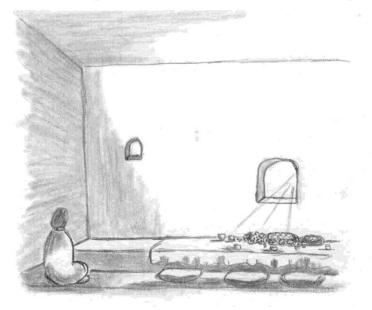
"Growing God's Kingdom"



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER Pentecost

September 18th, 2022 MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR 3 SOUTH THIRD STREET MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059 (717)-436-6213

PASTOR EMAIL: mlcsleister@gmail.com OFFICE EMAIL: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com WEBSITE: mlcmifflintown.org

TODAY'S INTRODUCTION: As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Samuel Leister Bob St. Clair Slone Smith Andrea Cameron Cynthia Smith Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed Olivia Mummah & Braedon Walton Zeb Berry, Haley Mummah & Grace Miller Cynthia Smith Pastor Organist/Pianist Organist/Pianist Choir Director Lector Altar Guild Acolytes Presenters of Communion & Offering Manna Bread Maker

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST September 18, 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 is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.
- C Amen.
- P Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God of mercy and forgiveness,
- C we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.
- P Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven + and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

GATHERING

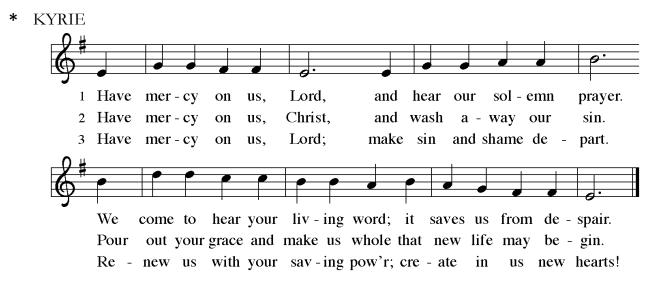
* GATHERING HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

#328 Green Hymnal

* 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.



* CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)

- P Let us pray...
- C God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

FIRST READING......Amos 8:4-7 ⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

²Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore. ³From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴The LORD is high above all nations, God's glory above the heavens.

⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

⁶but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.

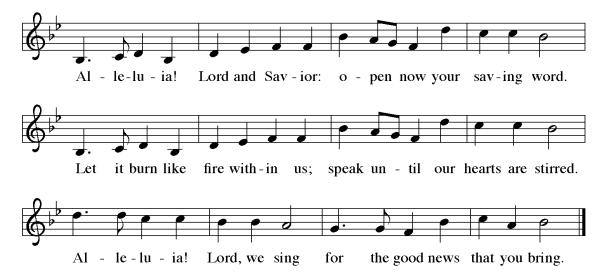
9The LORD makes the woman of a childless house

to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

L: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

- * GOSPEL.....Luke 16:1-13
 - P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 16th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

CHILDREN'S SERMON SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"You Servants of God"

Pastor Leister Pastor Leister #252 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

- P God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- * PEACE
 - P The peace of Christ be with you always.
 - C And also with you.

(The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord from their pews at whatever level of physical contact with which they are comfortable).

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 Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.
- C Amen.

MEAL

- * COMMUNION DIALOGUE (from Isaiah 55)
 - P Let us give thanks to the Lord.
 - C For through these gifts he comes to feed us.
 - P All you who are thirsty, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, receive bread, and eat.
 - C Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and eat.
 - P Let us come to his table with joy,
 - C for we come as God's invited guests!

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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, how and forever.

C Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER (all)

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.

(If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in the front of the chancel).

