# "Growing God's Kingdom"



# Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

### January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 South Third Street Mifflintown, PA 17059 (717)-436-6213

*RADIO*: AM 1700 *OFFICE EMAIL:* <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u> *WEBSITE:* mlcmifflintown.org

**TODAY'S INTRODUCTION:** The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

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### **Messiah Lutheran Church**

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

Samuel Leister Bob St. Clair Slone Smith Andrea Cameron Kate Swailes Zeb Berry & Slone Smith Evan Miller & Harrison Mummah Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner Vicar Organist/Pianist Organist/Pianist Choir Director Lector Acolytes Offering Presenters Altar Guild

#### FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY January 30, 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.

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

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

#415 Green Hymnal

- \* GREETING
  - P The grace of Jesus Christ, the mercy of the Holy One, and the Spirit of the living God be with you all.
  - C And also with you.
- \* KYRIE (In Unison)

#### Come, Let Us Join



#### \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

- P Let us pray...
- C Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### WORD

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

FIRST READING.....Jeremiah 1:4-10 <sup>4</sup>Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, <sup>5</sup>"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

<sup>6</sup>Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD."

<sup>9</sup>Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup>See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM:.....Psalm 71:1-6 (responsively)

<sup>1</sup>In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

<sup>2</sup>In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; incline your ear to me and save me. <sup>3</sup>Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; you are my crag and my stronghold.

<sup>4</sup>Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

<sup>5</sup>For you are my hope, O Lord GOD, my confidence since I was young.

<sup>6</sup>I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have been my strength; my praise shall be always of you.

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist

on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup>It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup>Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup>For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; <sup>10</sup>but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup>And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (In Unison)



People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

- \* GOSPEL.....Luke 4:21-30
  - P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>21</sup>Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup>All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup>He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum."' <sup>24</sup>And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. <sup>25</sup>But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup>yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup>There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup>When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup>They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup>But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Vicar Leister Vicar Leister #212 Green Hymnal

\* 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 (Prayers read by Worship Leader)
  - P God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

#### THE RITE OF HEALING

Those who sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives may receive the gift of prayer. This sign, first given in baptism, tells us again that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and may be marked forever with the cross of Christ, who is health and salvation for the whole world.

In its ministry of healing, the church does not replace the gifts of God that come through the scientific community, nor does it promise a cure. The church offers and celebrates gifts such as these: God's presence with strength and comfort in time of suffering, God's promise of wholeness and peace, and God's love embodied in the community of faith.

P Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing--with prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing. In the name of Christ, the great healer and reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

#### P Let us pray,

Loving God, we give you thanks for the gifts of life on earth, for our human bodies and all you have created. In your great mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- P Merciful God, by the wounds of your Son we are healed. Bring your saving health to all people. In your great mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Restoring God, your Son Jesus brought the gift of healing and wholeness. Bring your healing presence now to all who are in any distress. In your great mercy,

#### C hear our prayer.

- P Almighty God, source of human knowledge, give skill, wisdom, and compassion to all who provide medical care. In your great mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Sustaining God, give gentleness and courage to family members, friends, and caregivers of all who are suffering. In your great mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P God of great and abundant mercy, with your presence sustain all for whom we pray; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

- \* PRAYER OF COMMITMENT & BLESSING OF HEALING (for all)
  - P Living God, grant comfort to all those in suffering. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore our sure defense, and help us to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
  - C Amen
- \* 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')



#### \* OFFERING PRAYER

- P Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Leade 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 We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way 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, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

#### C 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 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 "Take My Life, that I May Be" #406 Green Hymnal
- \* DISMISSAL
  - P Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
  - C Thanks be to God.
- \* POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Slone Smith NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Olivia Mummah & Braedon Walton NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING PRESENTERS – Haley Mummah & Thea Beward NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Linda Clark & Chris Martin (1/31/22 – 2/27/22

#### WELCOME TO ALL!

JUST A THOUGHT – Joseph Addison, English Essayist and Poet (1672 – 1719): There is no virtue so great as justice.

#### **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 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 <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 - 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.

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.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet today following the worship service.

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.

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.

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.

#### WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

January 16, 2022 Sunday School 14			
	Worship Attendance – (in person 48) (online 45)	Other Funds	
Total Offering	\$4,953.03	Benevolence	\$ 124.00
Other Funds	<u>634.24</u>	Building Fund	242.00
General Fund	\$4,318.79	Memorial Fund	100.00
		Sunday School	16.24
		Flowers	27.00
		Lutheran Disaster	75.00
		World Hunger	<u>50.00</u>
		Total	\$634.24

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 <u>www.elca.org/youthgathering</u>

#### 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.

#### 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 FEBRUARY:

#### CANNED BEETS AND MIXED VEGETABLES, TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS, DISH DETERGENT, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, ANY CLEANING ITEM, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD AND FLU MEDICINES. DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

Mailing address: P.O. Box 44, Mifflintown, PA 17059 Hours: Tuesday 9-12 a.m. and 1-5 p.m., and Saturday 9-12 a.m. (Vestibule is open 24 hours a day to receive non-perishable donations. Donations of cash, checks or gift cards may be deposited in the vestibule's mail slot).

#### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today:	<ul> <li>-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.</li> <li>-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Junior Church/Service of Healing.</li> <li>-Worship &amp; Music Committee meeting following worship service.</li> </ul>
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.
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 Steve & Linda Bahorik Donna Barton Donna Bell Andy Berrier Roxanne Boyer Michele Boniewicz Don Bratton Dan Brown Andrea Cameron Karen Centini Randy Clark Terry & April Coder Vincent Cramer Leann Crimmel Will DeLancy Fred & Dot Dowling Cathy Dysinger Renee Dzikowski Barbara Fairman & her family Neil & Pat Fisher Jane Fogleman Derek Fry Mindy Fryer Bentley Fulkroad Joan Fulkroad Terri Gayer Eddi Kay Gill Sam & Diane Goshorn Piper Hall Amy Hart Joyce Hart

Beth Harris Harry & Jennifer Heikes Terry Hess Sue Henderson Nox Hepburn Jay Hockenbroch Addison Holderman Brenda Imes Annie Ingle Doc Johnston Pam Kennedy Guy Kerstetter Kevin Kilmer Denny King Pam Lawson Michael Lozano Carol Lyter Zaden Mabey Mike Maclay Ryan Marker Anthony Martin Mike Maugans Carlen McClure Alice McClure Messiah Mutual Ministry Cecilia Miller Ellwood Miller Evan Miller Larry Miller Shirley Miller Jim Minick Claire Mummah Ken Mummah

Darve Nace Paul Ogden Austin Parker Noel Peachey **Rick & Audrey Peters** Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine Dave Phelan Butch & Sandy Pines Mia Raish Betty Ranck Keith Ranck Mike Rhoades June Roberts Claudette Satzler Mackenzie Shearer Ron & Arlene Shearer Althea Smith Mike Sparks Andy Spigelmyer Eric St. Clair Vicki Suoja Alice Swartz Dorothy Towsey George Trego George & Kay Varner Sam Walters Austin Willi Zach Wise Jim Woltman Mackenzie Wray George Zimmerman Linda Zimmerman

#### 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