

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



All Saints’ Sunday

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

November 1st, 2020

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

RADIO: AM 1700

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TODAY’S INTRODUCTION: *All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord’s table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Slone Smith
Gabby Reed
Nick Reed
Kay Varner & Kim White

Vicar
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Acolyte
Offering Presenter
Altar Guild

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY November 1, 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.]

RECOGNITION OF ALL SAINTS

P O God, we remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you on earth, who now rest from their labors, especially Midge Rowell, Johnny Beward, Margaret Reynolds, Mary Ernest, Roberta Ellis, Mildred Hostler and Al McClure. Keep us in union with all your saints, and bring us with them to the joyous feast of heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy One,

C we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen

P Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through + Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* GATHERING HYMN "For All the Saints" (vss. 1 to 3) bulletin, pg. 12

* GREETING

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 (spoken responsively)

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

* CANTICLE 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.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

P Let us pray...

C Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

FIRST READING.....Revelation 7:9-17

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."

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:.....Psalm 34:1-10, 22 (**responsively**)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (sung):



Rise, O child-ren of sal - va - tion, All the hosts of God most high.

I will bless the LORD at all times; the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

²I will glory in the LORD; let the lowly hear and rejoice. R

³Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; let us exalt God's name together.

⁴I sought the LORD, who answered me and delivered me from all my terrors.

⁵Look upon the LORD and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.

⁶I called in my affliction, and the LORD heard me and saved me from all my troubles. R

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear the LORD and delivers them.

⁸Taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are they who take refuge in God!

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.

²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be

punished. **R**

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

SECOND READING.....1 John 3:1-3

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (In Unison)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

* GOSPELMatthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Vicar Sam Leister

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"For All the Saints"

(vss. 4 to 6) bulletin, pg. 12

* APOSTLES' CREED

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

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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.

* OFFERING PRESENTATION

* 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, Lord, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* SENDING HYMN "For All the Saints" (vss. 7 & 8) bulletin, pg. 12

* 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 Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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.

TODAY IS ALL SAINTS DAY and on this day we remember, with thanksgiving, all of the people of God, living and dead, who form the mystical body of Christ. All believers in Christ who have been made holy, (sanctified) by the blood of Christ, are saints. We especially honor those of the congregation who have gone on to the other side of eternal life since last All Saints Sunday. They are: Midge Rowell, Johnny Beward, Margaret Reynolds, Mary Ernest, Roberta Ellis, Mildred Hostler and Al McClure. A white carnation has been placed on the cross in the front of the church in memory of each of these people. Family members may come forward after the service and take a carnation placed in memory of their loved one. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, yea, says the Spirit that they may rest from their labors."

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 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.

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.

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.

THE NOVEMBER 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) and Bob St. Clair (stclairb@embarqmail.com) prior to the newsletter deadline, which is listed on the calendar in the newsletter, or online at mlcmifflintown.org. Also, if anyone would like to add or remove names from our email list, please let Bob know as well.

NEXT SUNDAY IS OUR ANNUAL WELCA THANKOFFERING SERVICE and our speaker will be Deb Hackenberger. Thankoffering envelopes will be included in your bulletin that Sunday for your donation and all loose offering received will go to the Churchwide Women of the ELCA for their many projects. None of the money is kept locally. Extra envelopes will be available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. Please make checks payable to “Messiah Women of the ELCA.”

MESSIAH’S NEW “MISSION OF THE MONTH” INITIATIVE – At the Parish Planning Council meeting on Sunday, September 27th, our members chose unanimously to seek donations for the fire victims on the west coast of the United States. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the Lutheran Disaster Response. One hundred percent of the donations are provided directly to those devastated by the record-setting fires. Additionally, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This money comes from budgeted funds that have been unused this calendar year due to the shutdown from the Covid-19 Pandemic. This is just one way in which we can extend our mission in Christ’s love beyond the walls of our church building.