DISTRIBUTION

["At the Chancel Rail" – come forward by the CENTER aisle; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Approach the altar to partake, then move to the chancel rail to pray. Then, return to your seat using the left or right SIDE aisle]. (Fellowship cups are available for those who wish to remain in your seat for communion)

* 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 God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
 - C Amen

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, + one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.
 - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)
- * SENDING HYMN "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" #293 Green Hymnal
- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace, with Christ beside you. C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Kate Swailes NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed (8/29/22—9/25/22) Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith (9/26/22—10/16/22) NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Hannah Ehrisman & Grace Miller NEXT WEEK'S PRESENTERS OF COMMUNION & OFFERING – Paige Martin, Julia Martin & Hope Miller

WELCOME TO ALL!

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit in the guest book provided in the Narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the Pastor. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshiping with us. VISITORS ARE INVITED TO COMMUNE with us if they are baptized, and if with us in our faith, they trust Jesus' promise of the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ.

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR COMMUNION. If you so desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Neil and Pat Fisher.

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.

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 Pastor Leister at <u>mlcsleister@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 Pastor Sam Leister. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let Pastor Leister know. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at <u>mlcsleister@gmail.com</u>

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.

THE SEPTEMBER "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for Kentucky Flood Relief efforts. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the ELCA's Kentucky and Deep South Flood Relief Program to help the many whose lives and properties have been turned upside down with major flooding the past few months. 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.

PPC WILL MEET this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Disciples Class area.

SUNDAY'S SOLDIERS will meet on Sunday, September 25th at 6:30 p.m. at Messiah. The main purpose of this meeting is to elect youth leaders to serve the group. A president – to help lead and guide; a treasurer – to keep a record of the finances (but not to sign checks); and a secretary – to record notes and minutes of meetings. The meeting will be approximately 60-90 minutes. A number of other activities will be shared and planned at this time.

Any adult volunteers who would like to provide a few snacks -- it would be greatly appreciated.

We are also considering taking our youth on a tour of WHTM – ABC 27 studio in Harrisburg. Our very own Sarah Kramer works as an account executive at the studio and is excited about the possibility of hosting our youth for a tour. We are looking at Saturday, October 29th as a possible date for this event. We need to let Sarah know as soon as possible if this date will work for everyone.

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 REPORTS:

September 11, 2022 Worship Attendance – (in person 54 – Online 21 – Sunday School 6)

		Other Funds	
Total Offering	\$1,793.00	Building Fund \$ 1	20.00
Other Funds	258.00	Benevolence	30.00
General Fund	\$1,535.00	Mission of Month 1	00.00
		Sunday School	<u>8.00</u>
		Total \$ 2	258.00

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

ITEMS NEEDED FOR PERSONAL CARE KITS that will be sent in October are:

- --1 light weight bath-size towel between (20" x 40" and 52" x 27") dark colors preferred.
- --1 adult-sized toothbrush in its original packaging (multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope) (no plastic bags or wrap).
- --1 sturdy comb, remove packaging.
- --1 metal nail clippers (attached file optional) remove packaging.

WE WILL CONTINUE to collect donations of clothing for Packages of Hope for local families as well as children entering foster care as requested by Children's Services. The list of clothing items is included below. If you would like to purchase an item or two to donate, please place them in the appropriate storage containers located in the Adult Sunday School Room.

0-3 Years

- --Socks (2 packs each: sizes 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-9 mo, 9-12 mo, 2, and 3)
- --Onesies (2 packs each: sizes 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-9 mo, 9-12 mo, 2, and 3)
- --Pajamas (2 sets of each: sizes 0-3 mo, 3-6 mo, 6-9 mo, 9-12 mo, 2, and 3)

4-7 Years

- --Socks (2 packs each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Underwear (2 packs each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Pajamas (2 sets of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Short sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Long sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)
- --Sweatpants (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)

--Sweatshirts (2 of each: sizes 4T, 5T, 6T, and 7)

8-12 Years

- --Socks (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium. large, extra-large)
- --Underwear (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Short sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Long sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatpants (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatshirt (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)

13-17 Years

- --Socks (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Underwear (2 packs of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Short sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Long sleeve tee (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatpants (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)
- --Sweatshirt (2 of each: sizes small, medium, large, extra-large)

(Additionally, we are requesting donations of plastic storage containers to help store and organize all donated items).

