

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ***MUSIC SUNDAY***

May 12th, 2019

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

EMAIL:

mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE:

www.mlcmifflintown.org

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

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
Sam Leister
Bob St. Clair
Andrea Cameron
Linda Clark
Andrea Cameron
Tawny Mummah
Gabby Reed and Braedon Walton
Olivia Mummah and Zeb Berry

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MUSIC SUNDAY / MOTHER'S DAY May 12, 2019 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

Those we want to remember in prayer today—please refer to “Prayers of Intercession”

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE: “Trumpets in Praise” F. Ritter

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME TO MUSIC SUNDAY

INTRODUCTION

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those “who have come out of the great ordeal” in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

JUNIOR CHOIR ANTHEM: “Mommy”

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!” #328 Green Hymnal
(Often called “The National Anthem of Christendom,” this hymn’s lyrics, written by Edward Perronet in 1779, originally consisted of EIGHT verses! Perronet was ordained into the Anglican Church, but eventually deferred to the evangelical movement of John and Charles Wesley, founder of the Methodist Church.)

* 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 (In Unison)**

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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 O God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship: Pour out your Spirit on your servants who, with the gifts of music, enliven our praises and proclaim your word with power. Through this ministry give us new awareness of your beauty and grace, and join our voices with all the choirs of heaven, both now and forever; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

WORD

Dorcas was a faithful and devoted woman of charity in the community of Joppa. Her kindness and her work with clothing was well-known, especially to the widows in town. When she fell ill and died, Peter raised her back to life through the power of prayer.

FIRST READING: Acts 9:36-43

The First reading is from the 9th chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 23 (read responsively)

L – The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

ALL – **The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

Christ is the shepherd who leads his faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering, in whose blood the saints have washed their robes and made them white.

SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9-17

The Second reading is from the 7th chapter of Revelation.

THE LESSON READS:

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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.

Jesus responds to questions about his identity with the remarkable claim that he and the Father are one. Those who understand this are his sheep; they hear his voice, follow, and will never be snatched from his hand.

* GOSPEL: John 10:22-30

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was

walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one."

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.

HYMN SING – Part I – *Hymns will be announced as well as given a brief background*

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” #448 Green Hymnal
“How Great Thou Art” #532 Green Hymnal
“I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry” pg. 18 of bulletin

SPECIAL MUSIC

Ed Beaver & Steve Bahorik

“The Old Rugged Cross” “Lord You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

HYMN SING – Part II – *Hymns will again be announced as well as given a brief background*

“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky” pg. 19 of bulletin
“Lift Every Voice and Sing” (verse 1 only) #562 Green Hymnal
“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee (verse 1 only) #551 Green Hymnal

* HYMN OF DAY “Messiah is a House of God” to the tune of “Amazing Grace”

(This hymn's lyrics was written by parishioner Cindy VanGavree in 2002 as part of our church's 200th Anniversary Celebration. Cindy put these words together to not only describe what Messiah has meant to her, but also what Messiah means to all of us.)

- 1 Messiah is a house of God, the one that I call home.
With friends and family by my side, I know I'm not alone.
- 2 It's more than carpet, walls, and wood, it's such a special place.
We gather there to worship God, and learn about His grace.
- 3 We thank Him for his many gifts, especially for His Son.
We know He died so we might live, He is the Holy One.
- 4 Now we must go beyond these doors to share this gift of love.
So we may gather once again, this time in heav'n above.

* 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 Shine your light through this and every congregation. Reveal to us the light of your salvation in places of hopelessness and decay. Anoint us and make us overflow with goodness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P We give thanks for gentle rains that nourish green pastures and rejuvenate rivers and streams. Provide clean water for thirsty people, animals, and crops. Heal places suffering destruction caused by floods, typhoons, storms, and mudslides. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Empower authorities to be faithful shepherds who lead nations in pathways of righteousness and peace. Disrupt and deter the work of terrorists, religious and political extremists, and all who would choose the way of violence over the way of mercy. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Give strength and perseverance to those facing struggles of hunger or thirst, unemployment or homelessness, chronic illness or anxiety. 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, Dorothy Zeiders, Betty Ranck, Kevin Kint, Dottie Aughey, and a little girl from Juniata County. Be our never-failing voice of comfort through all the trials of this life. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Raise up faithful women as witnesses to your strength and compassion. Bless mothers and all who offer mothering care. Protect victims of sexism, abuse, and gender-based violence. Restore dignity to those marginalized because of their gender identity or sexual orientation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Lord of hosts, we pray for musicians, ushers, acolytes, assisting ministers, readers, greeters, and those who welcome visitors. Help all who lead worship to do so with a prayerful focus. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P For the church and its ministries; for pastors and those who guide and provide music; for teachers and leaders, that their joyful noise clearly announce your reign of peace come near. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Salvation belongs to you, O God. You promise to wipe away every tear. Give us the assurance that all who live and die in you will rest forever beside the river of life. 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: "Lord, Speak To Me" 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].

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM: "Hallelujah!" arranged by Emerson

* 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.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

P 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.

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.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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.

