

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 21st, 2020

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

RADIO: AM 1700

OFFICE EMAIL: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.mlcmifflintown.org

TODAY’S INTRODUCTION:

God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059
Church Office: 717-436-6213

Samuel Leister
Judy Armstrong
Bob St. Clair
Bob St. Clair

Vicar
Secretary
Organist
Lector

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST June 21, 2020 – 9:15 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PREPARATION

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
REVIEW OF INDOOR RULES FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE:

[Please use the prelude as a quiet time to prepare yourself for worship.]

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C Amen.

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Reconciling God,

C we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* GATHERING HYMN

“How Firm a Foundation”

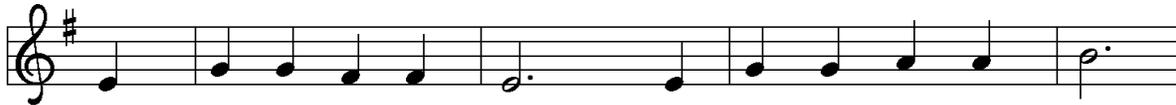
Bulletin, page 9 (vss. 1 & 3 only)

* GREETING

P From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth;
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

P Let us pray...

C Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 20:7-13

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." ¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

⁷Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

⁸I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.

⁹Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.

[¹¹I put on sackcloth also, and became a by-word among them.

¹²Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, and the drunkards make songs about me.

¹³But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD: "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

¹⁴Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.

¹⁵Let not the torrent of waters wash over me neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.]

¹⁶Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.

¹⁷Hide not your face from your servant be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me.

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

SECOND READING..... Romans 6:1b-11

¹Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

* GOSPEL Matthew 10:24-39

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

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

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON

Vicar Leister
Vicar Leister

* APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P Hear us, O God,

C Your mercy is great.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, + Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* SENDING HYMN

“On Eagle’s Wings”

Bulletin, page 10

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God!

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WELCOME TO ALL!

WITH CHRIST’S LOVE AND GOD’S GRACE, we welcome all who worship at Messiah today. If you are a VISITOR or GUEST, we invite you to record your visit in the guest book provided in the Narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the Vicar. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Young children are also encouraged to join us in our worship experience! We are so thankful that you joined us for worship today!

FOR YOUR COMFORT, restrooms are located in the hallway through the double doors of the Adult Sunday School Room and to the left.

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 Vicar 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.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY NEEDS OR CONCERNS, please contact Vicar Sam Leister. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let Vicar Leister know. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at sleister@gmail.com.

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.

PRAYER LIST

Carole Baker
Jane Ann Baney
Donna Barton
Lindsey Barton
Bob Bell
Nick Beward
Joyce Bradley
Andrea Cameron
Pam Campbell
Ruth Cisney
Terry Coder
Will DeLancy
Guy Dillman
Fred & Dot Dowling
Renee Dzikowski
Neil Fisher
Jerald (Jerry) Foltz
Ed Fraker
Bentley Fulkroad
Joan Fulkroad
Terri Gayer
Edie Kay Gill
Paul Goss

Jeanette Gross
Harry Heikes
Sue Henderson
Jason Hockenberry & Family
Josh Hohol
Curt & Judy Houtz
Jennifer Hutchinson
Matt Hutchinson
Brenda Imes
Denny King
Kevin Kint
Carol Lyter
Carlen McClure
Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler
Tami Metz
John Miller
Larry Miller
Shirley Miller
Jim Minick
Landon Musser
Madison Norman
Austin Parker
Noel Peachey

Dave Phelan
Butch & Sandy Pines
Steve Pontius
Betty Ranck
Keith Ranck
Mary Sanders
Mackenzie Shearer
Ronald Shearer
Tim Smith
Mike Sparks
Donald Speece
Bob & Jeanette St. Clair
Dorothy Towsey
Rich Walters
Erma Williamson
Dottie Wilson
Diana Wise
Jim Woltman
Mackenzie Wray
Barbara Yocum
Dorothy Zeiders
Linda Zimmerman

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Ray Bramm
Ruth Cisney
Max Ernest
Margaret Guss
Gail Henderson
Mona Lawson
Jane Marhefka
Minnie Minick

Edith Nipple
Esther Rhine
Carol Simonton
Sieber & Ona Stoner
Ken & Kay Stuck
Velma Suloff
Kitty Walters
Jim Yetter

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How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

Is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 And then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 Up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 Like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne.

