

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 21st, 2021

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

RADIO: AM 1700

OFFICE EMAIL: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE: mlcmifflintown.org

TODAY’S INTRODUCTION: *God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister
Bob St. Clair
Andrea Cameron
Randy Clark
Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed
Nick Reed
Hannah Ehrisman

Vicar
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolyte
Offering Presenter

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 21, 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, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

C Amen.

P God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Fountain of living water,

C pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love. Amen.

P Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are + forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* GATHERING HYMN

“Were You There”

bulletin, pg. 12

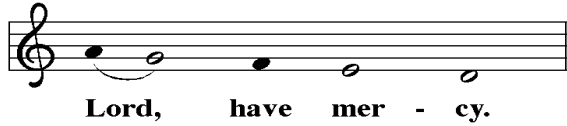
* GREETING

P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

* KYRIE (Congregation sings responses)

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



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



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



* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

P Let us pray...

C **O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

FIRST READING.....Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:.....Psalm 51:1-12 (*responsively*)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

²Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

³For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

⁸Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

⁹Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

¹¹Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

SECOND READING.....Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"; ⁶as he says also in another place, "You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

L: Here ends the reading.
C: **Thanks be to God.**

* LENTEN ACCLAMATION (In Unison)



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

* GOSPEL.....John 12:20-33

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 12th chapter.
C **Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

SERMON

Vicar Leister
bulletin, pg. 13

- * HYMN OF THE DAY “Ah, Holy Jesus”
- * 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

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 (“Create in Me”)

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING PRAYER

* BLESSING

P You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you + that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* HOLY COMMUNION

P Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

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 God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

CLOSING CHIMES

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

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB154530

WELCOME TO ALL!

JUST A THOUGHT – D. L. Moody, Evangelist (1837 – 1899): The way to be saved is not to delay, but to come and take.

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 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.

COPIES OF JANUARY 13, 2021 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

March 10, 2021 Attendance – 14

Total Offering	\$ 105.00
Other Funds	<u>0.00</u>
General Fund	\$ 105.00

March 14, 2021 Attendance – 42

Total Offering	\$2,503.00
Other Funds	<u>456.00</u>
General Fund	\$2,047.00

Other Funds

Benevolence	\$ 20.00
Flowers	36.00
Summer Camp	<u>400.00</u>
Total	\$ 456.00

MARCH'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for the "Texas Storm Relief." The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the ELCA. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This idea was born when budgeted funds were unused during the 2020 calendar year due to the shutdowns 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.

THE FINAL MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICE at Messiah will be held on March 24th at 7:00 p.m. The topic will be "Fast From Selfishness" from the document from Pope Francis titled, "Do You Want to Fast this Lent?"

As with our Sunday services, masks and social distancing will be required. More information will be forthcoming regarding Holy Week services, so stay tuned!

PPC WILL MEET this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Adult Sunday School Room. Executive Committee will meet at 6:00 p.m.

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.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER – Kate Swailes is serving as our congregation's camperson with Camp Mount Luther again this year. She has information on programs for the summer. If you have additional questions, you can contact her or the camp office at 570-922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org. Since our congregation has a camperson, each camper from our church will receive Camel Bucks from Kate for use at the camp store this summer! Campers who attended camp at Mount Luther in the past should have already received the camp brochures in the mail (additional brochures are available in the Adult Sunday School Room). For more information on Camp Mount Luther or to print the camp registration form, visit www.campmountluther.org. Submit your camp registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. The remaining portion of the cost of camp will be covered by various fundraising events, donations, etc. Kate will submit the registration forms to Mount Luther. We ask that you submit your registration form and payment to Kate prior to April 15th so that we receive the early registration discount. Because Camp Mount Luther is accepting a lower number of campers this summer, Chad Hershberger recommends that families register their campers as soon as possible. Registration will not be accepted within the two weeks prior to each camp week.

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.

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.

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MARCH:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD AND FLU MEDICINES, PAPER TOWELS, COUGH DROPS, DISH DETERGENT, AND LAUNDRY DETERGENT. DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED.

