

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## *Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

### **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

**RADIO:** AM 1700

**OFFICE EMAIL:** [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)

**WEBSITE:** [www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org)

#### ***TODAY’S INTRODUCTION:***

*The mystery of God’s ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God’s mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ’s invitation: “Come to me, all you that are weary.” Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.*

# Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister  
Andrea Cameron  
Bob St. Clair  
Haley Mummah

Vicar  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Lector

## FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST July 5, 2020 – 9:15 a.m.

\*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

### PREPARATION

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

“Shall We Gather at the River”

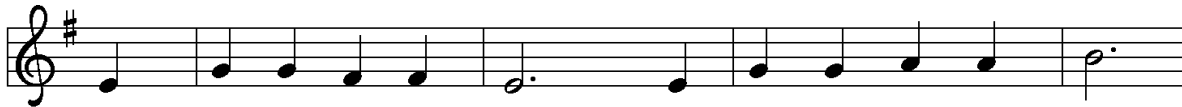
Bulletin, page 11

\* 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 You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

*The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."*

FIRST READING.....Zechariah 9:9-12

<sup>9</sup>Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup>He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup>As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup>Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

L: Here ends the reading.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:.....Psalm 145:8-14

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**<sup>9</sup>LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

**<sup>11</sup>They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

<sup>12</sup>that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**<sup>13</sup>Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

*Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.*

SECOND READING.....Romans 7:15-25a

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my

inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ 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.

*Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.*

\* GOSPEL.....Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] <sup>16</sup>"To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, <sup>17</sup>"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn." <sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; <sup>19</sup>the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." <sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup>Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

\* 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

"I Love Your Kingdom, Lord"

Bulletin, page 11

\* DISMISSAL

**P Go in peace. Christ is with you.**

**C Thanks be to God!**

**PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN WITH YOU AND DISPOSE OF AT HOME!**

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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](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 Vicar 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.

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](mailto: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.mlcimiffintown.org/vbs-2020/](http://www.mlcimiffintown.org/vbs-2020/), starting on July 1<sup>st</sup> and continuing through July 5<sup>th</sup>. 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.mlcimiffintown.org/vbs-2020/](http://www.mlcimiffintown.org/vbs-2020/) 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.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED on Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup>.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF has launched the 75,000 Face Mask Challenge, a request for volunteers to sew cloth masks that will be sent overseas to slow the spread of COVID-19. If you are interested in participating in this challenge, you can make as few or as many as you would like. Please call or email Cynthia Smith for details about this project at 717-994-4999 or [gramcynthia49@yahoo.com](mailto:gramcynthia49@yahoo.com).

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT FOR JUNE 28, 2020

Attendance 33

Total Offering	\$3,410.00
Other Funds	<u>720.00</u>
General Fund	\$2,690.00

Other Funds

Benevolence	\$230.00
Building Fund	440.00
World Hunger	<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$720.00

**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  
 Janie Fogleman  
 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  
 Peggy Inch  
 Denny King  
 Kevin Kint  
 Carol Lyter  
 Carlen McClure  
 Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler  
 Tammy 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