

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11th, 2020

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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TODAY’S INTRODUCTION: *In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus’ parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Cynthia Smith
Tammy Smith & Tawny Mummah

Vicar
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 11, 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

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

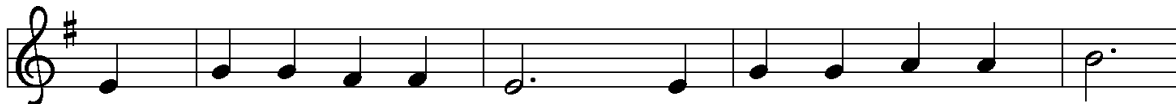
bulletin, pg. 12

* 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 Three)



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 Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

FIRST READING.....Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. ²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. ⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:.....Psalm 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

SECOND READING.....Phillippians 4:1-9

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.


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 tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

* GOSPEL.....Matthew 22:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

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

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and

everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON

Vicar Sam Leister

* HYMN OF THE DAY "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (vss. 1 & 2) bulletin, pg. 12

* 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 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (vss. 3 & 4) 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 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 – Joseph Addison, English Essayist and Poet (1672 – 1719): There is no virtue so great as justice.

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.

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

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.

CHURCH CLEANER – Since Dave Phelan has retired, Messiah is looking for a person to clean the church. It would be 10 hours a week. Hours would be flexible. Call the church office at 717-436-6213 for an application and more details.

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 4, 2020 - Attendance 43

Total Offering	\$3,630.00
Other Funds	<u>1,425.00</u>
General Fund	\$2,205.00

Other Funds

Benevolence	\$ 55.00
Building Fund	1,170.00
World Hunger	50.00
Matthew 25 Fund	50.00
Fire Disaster Relief	<u>100.00</u>
Total	\$1,425.00

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.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA are collecting 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
- 1 2½ INCH ERASER

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)

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 NEEDS FOR OCTOBER

HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS – (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!

THE 48TH ANNUAL JUNIATA COUNTY CROP 5K FUN WALK/RUN will be held today at Walker Township Park. Registration is at 1:30 p.m. and the walk begins at 2:00 p.m. This year's event will have a hybrid walk. Participants will be able to walk in-person at the park and will be asked to wear a mask. Register online at www.crophungerwalk.org/mifflintownpa. Supporters can make their donations online if they would like. Collection envelopes and materials are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. Participants can also get a collection envelope by emailing Graham Fowler at gfwalker66@gmail.com or by calling the Lost Creek Presbyterian Church Office at 717-463-3138. Please make checks payable to CWS/CROP. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised will go to the Juniata County Food Pantry and Juniata County Meals-On-Wheels. For more information, go to Facebook page: Juniata Co CROP 5k Fun Walk/Run.

CROP WALK walkers can deliver the following needed items to the Food Pantry:

Personal Hygiene Supplies – toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, etc.

Cleaning Supplies – all-purpose cleansers, bleach, trash bags, laundry detergent, dish detergent, etc.

Paper Products – paper towels, toilet tissue, tissues.

Infant Needs – diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby lotions.

Non-Perishable Food Items.

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
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
Gwen Swisher Lewis
Carol Lyter
Anthony Martin
Carlen McClure
Marilyn MaCoy
Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler
Tammy Metz
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