

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

May 16th, 2021

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
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TODAY’S INTRODUCTION: *The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!*

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

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

Vicar
Organist
Lay Worship Leader & Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolyte
Offering Presenter

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ASCENSION OF OUR LORD May 16, 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.]

GATHERING

- * GATHERING HYMN “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” bulletin, pg. 11
- * GREETING
 - P Alleluia! Christ is risen!
 - C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**
 - 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 (**C - sung**)
 - 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 (“Lord God, Heavenly King” -- In Unison)

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,
 we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
 you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

P Let us pray...

C Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy 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

In the days between Jesus' ascension and Pentecost, Peter oversees the process whereby one of the members of the community of believers is chosen to be the twelfth apostle, in order to fill the vacancy created by Judas's treachery and death.

FIRST READING Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, ¹⁶"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." ²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 1 (*responsively*)

¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

²Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

⁴It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

SECOND READING..... 1 John 5:9-13

⁹If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. ¹⁰Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. ¹¹And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

¹²Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

¹³I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

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 this reading the church hears Jesus' words on the night before his death—his prayer for his disciples and for all who would believe in him through their words.

* **GOSPEL** John 17:6-19

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 17th chapter.

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

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

"Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)**

SERMON

Andrea Cameron

* **HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

(vss. 1-3) bulletin, pg. 12

* **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 ('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.

*** OFFERING PRAYER**

P God of love,

you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

SENDING

*** BLESSING**

P May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

*** SENDING HYMN**

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

(vss. 4-5) bulletin, pg. 12

*** HOLY COMMUNION**

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

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 With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P We praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

P The Body of Christ given for you. (Wafer)

P The Blood of Christ shed for you. (Juice)

P Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to the entire world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C Amen.

* DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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

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WELCOME TO ALL!

JUST A THOUGHT – Stephen Charnock, Presbyterian Clergyman (1628 – 1680): We often learn more of God under the rod that strikes us, than under the staff that comforts us.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Andrea Cameron an Authorized Lay Worship Leader of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Authorized Lay Worship Leaders have received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and also have been authorized by the bishop of the synod to preside at the Eucharist in specific situations.

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.

ANYONE WITH CHILDREN entering 6th grade or higher in the fall of 2021 who would like to register their child for the upcoming confirmation class (and is not already registered) are asked to contact Vicar Leister or the church office.

MAY’S “MISSION OF THE MONTH” at Messiah will be for our local Summer Backpack Program held annually at the Juniata County Food Pantry. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the Food Pantry for this cause. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This is just one way in which we can continue to extend our mission in Christ’s love beyond the walls of our church building.

OUR WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE AT MESSIAH has begun talks about possibly changing the starting times of all Sunday services to an earlier time. Discussion centered around possibly starting services at 10 AM at the beginning of 2022, with the Sunday School hour then being adjusted as well. *HOWEVER*, we need your input!! Is 10 AM a time which would seem a good time to have all Sunday services? (Please remember that we now

have air conditioning in our building. The lack of A/C in the past was a huge reason why we started having summer services at 9:15 AM). What do YOU think about a 10 AM start time? Would you prefer another, earlier time? What time would you like to see the Sunday School “portion” of the morning to begin?? Again, *WE NEED YOUR INPUT!* Please take the time to talk to any of our Worship & Music Committee members – Vicar Sam, Bob St. Clair, Diana Wise, Michelle Stoner, Andrea Cameron, or Jamie Miller – and share any ideas you may have concerning our start time in 2022. Remember, whatever time is selected will be that same start time all year round. But, as you may have heard, *WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!* Reach out to one of the committee members today!

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

May 2, 2021 Attendance – 51

Total Offering	\$4,876.00
Other Funds	<u>1,995.00</u>
General Fund	\$2,881.00

<u>Other Funds</u>	
Benevolence	\$ 160.00
Back Pack Program	50.00
Building Fund	1,435.00
Memorial Fund	300.00
Summer Camp	<u>50.00</u>
Total	\$1,995.00

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.

SUMMER SERVICES WILL BEGIN on Sunday, June 6th at 9:15 a.m. Regular 10:30 a.m. worship services will resume on Sunday, September 5th.