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER:

CANNED BEETS, CANNED MIXED VEGETABLES, CANNED POTATOES, CANNED PINEAPPLE, SHAMPOO, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD & PAIN MEDICINES, DISHWASHING SOAPS, LAUNDRY SOAP, & SCHOOL SUPPLIES & BACKPACKS (WHILE THEY ARE ON SALE). WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS & GIFT CARDS.

THE 50th JUNIATA COUNTY CROP WALK will be held on October 9th at Walker Township Park. Registration will begin at 1:30 p.m. and the WALK begins at 2:00 p.m. Twenty-five percent of all pledge money will go to the Food Pantry and Meals-On-Wheels. The following items are also being collected for the Food Pantry from now until the Walk on October 9th.

- --Personal Hygiene Supplies toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, & razors
- --Cleaning Supplies all-purpose cleansers, bleach, trash bags, laundry detergent, & dish detergent
- --Paper Products paper towels, toilet paper, & tissues
- --Infant Needs diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, & baby lotion
- --Non-perishable food items

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today:	 -9:15 a.m., Sunday School & Catechetical Class. -10:30 a.m., Worship, Communion, Jr. Church. -Worship & Music Committee Meeting following Worship Service. -6:30 p.m., PPC Meeting in the Disciples Class area. 		
Monday:	-6:30 P.M., The Knitters in Junior Church Room. -7:00 p.m., AA in Disciple's Class. Area.		
Tuesday:	-6:30 p.m., Quilters in Fellowship Hall.		
Wednesday:	 -5:00 to 9:00 a.m., Lion's Club Breakfast for United Way in Fellowship Hall. -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall. -6:00 p.m., Bible Study in Adult Sunday School Room. -7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary. 		
Friday:	-NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.		
Sunday:	-9:15 a.m., Sunday School & Catechetical Class. -10:30 a.m., Worship, Communion, Jr. Church.		

PRAYER LIST

Steve & Linda Bahorik Donna Barton Rodai Batiinda Michele Boniewicz Dan Brackbill Don Bratton Dan Brown Raymond Cameron Randy Clark Terry Coder Vincent Cramer Will DeLancy Fred & Dot Dowling Seth Dowling Freda Durio Cathy Dysinger Renee Dzikowski Neil & Pat Fisher Jane Fogleman Steve Freeman & family Mindy Fryer Bentley Fulkroad Terri Gaver Deb Geedey

*Peace in Ukraine & Russia *Victims of Gun Violence

Eddi Kay Gill Deborah Gingrich Joyce Hart Sue Henderson Lahryn Henry Nox Hepburn Erin Husler Brenda Imes Terry Imes Annie Ingle Andrea Kauffman Pam Kennedy Guy Kerstetter Kevin Kilmer Pam Lawson John Lehman Michael Lozano Zaden Mabey Anthony Martin Carlen McClure Alice McClure Cecilia Miller Ellwood Miller Larry Miller Shirley Miller

Jim Minick Claire Mummah Ken Mummah Paul Ogden Ron & Linda (Kerchner)Parks Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine Dave & Nancy Phelan Sandy Pines Mia Raish Betty Ranck Blossom Ranck Keith Ranck **Diane** Rowles Ron & Arlene Shearer Dave Smith Vicki Suoja Andy Spigelmyer Stacey & Bonnie Swartz Dorothy Towsey Molly Ulsh Todd Wert Jim Woltman Phillip Zendt 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
-Alice Swartz & Rich Smith – Berry's Personal Care, 68 Lexi St., Mifflintown, PA 17059
-Ruth Cisney & Ray Bramm – Honneman House, 58 Honneman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094
-Edith Nipple – 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059
-Sieber & Ona Stoner – William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044
-Ken Stuck – 66 Eighth St., Mifflintown, PA 17059