Text: J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.
 Tune: early American

FOUNDATION
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MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
COVID-19 REOPENING GUIDELINES FOR SANCTUARY SERVICES
APPROVED BY PPC on JUNE 3, 2020

PART 1: REOPENING DATE – SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020 – 9:15 AM

PPC has decided to wait until Juniata County has been declared to be in **GREEN STATUS (Friday, June 12th)** before opening our church building for services. Even at that point, certain items will need to be discussed and put into action before returning to our beautiful sanctuary. During the yellow phase we have prepared our procedures and guidelines for that eventual opening.

PART 2: ENTRANCE & EXIT PROCEDURES:

- A. **ENTRANCE:** The Washington Avenue entrance (with steps) will be used by all except those who need to use the handicapped-accessible door. The north-west Washington Avenue street-level door (at the rear of the Adult Sunday School room) will be the designated handicapped-accessible entrance and exit.
- B. **EXIT:** Both Washington Avenue doors may be used for exiting at the conclusion of the service. In this way we hope to maintain social distancing and avoid one individual entering a door at the same time another is trying to exit that doorway.
- C. All other doors are not to be used except for emergency exit.
- D. Facemasks are **required** by all entering our church building until further notice.
- E. Only those MLC members who are willing to maintain social distancing conditions should attend our in-church services. Online, recorded services will be provided to all others, or you may sit in our church parking lot (or at home if within ½ to ¾ of a mile) and listen on our radio frequency AM 1700.
- F. All other areas of the church will be **CLOSED/OFF-LIMITS**.

PART 3: SEATING:

- A. Pew seating will be open for alternate pews so that a vacant pew is between attendees so as to follow CDC guidelines. Bulletins will be placed in the pews where attendees should be seated.
- B. The Large Adult Sunday School room seating will be spaced according to social distancing guidelines (6-foot separation).
- C. Please move directly to your seating area when entering the church. Do not block areas so others may pass by.
- D. Some pews will be blocked from use. Please do **NOT** remove any tape or ropes.
- E. Sanitizer stations will be placed in the sanctuary and adult Sunday school areas. Please use them before, during, and after the service.

- F. Family members may sit together in the designated open seating areas. Children are to be attended to **at all times**. The nursery will not be open.
- G. The Baptismal font at the rear of the sanctuary will remain empty unless an actual baptism is scheduled for a particular Sunday.

PART 4: WORSHIP SERVICE STYLE

- A. The length of worship services will be limited to no more than 45 minutes.
- B. Service bulletins will be placed in the seating areas before the service. They are to be taken home for disposal or for your reference.
- C. The hymns will be placed in the bulletins and will be played by the organist. Until further notice, please do not sing aloud but instead read along silently.
- D. Children will remain seated with their parents for any Children's Sermon.
- E. Any prayers or responses said in unison will be limited in use in our services.
- F. Only the vicar, choir director, and organist will be in the altar and pulpit area. The lector for the service will use the lectern for the reading of the lessons.
- G. There will be no communion until further notice. Please observe fasting instead.
- H. There will be no handshaking or back-patting passing of the peace until further notice. When it comes to this part of the service, please just say "Peace be with you" or wave to those person(s).
- I. We will not be signing the friendship books in each pew, nor will we be using any hymnals or other books normally in the pews.
- J. Offering plates will be placed at each of the two exit/entrances in the nave and at the rear of the adult Sunday School room. Please place your offering in the plates as you enter or exit the service.
- K. Restrict your movement before, during and after the service so that we limit our contact with each other.
- L. At the conclusion of the service, Vicar Leister will dismiss the congregation from the rear, by rows, to reduce personal contact.

PART 5: LAVATORY PROCEDURE

- A. Please use the lavatories off the rear of the adult Sunday school area **ONLY**.
- B. Please limit restroom usage to emergencies only as well as one adult (or adult and your child) at a time.
- C. Gloves and disinfecting wipes will be provided for your use on surfaces you have touched following each lavatory visit. Dispose of them properly and finish by washing your hands.

PART 6: BUILDING USE

- A. Messiah Lutheran Church Group meetings are restricted to twenty-five or less until further notice.
- B. There will be no choir rehearsals until further notice.
- C. No outside group meetings will be held until further notice.
- D. The new HVAC System is up and running. It is filtered for viruses and will be programmed to turn on and off remotely. There are both heating and air conditioning features for all areas of the church and fellowship hall.

These changes are ones that are new to us - all of us. We are erring on the side love for our neighbors. Patience, grace, and flexibility will be necessary as we strive to make the most appropriate decisions for the people of God at Messiah at this time.

In God's service,
Messiah PPC