PRAYER LIST

Shirley Aumiller
Tyson Aurand
Carole Baker
Donna Barton
Lindsey Barton
Donna Bell
Julie Berryman & Gary Bechtold
Nick Beward
Roxanne Boyer
Charlotte Burd
Andrea Cameron
Pam Campbell
Dan Carlin
Ruth Cisney
Cade Clark
Curtis Clark
Kim Clark
Randy Clark
Terry Coder
Leann Crimmel
Will DeLancy
Guy Dillman
Fred & Dot Dowling
Renee Dzikowski
Neil & Pat Fisher
Janie Fogleman
Jerald (Jerry) Foltz
Bentley Fulkroad
Joan Fulkroad
Michal Gayer

Terri Gayer
Ken Geedey
Eddi Kay Gill
Paul Goss
Amy Hart
Beth Harris
Harry & Jennifer Heikes
Sue Henderson
Ken Henry
Nox Hepburn
Jason Hockenberry & Family
Curt & Judy Houtz
Dean Hutchinson
Matt & Jennifer Hutchinson
Brenda Imes
Annie Ingle
Doc Johnston
Guy Kerstetter
Denny King
Darvin Krouse
Pam Lawson
Linda Leister
Michael Lozano
Carol Lyter
Zaden Mabey
Anthony Martin
Carlen McClure
Alice McClure
Isabel Meinsler
Messiah Mutual Ministry
Cecilia Miller
Ellwood Miller

Larry Miller
Shirley Miller
Jim Minick
Claire Mumamah
Landon Musser
Carole Nace
Darve Nace
Austin Parker
Noel Peachey
Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Dave Phelan
Butch & Sandy Pines
Betty Ranck
Keith Ranck
Mackenzie Shearer
Ronald Shearer
Bobby & Eva Sieber
Mike Sparks
Donald Speece
Bob & Jeanette St. Clair
Charles Stump
Alice Swartz
Dorothy Towsey
Rich Walters
Dr. Glen Webb
Erma Williamson
Jim Woltman
Mackenzie Wray
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
Carol Simonton
Sieber & Ona Stoner
Ken Stuck
Kitty Walters

EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH



Easter Sunday is April 4, 2021 and in keeping with Messiah Lutheran Church tradition, Lilies you purchase will be “planted” around our altar to help us celebrate the special occasion.

Please complete the order form below and attach a check, made payable to “**Messiah Lutheran Church**” and print **Easter Lilies** in the memo line. Then, please attach the check to the order form and place it in the offering plate or return to the church office by **March 25, 2021**. *PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR ORDER!!*

FLOWERS MAY BE PICKED UP FOLLOWING THE EASTER MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:30 AM.

Thank you for helping to beautify our space and for supporting our church!

EASTER LILIES ORDER FORM

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

LIST THE DEDICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Please check one: In Honor Of () OR In Memory Of ()

I would like to order the following:

Easter Lilies (4 to 6 blooms) \$9.00 # of plants _____ X \$9.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Were You There

1 Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 3 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you
 4 Were you there when God raised him from the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Oh,
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh,
 there when they laid him in the tomb? Oh,
 there when God raised him from the tomb? Oh,

some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.
 some-times it caus - es me to trem - ble, trem - ble, trem - ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?
 Were you there when God raised him from the tomb?

Text: Negro spiritual, alt.
Tune: Negro spiritual

WERE YOU THERE
10 10 14 10

123

Ah, Holy Jesus

1 Ah, ho - ly Je - sus, how hast thou of - fend - ed That man to
 2 Who was the guilt - y? Who brought this up - on thee? A - las, my
 3 Lo, the Good Shep - herd for the sheep is of - fered; The slave hath
 4 For me, kind Je - sus, was thine in - car - na - tion, Thy mor - tal

judge thee hath in hate pre - tend - ed? By foes de - rid - ed,
 trea - son, Je - sus, hath un - done thee. 'Twas I, Lord Je - sus,
 sin - ned, and the Son hath suf - fered; For man's a - tone - ment,
 sor - row, and thy life's ob - la - tion; Thy death of an - guish

by thine own re - ject - ed, O most af - flict - ed.
 I it was de - nied thee; I cru - ci - fied thee.
 while he noth - ing heed - eth, God in - ter - ced - eth.
 and thy bit - ter Pas - sion, For my sal - va - tion.

5 Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
 I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee;
 Think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
 Not my deserving.