

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28th, 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:

The welcome of baptism is for all God’s children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today’s gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God’s merciful welcome.

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Ron Yorks
Cynthia Smith & Carolyn Bryner

Vicar
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Greeters

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 28, 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

“Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word”

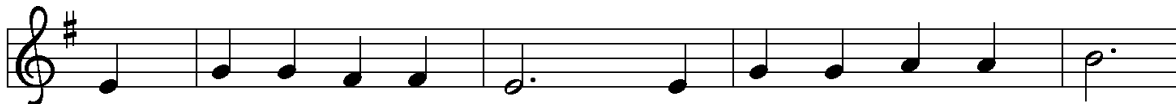
Bulletin, page 9

* 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 (Verse One)



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 **O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

FIRST READING.....Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:.....Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

¹Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
²**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**
³I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
⁴**"I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations."**
¹⁵Happy are the people who know the festal shout! They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.
¹⁶**They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.**
¹⁷For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.
¹⁸**Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD; our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

SECOND READING.....Romans 6:12-23

¹²Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness.

¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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.

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

* GOSPEL.....Matthew 10:40-42

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

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

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰"Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

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 "Take My Life, that I May Be" Bulletin, page 10 (vss. 1-4)

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.
C **Thanks be to God!**

Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2019 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.

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.

VIRTUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT MESSIAH IN 2020! As with everything else these past few months, the coronavirus outbreak has also changed the plans for Vacation Bible School at Messiah this summer. Onsite VBS will not be held; however, activities and videos for each of the five days will be put on our church website, www.mlcmiffintown.org, starting on July 1st. VBS students and their friends and parents can continue to learn the songs and lessons from "Rocky Railway – Jesus pulls Us Through" and become familiar with some of the ideas, games, and songs presented in the videos. Again, these will be located on our church website www.mlcmiffintown.org beginning on July 1, 2020.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JULY

CLEANING SUPPLIES & PERSONAL CARE ITEMS. BACKPACK PROGRAM: SINGLE SERVE MEALS (NOT RAVIOLI), SINGLE SERVE FRUIT CUPS, JELLO CUPS & PUDDING. WE GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are as follows:

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT FOR JUNE 21, 2020

Attendance 38
Total Offering \$2,760.00
Other Funds 425.00
General Fund \$2,335.00

Other Funds
Benevolence \$215.00
Building Fund 210.00
Total \$425.00

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

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

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