

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

September 6<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:*** [mlcmifflintown.org](http://mlcmifflintown.org)

***TODAY’S INTRODUCTION:*** *Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.*

# Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister  
Andrea Cameron  
Bob St. Clair  
Harrison Mummah  
Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed

Vicar  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Lector  
Altar Guild

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 6, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.

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

### PREPARATION

CHIMES

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, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**C Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful God,

**C have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

**C Amen.**

## GATHERING

\* GATHERING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

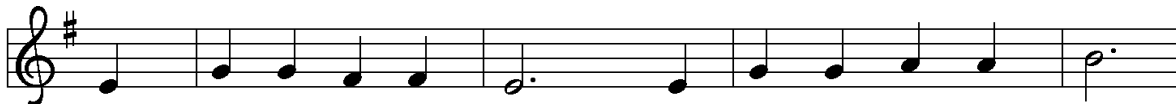
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\* GREETING

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 Two)



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 Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

*God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.*

FIRST READING.....Ezekiel 33:7-11

<sup>7</sup>So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. <sup>10</sup>Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:.....Psalm 119:33-40

<sup>33</sup>Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.

<sup>34</sup>**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching; I shall keep it with all my heart.**

<sup>35</sup>Lead me in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.

<sup>36</sup>**Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.**

<sup>37</sup>Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood; give me life in your way.

<sup>38</sup>**Fulfill your promise to your servant, which is for those who fear you.**

<sup>39</sup>Turn away the reproach that I dread, because your judgments are good.

<sup>40</sup>**Behold, I long for your commandments; by your righteousness enliven me.**

*The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.*

SECOND READING.....Romans 13:8-14

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

<sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

<sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know

what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.*

\* GOSPEL.....Matthew 18:15-20

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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 INTERCESSION

**P** Lord, in your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

## \* 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** Mothering God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

**C** Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

## \* SENDING HYMN

"Rejoice, the Lord is King!"

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## \* HOLY COMMUNION

**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** The Body of Christ given for you. (Wafer)

**P** The Blood of Christ shed for you. (Juice)

**P** Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

**C** AMEN.

\* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

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.

JUST A THOUGHT – Carlo Carretto, Cardinal (1454 – 1514): Optimism means faith in men, in their human potential; hope means faith in God and his omnipotence.

**CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

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).

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.

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).

THE SEPTEMBER 2020 “MESSIAH HERALD” is now available online. Hard copies are available in the church office, Adult Sunday School Room, Kitchenette, and Fellowship Hall. If you want something placed in the Messiah Herald, please contact BOTH the church office ([mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)) and Bob St. Clair

([stclairb@embargo.com](mailto:stclairb@embargo.com)) prior to the newsletter deadline, which is listed on the calendar in the newsletter, or online at [www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org). Also, if anyone would like to add or remove names from our email list, please let Bob know as well.

COPIES OF JULY 29, 2020 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION will be offered following the sending hymn in order to minimize any contact during the meal. We will be using communion kits that are pre-packaged and sealed that include a wafer and grape juice. Each person desiring to share in the meal will take a packaged kit when you receive a bulletin.

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEND A CARD to Alice Swartz who is recuperating from a fall, her address is: 23642 Rt. 35 N., Mifflintown, PA 17059.

CARD SHOWER – One of our members, Minnie Minick, will be celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 21. For those who would like to send Minnie a birthday greeting, her address is: Minnie Minick, 187 Jam House Road, Mifflin, PA 17058.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will begin this Fall for students entering grade 7 and above. Please notify the church office at 717-436-6213 (email) [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com) or Vicar Sam Leister at 717-436-8589 (email) [sleister@gmail.com](mailto:sleister@gmail.com) if you are planning to attend the class.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS – Please let the church office know if you would like your child to attend a First Communion Class and a date and time will be arranged with those who are interested.

BAPTISMAL & NEW MEMBER CLASS – If you wish to have your child baptized or you wish to become a member of Messiah and attend the New Member Class, please let the church office know so a class can be scheduled.

PPC MEETING will be held on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. with Executive meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> either after the morning worship service or by Zoom meeting.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on September 8<sup>th</sup>.**

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS students, parents, teachers, administrators, and all staff in our schools as we approach a new school year during this uncertain time.

### **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.

BLANKET SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>. A special Blanket Sunday envelope will be included with your bulletin for donations to Lutheran World Relief (please make checks payable to Messiah Women of the ELCA). Blankets will be delivered to the Synod Office by Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.



THE NEXT MESSIAH WELCA MEETING will be Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. We will be putting together the kits that we have collected.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will continue to collect the following items for school kits. Items needed are:

- 70-80 SHEET NOTEBOOKS (each kit requires 4)
- 1 RULER WITH CENTIMETERS AND INCHES
- 1 PENCIL SHARPENER
- 1 PAIR OF BLUNT SCISSORS
- 5 UNSHARPENED PENCILS WITH ERASERS
- 5 BLACK OR BLUE BALLPOINT PENS (no gel pens)
- 1 BOX OF 16 OR 24 CRAYONS

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER

FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE, SHAMPOO, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD AND PAIN MEDICINES, DISHWASHING SOAPS, LAUNDRY SOAP, SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND BACKPACKS (WHILE THEY ARE ON SALE). DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPTED.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

August 30, 2020 - Attendance 42

Total Offering	\$3,592.00
Other Funds	<u>345.00</u>
General Fund	\$3,247.00

Other Funds

Benevolence	\$ 195.00
Building Fund	<u>150.00</u>
Total	\$345.00

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).

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.

THANK YOU – “Dear Messiah Friends. . . .What a touching surprise for us to receive the gift cards, the cake and the balloons in recognition of Dave’s retirement from his custodial duties at Messiah. And we were so blessed by the visit from Ann, Kay and Judy. The friendships we made at Messiah will always continue. May God bless each and every one of you.”

Gratefully,  
Dave & Nancy Phelan

## **PRAYER LIST**

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

Paul Goss  
Jeanette Gross  
Beth Harris  
Harry Heikes  
Jennifer Heikes  
Sue Henderson  
Nox Hepburn  
Jason Hockenberry & Family  
Curt & Judy Houtz  
Jennifer Hutchinson  
Matt Hutchinson  
Brenda Imes  
Peggy Inch  
Denny King  
Kevin Kint  
Pam Lawson  
Carol Lyter  
Carlen McClure  
Marilyn MaCoy  
Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler  
Tammy Metz  
Ellwood Miller  
Larry Miller  
Shirley Miller  
Jim Minick  
Landon Musser  
Darve Nace

Madison Norman  
Austin Parker  
Noel Peachey  
Dave Phelan  
Butch & Sandy Pines  
Steve Pontius  
Betty Ranck  
Keith Ranck  
Matt, Amy & Olivia Reed  
Mary Sanders  
Mackenzie Shearer  
Ronald Shearer  
Mike Sparks  
Donald Speece  
Bob & Jeanette St. Clair  
Alice Swartz  
Messiah's TEEM  
Dorothy Towsey  
Rich Walters  
Erma Williamson  
Family of Dottie Wilson  
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