"Growing God's Kingdom"



THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER

Pentecost

June 13th, 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: The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Samuel Leister Andrea Cameron Bob St. Clair Harrison Mummah Kay Varner & Kim White Grace Miller Thea Beward Vicar Choir Director Organist Lector Altar Guild Acolyte Offering Presenter

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST June 13, 2021 – 9:15 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, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C Amen.

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

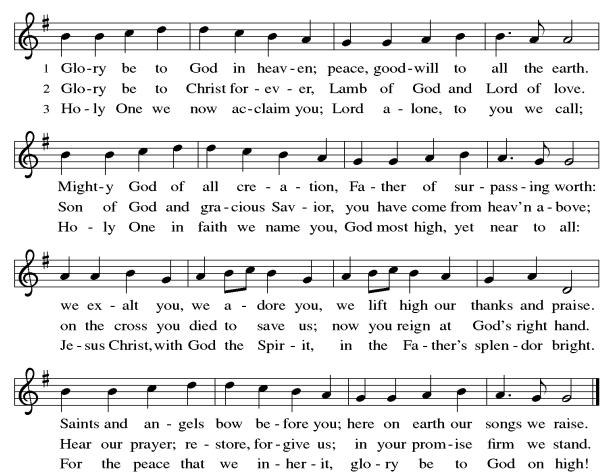
- P Reconciling God,
- C we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.
- P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

GATHERING

*

* GATHERING HYMN

- * GREETING
 - 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** 1 Have mer-cy Lord, and hear our sol - emn on prayer. us, 2 Have mer - cy Christ, and wash a - way our sin. on us, 3 Have mer-cy Lord; make sin and shame de on us, part. come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de - spair. We out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin. Pour Re - new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre - ate us new hearts! in
- * CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- * PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)
 - P Let us pray...
 - C O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

²to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

⁴For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

¹³Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God; ¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

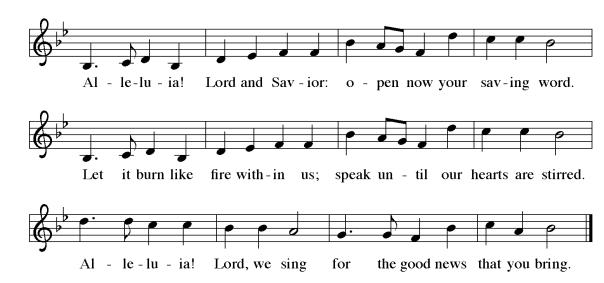
recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

²⁶[Jesus said,] "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

SERMON HYMN OF THE DAY "I Love to Tell the Story" Vicar Leister (vs. 1) bulletin, pg. 13

* 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 Lord, in your mercy,
 - C hear our prayer.

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 Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life,
 - C you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.
- * HOLY COMMUNION
 - P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

- C Amen.
- * THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)
 - P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
 - 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.

- P The Body of Christ given for you. (Wafer)
- P The Blood of Christ shed for you. (Juice)
- * COMMUNION BLESSING
 - P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
 - C Amen.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray,

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.

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
 - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)
- * SENDING HYMN "I Love to Tell the Story" (vss. 2-3) bulletin, pg. 13

- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
 - C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Kay Varner & Kim White (5/31/21—6/27/21) NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTE – Brea Beward NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING PRESENTER – Julia Martin

WELCOME TO ALL!

JUST A THOUGHT – Dave Veerman, Christian Thinker: Biblical application means allowing the truth of the scripture to penetrate our lives, to make a difference in how we live.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS <u>THURSDAY</u> <u>NOON.</u>

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 <u>sleister@gmail.com</u>.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for <u>one month</u>. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact the church office at 436-6213 or <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u>. 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 <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u> 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 <u>sleister@gmail.com</u>.

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. CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING 2020 AND 2021 SENIORS: Zane Hazard (2020), son of Bob and Tina Hazard; Marina Holderman (2020), daughter of Bill and Christie Holderman; Garrett Berry (2020), son of Steve and Jean Berry; Tai Kepler (2021), son of Marc and Nasreen Kepler; Drew Lauver (2021), son of Andy and Rachael Lauver; Nathan Swailes (2021), son of Kevin and Kate Swailes; and Jace White (2021), son of John and Kim White.

