

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

January 3rd, 2021

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
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TODAY’S INTRODUCTION: *Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister
Bob St. Clair
Andrea Cameron
Haley Mumma
Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner

Vicar
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild

SECOND OF CHRISTMAS

January 3, 2021 – 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 was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of goodness and lovingkindness,

C we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through + Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* GATHERING HYMN

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

(vss. 1 & 2) bulletin, pg. 10

* GREETING

P Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia! 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 Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

P Christ, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

“AWAY IN A MANGER” (VS. 1)

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

P Christ, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Lord, have mercy upon us.

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE (to the tune of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”) (vs. 1)



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 **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gifts of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

FIRST READING.....Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:Psalm 147:12-20 (Read Responsively)

R – Sung by All – "Oh, Come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!"

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³**who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat. **R**

¹⁵**God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷**God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹**God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah! **R**

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

SECOND READING.....Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

* GOSPEL.....John 1:[1-9] 10-18

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

[¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)**

SERMON

Vicar Leister

- * HYMN OF THE DAY “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” (vss. 3 & 4) bulletin, pg. 10
* APOSTLES’ CREED (In Unison)

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 (Prayers read by Worship Leader)

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

- * SUNG OFFERTORY “O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM” (VS. 1)

“O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.”

SENDING

- * BLESSING

P Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.

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

- * SENDING HYMN “O Master, Let Me Walk with You” bulletin, pg. 11

- * 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. Share the gift of Jesus.

C Thanks be to God.

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

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WELCOME TO ALL!

JUST A THOUGHT – Walter Elliott, American Catholic Priest (1842 – 1928): Perseverance is not a long race, it is many short races one after another.

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.

THIS MONTH'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for our local Meals on Wheels. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to MOW. In addition to your generosity, 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 OCTOBER 25, 2020 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THE 2021 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available to pick up in the Library. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2020 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

<u>December 27, 2020</u> Attendance - 17		Other Funds	
Total Offering	\$4,505.00	Benevolence	\$ 120.00
Other Funds	<u>845.00</u>	Meals-On-Wheels	100.00
General Fund	\$3,660.00	Building Fund	125.00
		Matthew 25 Fund	200.00
		Memorial Fund	250.00
		World Hunger	<u>50.00</u>
		Total	\$845.00

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.

THANK YOU: "I would like to thank our church family for all of the prayers, cards, phone calls, food, and memorial donations in honor and memory of my mother, Velma Suloff. A special thank you to Vicar Sam and Linda for their many phone calls. She would be so humbled by this response. She enjoyed talking with many of you after church and loved knotting all of the quilts. We miss her, but she is at peace."

THANK YOU: "My sincere thanks to members of Messiah for the Christmas gift. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated. Best wishes to all for a better year in 2021."

Judy Armstrong

THANK YOU to my family at Messiah for the Christmas gift. It was very much appreciated. Here's to a much better and healthier 2021.

Bob St. Clair

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.

PRAYER LIST

Shirley Aumiller	Ken Geedey	Shirley Miller
Tyson Aurand	Eddi Kay Gill	Jim Minick
Carole Baker	Paul Goss	Landon Musser
Donna Barton	Amy Hart	Darve Nace
Lindsey Barton	Beth Harris	Austin Parker
Gary Bechtold	Harry & Jennifer Heikes	Noel Peachey
Julie Berryman	Sue Henderson	Dave Phelan
Nick Beward	Ken Henry	Butch & Sandy Pines
Roxanne Boyer	Nox Hepburn	Betty Ranck
Bob Bradford & Family	Jason Hockenberry & Family	Keith Ranck
Charlotte Burd	Curt & Judy Houtz	Matt, Amy & Olivia Reed
Andrea Cameron	Jennifer Hutchinson	Mackenzie Shearer
Pam Campbell	Matt Hutchinson	Ronald Shearer
Ruth Cisney	Brenda Imes	Bobby & Eva Sieber
Curtis Clark	Peggy Inch	Mike Sparks
Randy Clark	Annie Ingle	Donald Speece
Terry Coder	Doc Johnston	Bob & Jeanette St. Clair
Leann Crimmel	Guy Kerstetter	Charles Stump
Will DeLancy	Denny King	Alice Swartz
Guy Dillman	Darvin Krouse	Dorothy Towsey
Fred & Dot Dowling	Pam Lawson	Rich Walters
Renee Dzikowski	Carol Lyter	Dr. Glen Webb
Neil Fisher	Fred & Diane Marshall	Todd Wert
Janie Fogleman	Anthony Martin	Erma Williamson
Jerald (Jerry) Foltz	Carlen McClure	Jim Woltman
Bentley Fulkroad	Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler	Mackenzie Wray
Joan Fulkroad	Messiah's TEEM	Dorothy Zeiders
Michal Gayer	Cecilia Miller	George Zimmerman
Terri Gayer	Ellwood Miller	Linda Zimmerman
	Larry Miller	

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Ray Bramm	Minnie Minick
Ruth Cisney	Edith Nipple
Max Ernest	Esther Rhine
Margaret Guss	Carol Simonton
Gail Henderson	Sieber & Ona Stoner
Mona Lawson	Ken & Kay Stuck
Jane Marhefka	Kitty Walters

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

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1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore him, And gold and in - cense bring;

Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun! He
 To help the poor and need - y, And bid the weak be strong; To
 And love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, Spring in his path to birth. Be -
 All na - tions shall a - dore him, His praise all peo - ple sing. To

comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free, To take a -
 give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light, Whose souls, con -
 fore him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go; And righ - teous -
 him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend; His king - dom

way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
 demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in his sight.
 ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
 still in - creas - ing, A king - dom with - out end.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854
 Tune: Leonhart Schröter, 1540-1602

FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN
 76 76 D

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

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1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you In low - ly
2 Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear,
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me A clos - er,
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray Far down the



paths of ser - vice true; Tell me your se - cret;
win - ning word of love; Teach me the way - ward
dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, In peace that on - ly



help me bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.
feet to stay, And guide them in the home - ward way.
sweet and strong, In trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,
you can give; With you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