P 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

sung by Christina Martin

* 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: "Communion Meditation" G. Parker
["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.**

SENDING

* BLESSING

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

* SENDING HYMN "Jesus Shall Reign" #530 Green Hymnal

(This hymn was written at a time when the church was doing very little missionary work and was written by Isaac Watts. His words envisioned a time when all people – princes, savage tribes, people of all languages and even infants would praise Jesus' name).

* 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.

WHY MUSIC?? WHY LITURGY?? WHY SING??

Have you ever wondered why Music is used within our worship services let alone our sometimes “overwhelming” words of liturgy? Both play a very important role in our worship services, but separate roles as well. And why do certain hymns have such “popularity” to sing during our services? Then there’s the intonation of psalms! Do you remember the days where the entire congregation intoned the Psalms and how, ahem “wonderful” that joyful noise was? We may joke and wonder about all of this, but each of these have important definition within our Sunday morning services. As we welcome you to today’s Music Sunday, we hope to have you leave this service with more of a song in your heart but also more of an understanding and background of why we do what and when in our services.

Martin Luther generally viewed music as a gift from God and we should all use this gift in the service of God. Music is never merely used as an ornament of worship but rather is shaped carefully in the service of God. It is to be used as a prompt to encourage fellow worshippers to uplift their voices and, therein, that of the entire congregation.

Finally, how about juggling the communion elements while trying to sing? Well, again, there’s a what for that why. When we gather together to commune, music surrounds these events, whether it be in text, tune, or background music. At Messiah we want every worshipper to have a Spiritual and moving communion service, and to that end we try to take into consideration every aspect of our communion service, music included. We provide music as a background to let you take part in the blood and body of Christ so as you can silently partake in whichever manner you choose, without having to have to deal with juggling a hymnal or trying to remember the correct words to whatever response may be chosen.

Again, as we travel through today’s service, we hope you take a little lesson in history elements and, oh yeah, music! Peace be with you.....now let’s make a joyful noise!

KYRIE AND HYMN OF PRAISE

As we begin our service this Mother’s Day morning, we will have our entrance hymn and greeting followed by the Kyrie and Hymn of Praise. The Kyrie is sung as we cry out, “Lord, have mercy!” When we do this, there becomes confidence in our voices because we know and realize that God is merciful indeed! His desire is to bring relief to the suffering that is all around us. Where do we see the results of our cry? In heaven where all who stand before the throne and in front of the Lamb will stand redeemed.

This is followed immediately by the Hymn of Praise, which is as simplistic as a song which allows us to rejoice the miracle of heaven coming down to earth and for our salvation. Drawing from the book of Revelation the description of heaven to St. John, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

INTONING THE PSALMS

Did you know that the original Psalms were sung by the Jewish people throughout their entire history? At first glance, the book of Psalms looks like just another book in the Bible. However with closer inspection we are actually reading “hymns.” So why not attempt to add music to those hymns? It is and has always been suggested by scholars however, that we make these tunes very simple as to not intimidate even the smallest of congregations.

COMMUNION SERVICE

As we prepare for our Lord’s Supper, the words we speak and sing draw us near to His table. The Great Thanksgiving is the eternal song of the angels who hover over the throne of God in the vision of heaven that was given to Isaiah. Such was the splendor of their song that the very foundations of the threshold of the temple trembled at the sounds.

As we prepare to commune, we sing “Lamb of God.” This is when the Lamb of God comes into our view, the Lamb which appears to have been slain. When we sing “Lamb of God” we are preaching and praying simultaneously. We are welcomed to the celebration of the “Lord’s Supper,” where the blood of the Lamb is poured out for us to partake and his flesh for us to do the same.



NEXT WEEK’S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith
NEXT WEEK’S ALTAR GUILD – Tawny Mummah
NEXT WEEK’S ACOLYTES – Julia Martin & Slone Smith
OFFERING USHERS – Harrison Mummah & Haley Mummah
NEXT WEEK’S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Stephen Rodgers

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

JUST A THOUGHT – Thomas Watson, English Theologian (1515 – 1584): Christ's blood has value enough to redeem the whole world, but the virtue of it is applied only to such as believe.

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 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.

COPIES OF MARCH 24, 2019 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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.

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 5th.

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

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room.

PPC will meet on Sunday, June 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

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.

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

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MAY 5, 2019

Attendance

Worship Service – 47
Sunday School - 16
Total Offering \$2,323.00
Other Funds \$ 170.00
General Fund \$2,153.00

Other Funds

Benevolence - \$ 45.00
Building Fund - \$ 65.00
Sunday School - \$ 35.00
Summer Camp - \$ 25.00
Total \$ 170.00

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.

THE NEXT MESSIAH WELCA MEETING will be held on Thursday, June 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

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 20th. 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 Bus – 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 7th annual Summer Backpack Program. Stuff the Buss will take place at Schlegel's Grocery Store in Thompsontown on Saturday, May 11th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at the Weis Market in Mifflintown on Saturday, May 18th 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:** -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.
- 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.
- Wednesday:** -7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -1:00 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
-5:00 p.m., Girl Scout Troop #404340 meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Children's Sermon/Jr. Church. Lay Worship Leader: Stephen Rodgers.

