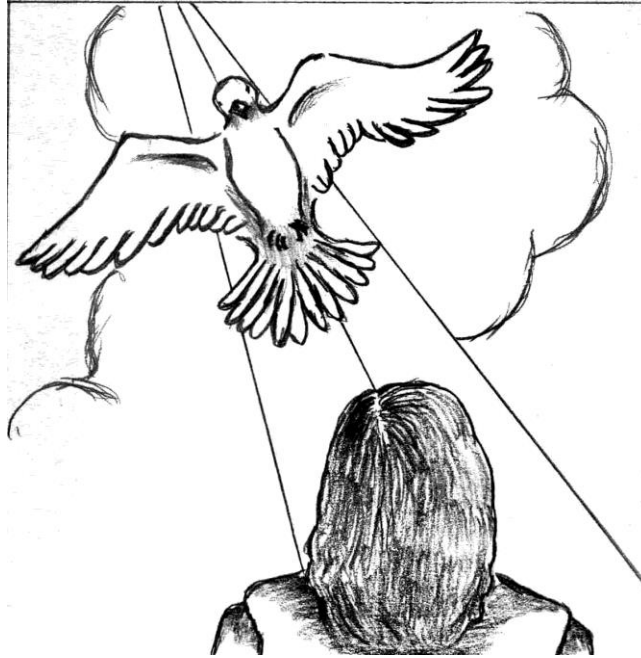


“Growing God’s Kingdom”



THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 9th, 2022

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: *Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.*

*The artwork is by Sharon Geiser. Permission to use this copyrighted graphic is limited to congregational use.
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Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Samuel J. Leister
Bob St. Clair
Slone Smith
Andrea Cameron
Ron Yorks
Brea Beward & Paige Martin
Zeb Berry & Silas Smith
Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner

Vicar
Organist/Pianist
Organist/Pianist
Choir Director
Lector
Acolytes
Offering Presenters
Altar Guild

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD January 9, 2022 – 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 creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most Merciful God,

C we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

P Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* GATHERING HYMN “How Firm a Foundation” #507 Green Hymnal

* GREETING

P The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

* KYRIE (C – sung responsively)

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 (In Unison)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

P Let us pray...

C **Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel Do not fear for

I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you ³For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:..... Psalm 29 **(responsively)**

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people;

give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

SECOND READING..... Acts 8:14-17

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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.

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God's beloved Son.

* GOSPEL Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Vicar Leister

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

#474 Green Hymnal

* NICENE CREED (In Unison)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P God of grace,

C Hear our prayer.

* 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

* 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 Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light.

C Amen.

* HOLY COMMUNION

P O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child. When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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.

P Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

C Amen.

P Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

C Amen.

P Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

C Amen.

P O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

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

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, + bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* SENDING HYMN “The Church’s One Foundation” #369 Green Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

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NEXT WEEK’S LECTOR – Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK’S ACOLYTES – Sofia Reed and Julia Martin

NEXT WEEK’S OFFERING PRESENTERS – Paige Martin and Gabby Reed

NEXT WEEK’S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner (12/27 – 01/30)

WELCOME TO ALL!

JUST A THOUGHT – Desmond Tutu (1931-2021): Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.

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 offering plates are placed during the service.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. 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 - 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.

THE NEW FLOWER CHART FOR 2022 is now available in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you wish to place flowers on a specific date, please sign-up on the chart.

THE 2022 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available to pick up in the Library. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2021 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES ARE NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2022 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference assembly (date to be announced). If you are interested in serving, please contact Vicar Leister or the church office.

JANUARY’S “MISSION OF THE MONTH” at Messiah will for Lutheran Disaster Relief, particularly those tornado victims in Kentucky and surrounding states. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to Lutheran Disaster Relief to help those who have been displaced or are in need of any type of help. 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.

WEIS AND GIANT GIFT CARDS are available to purchase from the Disciples Class. This is a very important outreach ministry that helps neighbors in need in our own community. We thank each and every one for continued support of this very worthwhile project.

JAM HOUSE NEED: We need a volunteer to perform the treasurer duties at JAM HOUSE. The position requires about one hour per week to pay bills and make other financial reports. The treasurer would also need to attend our quarterly board meeting. Please contact Larry Wise at 717-436-6629 if you have an interest or know someone who does. Thank you.