THE NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE for July, 2021 through June, 2022 will be completed soon. We are currently in need of more people to serve on Altar Guild, as a few of our long-serving members are no longer able to help. If you would like to serve or have any changes you would like to make, please contact Diana Wise. All Altar Guild members will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve.

THE NEW LECTOR SCHEDULE for July, 2021 through June, 2022 will be completed soon. If you are not already serving as a lector and you would like to read the weekly scripture readings, please notify the church office. Any young people who would like to read on the first Sunday of the month are also asked to notify the church office. If you would like to be deleted from the list, again let the office know. All lectors will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER – Kate Swales 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. 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.

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 MAY:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, SHAMPOO, DEODORANT, CLEANING SUPPLIES, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, DISH SOAP, ALL-PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS. DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.
Monday: -7:00 p.m., AA in Youth Area.
Wednesday: -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
Sunday: -Pentecost Sunday/Wearing of the Red.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.

PRAYER LIST

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Shirley Aumiller | Amy Hart | Jim Minick |
| Donna Barton | Beth Harris | Claire Mummah |
| Donna Bell | Harry & Jennifer Heikes | Ken Mummah |
| Andy Berrier | Sue Henderson | Darve Nace |
| Roxanne Boyer | Ken Henry | Austin Parker |
| Wanda Boyer | Nox Hepburn | Noel Peachey |
| Dan Brown | Curt & Judy Houtz | Rick & Audrey Peters |
| Charlotte Burd | Dean Hutchinson | Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine |
| Andrea Cameron | Brenda Imes | Dave Phelan |
| Pam Campbell | Annie Ingle | Butch & Sandy Pines |
| Andrew & Daris Ciecierski | Doc Johnston | Cheryl Pinkerton & family |
| Curtis Clark | Guy Kerstetter | Betty Ranck |
| Randy Clark | Denny King | Keith Ranck |
| Terry Coder | Darvin Krouse | Mike Rhoades |
| Leann Crimmel | Pam Lawson | Mackenzie Shearer |
| Will DeLancy | Vicar Sam Leister | Ron & Arlene Shearer |
| Fred & Dot Dowling | Michael Lozano | Mike Sparks |
| Renee Dzikowski | Carol Lyter | Andy Spigelmyer |
| Tom Ernest | Zaden Mabey | Bob & Jeanette St. Clair |
| Neil & Pat Fisher | Anthony Martin | Dorothy Towsey |
| Janie Fogleman | Carlen McClure | Rich Walters |
| Bentley Fulkroad | Alice McClure | Erma Williamson |
| Joan Fulkroad | Isabel Meinsler | Jim Woltman |
| Michal Gayer | Messiah Mutual Ministry | Mackenzie Wray |
| Terri Gayer | Cecilia Miller | George Zimmerman |
| Eddi Kay Gill | Ellwood Miller | Linda Zimmerman |
| Sam & Diane Goshorn | Larry Miller | |
| Paul Goss | Shirley Miller | |

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Ray Bramm
Ruth Cisney
Max Ernest
Margaret Guss
Gail Henderson
Mona Lawson

Minnie Minick
Edith Nipple
Carol Simonton
Sieber & Ona Stoner
Ken Stuck
Jane Marhefka

Lord Jesus, Think on Me

309

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, Nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, That, when the flood is past,

From self - ish pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.
Let me your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste your prom - ised rest.
Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out your cho - sen way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see And share your joy at last.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The first system includes four vocal lines of lyrics. The second system includes three lines of lyrics. The bass line is a simple accompaniment consisting of chords and single notes.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, c. 375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt.
Tune: Daman, Psalms, 1579

SOUTHWELL
SM

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the scep - ter,
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, Here on earth our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -

his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph, His the
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us; Faith be -
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful Flee to
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of Mar - y, Earth your

vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you

Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus
 ceived him When the for - ty days were o'er, Shall our
 sin - ners, Earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea Where the
 en - tered, Robed in flesh, our great high priest, Here on

out of ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by his blood."
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 songs of all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 earth both priest and vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

- 5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
 His the scepter, his the throne;
 Alleluia! His the triumph,
 His the victory alone.
 Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
 Thunder like a mighty flood:
 "Jesus out of ev'ry nation
 Has redeemed us by his blood."