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, August 6th, Messiah congregational splash party at Central Juniata Park Pool in Mifflin. More information will follow.

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.

JUNE'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for the Hockenberry Family of East Waterford who not only lost everything in a house fire on May 17th, but also lost their mother and grandmother due to that fire. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the Hockenberry Family 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.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

May 30, 2021 Attendance – 40

		Other Funds	Other Funds	
Total Offering	\$2,461.00	Benevolence	\$	100.00
Other Funds	529.00	Building Fund		110.00
General Fund	\$1,932.00	Fire Victims		100.00
		Back Pack Program		175.00
		Flowers		44.00
		Total	\$	529.00

OUR WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE AT MESSIAH has begun talks about <u>possibly</u> 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! COPIES OF MARCH 21, 2021 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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 <u>cml@campmountluther.org</u>. 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 <u>www.campmountluther.org</u>. 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 JUNE:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, PERSONAL CARE ITEMS, CLEANING SUPPLIES, PAPER PRODUCTS. SUMMER BACKPACK LUNCH PROGRAM: SINGLE SERVE MEALS, JELLO CUPS, FRUIT CUPS, NON-CHOCOLATE PUDDING, SMALL BOXES OF RAISINS. WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS FOR GROCERY & DISCOUNT STORES.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion.

Monday: -7:00 p.m., AA in Youth Area.

Wednesday: -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday: -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion.

PRAYER LIST

Shirley Aumiller Donna Barton Donna Bell Andy Berrier Roxanne Boyer Wanda Boyer Dan Brown Charlotte Burd Andrea Cameron Pam Campbell Ron Chambers Andrew & Daris Ciecierski Curtis Clark Randy Clark Terry Coder Leann Crimmel Will DeLancy Fred & Dot Dowling Renee Dzikowski Tom Ernest Neil & Pat Fisher Janie Fogleman Bentley Fulkroad Joan Fulkroad Dr. Mark G. Terri Gayer Eddi Kay Gill Ruthlee Gloss & Family

Sam & Diane Goshorn Amy Hart Beth Harris Harry & Jennifer Heikes Sue Henderson Ken Henry Nox Hepburn Hockenberry Family Curt & Judy Houtz Dean Hutchinson Brenda Imes Annie Ingle Doc Johnston Guy Kerstetter Denny King Darvin Krouse Pam Lawson Chase Lehman Vicar Sam 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 Mummah Ken Mummah Darve Nace Austin Parker Noel Peachev **Rick & Audrey Peters** Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine Dave Phelan Butch & Sandy Pines Cheryl Pinkerton & family Betty Ranck Keith Ranck Mike Rhoades Bill & Claudette Satzler Mackenzie Shearer Ron & Arlene Shearer Mike Sparks Andy Spigelmyer Bob & Jeanette St. Clair Dorothy Towsey Erma Williamson Jim Woltman Mackenzie Wray George Zimmerman Linda Zimmerman

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Ray Bramm Ruth Cisney Max Ernest Paul Goss Margaret Guss Gail Henderson Mona Lawson Jane Marhefka Minnie Minick Edith Nipple Carol Simonton Sieber & Ona Stoner Ken Stuck

CHRISTIAN HOPE



Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

IT IS WELL 118 119 WITNESS

I Love to Tell the Story 390 гу Оf to tell un - seen things 1 I love the sto _ a - bove, tell ry: How pleas - ant to re - peat 2 I love to the sto -3 Ι love to tell the sto ry, For those who know ìt best 7520 Ø : **. b** | 0 Of glo - ry, tell it, $\mathbf{O}\mathbf{f}$ and Je - sus and his Je - sus his love. What seems, each time 1 More won - der - ful ly sweet! the rest. Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing То hear it like): 4 6 **8** : bg: I love to tell the sto - гу, Be - cause I know it's true; sto - ry, glo - ry, For some have nev - er I love tell the heard to sing And when, of I the new, in scenes new song, 2:20 2. **S**: 6 **.** 9: Ś It long - ings noth - ing else would do. sat is - fies my As The mes - sage of sal va - tion From God's own ho - ly Word. have loved so long. I'll sing the old, old sto - ry That I \odot 4 1 I'll sing this theme in love to tell the sto - ry; glo - ry 2 And tell old, old his love. the sto - ry Of Je - sus and 2