COPIES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2020 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

A VOTERS ASSEMBLY will be held on Sunday, November 22, 2020 following the worship service. Business: approval of the 2021 proposed budget and minutes of the boards.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2021 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly (date to be announced). If you are interested in serving, please contact Vicar Leister or the church office.

ADVENT SEASON AND CHRISTMAS EVENTS:

November 8: WELCA Thankoffering Service.

November 22: Christ the King

November 29: First Sunday of Advent. Decorating of the church.

December 6: Second Sunday of Advent. “Hanging of the Greens.” Topic of this year’s program _____

December 13: Third Sunday of Advent.

December 20: Fourth Sunday of Advent. Annual Children’s Christmas Program.

December 24: 7:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Music Prelude Service.
7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service.

UPCOMING PPC AND VOTERS ASSEMBLY MEETING DATES:

Sunday, November 22nd (after worship) Voters Assembly to approve 2021 budget.
Sunday, January 17th – 7:00 p.m., PPC meeting.
Sunday, February 14th (after worship) – Voters Assembly to approve 2020 audit.
Sunday, March 21st – 7:00 p.m., PPC meeting.
Sunday, April 18th (after worship) – Voters Assembly.
Sunday, May 16th – 7:00 p.m., PPC meeting.
Sunday, June 20th (after worship) – Voters Assembly.

DUE TO THE COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND CONCERNS, the start of Sunday School at Messiah for adults and children will be delayed until further notice. The Parish Planning Council in close consultation with the Board of Christian Education will evaluate conditions and make a determination as conditions improve. Thank you for your patience and please stay safe!

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.

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.

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

October 25, 2020 - Attendance 45

Total Offering \$2,476.00
Other Funds 535.00
General Fund \$1,941.00

Other Funds

Benevolence \$ 135.00
Building Fund 140.00
Disaster Relief 260.00
Total \$ 535.00

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.

Items for the Seafarers Bags will be delivered to the Synod Office by November 8th. Items needed are:

- HOODED SWEATSHIRTS, (L-XL)
- ATHLETIC SOCKS, (THERMAL OR WHITE GYM SOCKS)
- T-SHIRTS, (M-L)

WOMEN OF THE ELCA CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT – We will be sponsoring 6 children this year. The sign-up chart for the gifts that are needed will be on the bulletin board in the Kitchenette soon. Gifts will be due at

the church in early December, wrapped or bagged with a name tag that includes the child's name and number on the tag.

THE NEXT MESSIAH WELCA MEETING will be held on Thursday, November 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

THE CURRENT TOTAL FOR BLANKET SUNDAY OFFERINGS stands at \$730.00. Additional donations will be received until the end of November.

COMMUNITY

Again this year the Food Pantry will join forces with the Boy Scouts, Kiwanis, and **YOU** to bring Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to as many Juniata County families living in poverty as possible. When the Boy Scouts come to your door in November for their annual food drive, please give generously. If you can help us to begin stockpiling the foods listed below, we would really appreciate it. Our goal is to provide 400 meals for Thanksgiving and 400 for Christmas.

FOOD PANTRY HOLIDAY MEAL DONATION NEEDS

(These are the foods that are hard for us to get), Turkeys, Turkey Breasts, Hams (3-5 lbs.), canned Sweet Potatoes, and Fruit Cocktail. A donation of \$20 will purchase one complete meal!

PRAYER LIST

Carole Baker
Jane Ann Baney
Donna Barton
Lindsey Barton
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
Bentley Fulkroad
Joan Fulkroad
Terri Gayer
Edie Kay Gill
Paul Goss
Jeanette Gross
Amy Hart

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
Darvin Krouse
Pam Lawson
Gwen Swisher Lewis
Carol Lyter
Anthony Martin
Carlen McClure
Marilyn MaCoy
Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler
Cecilia Miller
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
Charles Stump
Alice Swartz
Messiah's TEEM
Dorothy Towsey
Rich Walters
Erma Williamson
Jim Woltman
Mackenzie Wray
Barbara Yocum
Dorothy Zeiders
George Zimmerman
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