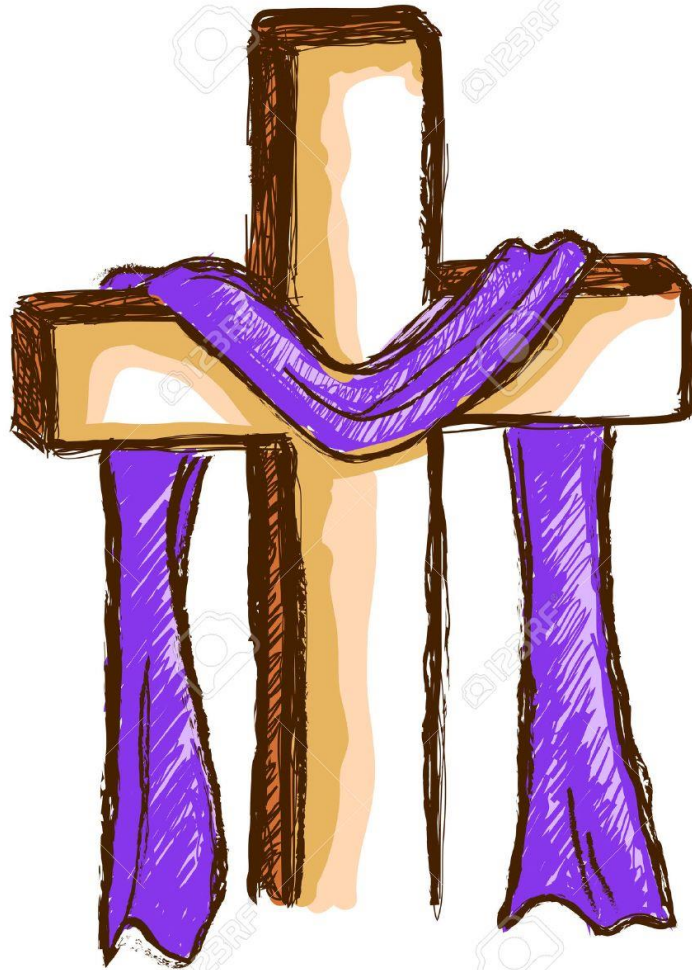


# *SEASON OF LENT 2021*



March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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# Messiah Lutheran Church

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



Samuel Leister  
Andrea Cameron  
Bob St. Clair  
Hope Miller

Vicar  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Acolyte

## FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

March 17, 2021 – 7:00 p.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.]

### CALL TO WORSHIP

P: The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C: **Amen**

P: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: **to sing praise to your name, O Most High;**

P: to herald your love in the morning,

C: **your truth at the close of the day.**

### OPENING HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

Bulletin, pg. 5

### CONFESSION

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

Holy and gracious God,

C: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of Heaven, and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know-- the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed-- but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace.**

P: By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. We rest now in his peace and rise in the morning to serve him.

C: **Amen.**

Psalm 107 .....Read Responsively

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble**

<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>4</sup> **Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;**  
<sup>5</sup> hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.  
<sup>6</sup> **Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress;**  
<sup>7</sup> he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.  
<sup>8</sup> **Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.**  
<sup>9</sup> For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.  
<sup>10</sup> **Some sat in darkness and in gloom, prisoners in misery and in irons,**  
<sup>11</sup> for they had rebelled against the words of God, and spurned the counsel of the Most High.  
<sup>12</sup> **Their hearts were bowed down with hard labor; they fell down, with no one to help.**  
<sup>13</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress;  
<sup>14</sup> **he brought them out of darkness and gloom, and broke their bonds asunder.**  
<sup>15</sup> Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.  
<sup>16</sup> **For he shatters the doors of bronze, and cuts in two the bars of iron.**

GOSPEL..... John 8:12-20

<sup>12</sup>Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” <sup>13</sup>Then the Pharisees said to him, “You are testifying on your own behalf; your testimony is not valid.” <sup>14</sup>Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid because I know where I have come from and where I am going, but you do not know where I come from or where I am going. <sup>15</sup>You judge by human standards; I judge no one. <sup>16</sup>Yet even if I do judge, my judgment is valid; for it is not I alone who judge, but I and the Father who sent me. <sup>17</sup>In your law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is valid. <sup>18</sup>I testify on my own behalf, and the Father who sent me testifies on my behalf.” <sup>19</sup>Then they said to him, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” <sup>20</sup>He spoke these words while he was teaching in the treasury of the temple, but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

SERMON

“Fast from Bitterness”

Vicar Sam Leister

THE APOSTLE’S 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.**

RESPONSORY

P: Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**C: Into your hands I commend my spirit.**

P: You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

**C: Into your hands I commend my spirit.**

P: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**C: Into your hands I commend my spirit.**

SENDING HYMN

“Now the Day Is Over”

Bulletin, pg. 6

## CLOSING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are yours, and to you the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours off night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray.

**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.**

## LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

**All: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray You to forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## CLOSING CHIMES

**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 this evening. 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.

WE WELCOME OUR NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS AND CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS from other churches of our community and appreciate the opportunity that is ours as fellow Christians to worship together. Messiah is glad to have you as our guests this evening and we pray that the service will be a rich blessing to you.

WE THANK ALL who are participating in the service this evening.

THE OFFERING PLATES are located in the Adult Sunday School Room.

2021 LENTEN SERVICES CONTINUE— Vicar Leister will be conducting the final Wednesday Lenten service for 2021 at Messiah next Wednesday, March 24th, with the assistance of Lay Worship Leader Andrea Cameron. The topic of next week’s service is “Fast From Selfishness.” The services will be held starting at 7 p.m. This year’s sermon topics are selected 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!

# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound 448

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are arranged in four numbered lines corresponding to the systems. Chord symbols are placed above the treble staff of each system.

**System 1:** Chords: F, Dm, Bb, F. Lyrics: 1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That; 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And; 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I; 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; His

**System 2:** Chords: Dm, F, Am, F. Lyrics: saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but; grace my fears re-lieved; How pre - cious did that; have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me; Word my hope se-cures; He will my shield and

**System 3:** Chords: Bb, F, Dm, F, C7, F. Lyrics: now am found; Was blind, but now I see.; grace ap - pear The hour I first be - lieved!; safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.; por - tion be As long as life en - dures.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807  
Tune: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

NEW BRITAIN  
CM

# Now the Day Is Over

280

A E A F#m C# F#m

1 Now the day is o - ver; Night is draw - ing nigh;  
2 Je - sus, give the wea - ry Calm and sweet re - pose;  
3 Com - fort ev - 'ry suf - f'rer Watch - ing late in pain;  
4 Through the long night - watch - es May your an - gels spread

B9 B7 E A E7sus4 E9 A

Shad - ows of the eve - ning Steal a - cross the sky.  
With your ten - d'rest bless - ing May our eye - lids close.  
Those who plan some e - vil, From their sin re - strain.  
Their bright wings a - bove me, Watch - ing round my bed.