**P** You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2018 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 LECTOR – Andrea Cameron  
NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Tawny Mummah  
NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Gabby Reed & Braedon Walton  
OFFERING USHERS – Olivia Mummah & Zeb Berry  
NEXT WEEK'S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Sam Leister

## **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 worshiping 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 yellow portfolios placed on top of the sound control system. In addition, headsets are available in the Narthex for our sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired.

WE INVITE EVERYONE (members and visitors) worshiping with us today to sign the Friendship Pads during the Organ Offertory. If you are a visitor, please be sure to include your address when signing. Please also place a check mark in the box (beside your name) if you are communing today and have not as yet given us a record of your participation in the sacrament during this quarter. (A new quarter begins in January, April, July, and October). The pads are found on the aisle seat of each pew in the nave, and in each section of the Adult Sunday School Room.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Jim Baborik 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 – Paul W. Harrison, Christian Thinker: Wherever God rules over the human heart as King, there is the Kingdom of God established.

## **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.

THE MAY 2019 “MESSIAH HERALD” is now available online. Hard copies are available in the church office, Adult Sunday School Room, Kitchenette, and Fellowship Hall. If you want something placed in the Messiah Herald, please contact BOTH the church office at [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com) and Bob St. Clair at [stclairb@embarqmail.com](mailto:stclairb@embarqmail.com) prior to the newsletter deadline, which is listed on the calendar in the newsletter, or online at [www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org). Also, if anyone would like to add or remove names from our email list, please let Bob know as well.

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 DELEGATE NEEDED – One member of Messiah is needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly on June 14 and 15, 2019 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. 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. 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.

ONE OF OUR MEMBERS is in need of transportation to church and home again. Edith Nipple no longer drives and would like to attend worship services. If anyone would be willing to pick her up on Sunday morning and take her home, she would greatly appreciate it. Her address is 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA (she lives next to Treaster’s Flowers out by the Mid-Way Drive-In Theater). Her phone number is 717-436-6974.

MUSIC SUNDAY will be held this year on Mother’s Day, May 12, 2019. We are celebrating this year by having our own youngsters give a history of our Lutheran Liturgy as well as a hymn sing history on Mom’s special day. Also that day, our junior and senior choirs, our organist, as well as others from our congregation will be participating in the service! 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!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is coming to Messiah August 5 through August 8. A splash party will be held on Friday August 9, and the children’s ending VBS program will be held in Messiah’s Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning, August 11 during the church service. This year the boys and girls will be traveling with Paul on his dangerous journey to share the truth in Athens, Greece. Mark your calendars now for the week of August 5<sup>th</sup>.

SUMMER SERVICES WILL BEGIN on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:15 a.m. Regular 10:30 a.m. worship services will resume on Sunday, September 1<sup>st</sup>.

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.

THE NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE for July, 2019 through June, 2020 will be completed soon. We are currently in need of more people to serve on Altar Guild, as a few of our long-serving members are no longer able to help. If you would like to serve or have any changes you would like to make, please contact Diana Wise. All Altar Guild members will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve.

THE NEW LECTOR SCHEDULE for July, 2019 through June, 2020 will be completed soon. If you are not already serving as a lector and you would like to read the weekly scripture readings, please notify the church office. Any young people who would like to read on the first Sunday of the month are also asked to notify the church office. If you would like to be deleted from the list, again let the office know. All lectors will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 28, 2019

<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Other Funds</u>	
Worship Service – 43		Benevolence	\$ 65.00
Sunday School - 18		Building Fund -	\$ 275.00
Total Offering	\$3,078.50	Sunday School -	\$ 77.00
Other Funds	\$ 570.50	Flowers -	\$ 8.50
General Fund	\$2,508.00	Memorial Fund -	\$ 40.00
		Summer Camp -	\$ 105.00
		Total	\$ 570.50

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

OUR THANKS for the beautiful altar flowers that were delivered to us on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> by Kay and George Varner. Their visit and the flowers were appreciated.

Steve & Linda Bahorik

### **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.

THE NEXT MESSIAH WELCA MEETING will be held on Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> with Diana Wise as the program leader.

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.

THE WELCA CONVENTION will be held at Camp Mt. Luther on July 20<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact Barb Geedey or Linda Leister for a registration form. Cost is \$40 which covers lunch and speakers. There are always 2 offerings collected at this time. The Ingathering offering which will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief and the In-Kind offering which will be items for Camp Mt. Luther. We were given a list of 21 needed items and our group chose 5 which are: playdoh, markers, duct tape of any color/design, clear scotch tape, and playground balls of any type. There will be a container in the Adult Sunday School Room marked for Camp Mt. Luther for your donations of any of these items.

OUR NEXT PROJECT will be Fabric Kits which include: 2 pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (NO KNITS OR 100% POLYESTER). Each piece of fabric is to be 2¼ yards of 58"—62" wide fabric, or 3 yards of 42"—45" wide fabric, or 4 yards of 34"—37" wide fabric, and 2 spools of matching or neutral-colored general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each.

### **COMMUNITY**

#### **MAY FOOD PANTRY UPDATE**

**Stuff the Buss** – This program provides lunches throughout summer vacation to school students who normally receive free and reduced price lunches at school and will benefit the Food Pantry's 7<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Backpack Program. Stuff the Buss will take place at Schlegel's Grocery Store in Thompsontown on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at the Weis Market in Mifflintown on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., or you may drop off donations for the Backpack Program at the Food Pantry anytime.

Donations needed for the **Backpack Program** are: single-serve non-perishable lunch items such as 15 oz. cans of pasta meals or ready-to-heat soup, microwaveable meals, fruit cups, pudding cups, and snack crackers/cookies. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Volunteers are needed to help with the Backpack Program! Call the Food Pantry at 436-9718 to sign-up.

## THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Children's Sermon/Jr. Church. Lay Worship Leader: Jim Bahorik.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitting Class in Jr. Church Room.  
-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.  
-12:00 noon, "The Needlers" Luncheon in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -6:30 p.m., 4-H Beef & Breeders Club in Youth Area.  
-7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -7:00 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Sunday:** -Music Sunday/Mother's Day.  
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. Lay Worship Leader: Sam Leister.