REMINDER: The ELCA Youth Gathering, “Boundless: God Beyond Measure,” is coming up on July 24-28, 2022. It will take place in Minneapolis, Minnesota. There are registration worksheets on the gathering website on the resources page. The forms are helpful to have when sitting down at the computer to input all information for church groups, the youth, and the leaders. New this cycle is that the ELCA is taking payment online for the gathering. The getting ready material is also on the gathering website. It is helpful to use these materials with youth groups to enhance their whole gathering experience. The material is very flexible on how it can be used with groups. For more information, go to the website at www.elca.org/youthgathering

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

January 2, 2022 Sunday School -- 5

Worship Attendance – (in person 44) (online 32)

Total Offering	\$9,911.00	<u>Other Funds</u>	
Other Funds	<u>5,885.00</u>	Benevolence	\$ 202.00
General Fund	\$4,026.00	Building Fund	32.00
		Memorial Fund	443.00
		Sunday School	3.00
		Youth Program	100.00
		Lutheran Disaster	80.00
		Matthew 25	<u>5,025.00</u>
		Total	\$5,885.00

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.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Baptism of our Lord.
 -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
 -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Junior Church
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitters in Junior Church Room
 -7:00 p.m., AA in Youth Area
- Wednesday:** -9:00 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall
 -7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary
- Thursday:** -7:00 p.m., WELCA Meeting in Youth Area
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
 -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.

PRAYER LIST

Tornado victims in Kentucky and surrounding states	Piper Hall	Ken Mummah
The Family of Angela Sieber	Amy Hart	Darve Nace
The Family of Jodie Swailes	Joyce Hart	Paul Ogden
Tim Arentz	Beth Harris	Austin Parker
Herm & Judy Armstrong	Harry & Jennifer Heikes	Noel Peachey
Steve & Linda Bahorik	Sue Henderson	Rick & Audrey Peters
Donna Barton	Nox Hepburn	Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Donna Bell	Jay Hockenbroch	Dave Phelan
Andy Berrier	Allison Holderman	Butch & Sandy Pines
Roxanne Boyer	Brenda Imes	Mia Raish
Michele Boniewicz	Annie Ingle	Betty Ranck
Don Bratton	Doc Johnston	Keith Ranck
Dan Brown	Pam Kennedy	Mike Rhoades
Andrea Cameron	Guy Kerstetter	Claudette Satzler
Karen Centini	Denny King	Mackenzie Shearer
Randy Clark	Pam Lawson	Ron & Arlene Shearer
Terry & April Coder	Michael Lozano	Mike Sparks
Vincent Cramer	Carol Lyter	Andy Spigelmyer
Leann Crimmel	Zaden Mabey	Vicki Suoja
Will DeLancy	Mike Maclay	Alice Swartz
Fred & Dot Dowling	Ryan Marker	Dorothy Towsey
Renee Dzikowski	Anthony Martin	George Trego
Tom Ernest	Mike Maugans	George & Kay Varner
Neil & Pat Fisher	Carlen McClure	Sam Walters
Jane Fogleman	Alice McClure	Austin Willi
Derek Fry	Messiah Mutual Ministry	Erma Williamson
Bentley Fulkroad	Cecilia Miller	Zach Wise
Joan Fulkroad	Ellwood Miller	Jim Woltman
Terri Gayer	Larry Miller	Mackenzie Wray
Eddi Kay Gill	Shirley Miller	George Zimmerman
Sam & Diane Goshorn	Jim Minick	Linda Zimmerman
	Claire Mummah	

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Jane Marhefka – Brookline Retirement Village, 92 Village Drive, Mifflintown, PA 17059
Gail Henderson & Carol Simonton – Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Mifflintown, PA 17059
Ruth Cisney & Ray Bramm – Honneman House, 58 Honneman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094
Minnie Minick – 187 JAM House Rd., Mifflin, PA 17058
Edith Nipple – 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059
Sieber & Ona Stoner – 23591 Rt. 35 North, Mifflintown, PA 17059
Ken Stuck – 66 Eighth St., Mifflintown, PA 17059