# "Growina God's Kingdom"



# ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Messiah Lutheran Church

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

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# TODAY'S INTRODUCTION:

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

# 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 Diana Wise Stella & Sofia Reed Zeb Berry, Nick & Gabby Reed Linda Clark & Chris Martin Pastor Organist/Pianist Organist/Pianist Choir Director Lector Acolytes Communion/Offering Presenters Altar Guild

# ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST August 13, 2023 – 9:15 a.m.

\*Please Stand as YOU Are Able

# PREPARATION

CHIMES GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PRELUDE: Decase use the probable as a quiet time to proper yourself for

[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 greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.
- P Merciful God,
- C we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.
- 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



\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE



- \* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken)
  - P The Lord be with you.
  - C And also with you.
- \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)
  - P Let us pray...
  - C O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# WORD

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

FIRST READING......1 Kings 19:9-18 9At [Horeb, the mount of God,] [Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>14</sup>He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

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

# <sup>9</sup>Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

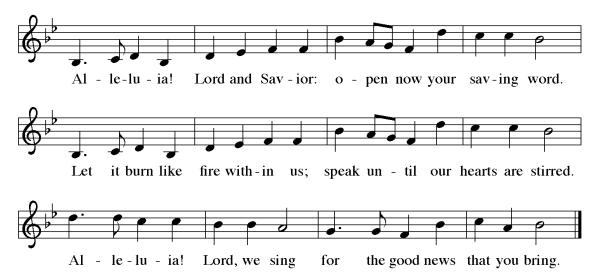
# <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.<sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

L: The word of the Lord.

- C: Thanks be to God.
- \* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

- - P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." <sup>28</sup>Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." <sup>29</sup>He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

YOUNG FOLKS SERMON	í	Pastor Leister
SERMON		Pastor Leister
HYMN OF THE DAY	"O Master, Let Me Walk with You"	#492 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 Hear us, O God.
  - C Your mercy is great.

# \* 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 God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
  - 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 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.

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).

- \* INVITATION TO COMMUNION
  - P All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

# 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 We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
  - C Amen

# SENDING

- \* BLESSING
  - P The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and Sustain you now and to the end of the age.
  - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)
- \* SENDING HYMN "Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult" #494 Green Hymnal
- \* DISMISSAL
  - P Go in peace. Share the harvest. C Thanks be to God.

# POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Evan Miller & Carter Ehrisman NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Hannah Ehrisman, Grace & Hope Miller NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Linda Clark & Chris Martin (7/31/23 – 8/27/23) NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Diana Wise

# 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of Sandy Pines' birthday by Dan and Michelle Stoner.

JUST A THOUGHT – Charles Wesley, English Methodist Reformer and Hymn Writer (1707 – 1788): Finish then Thy new creation—let us see Thy great salvation—perfectly restored in Thee.

# **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 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 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.

AUGUST'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for Wings of Kindness. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to Wings of Kindness to continue assisting in the effort to serve the needs of our community. 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.

A PICNIC RECEPTION for Bishop Padmore will be held at 12:00 noon at Reedsville area playground (Honey Creek Road). In case of rain, it will be held in Reedsville Lutheran Church social hall.

BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. We will begin a study of the book of Revelation from Augsburg publishers. Material and books will be available by then.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE will meet on August 27th following the worship service.

MESSIAH'S CHOIR NEEDS YOU! If you have a love for singing, please join our choir and "make a joyful noise." Choir rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. from September through May. Anyone in junior high school or beyond, male or female are welcome to join us. Our first rehearsal for fall will be Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

REMINDER: Beginning on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, regular worship services will resume at 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

BAPTISMAL/NEW MEMBER CLASSES – If you wish to have your child baptized or you wish to become a member of Messiah and attend the New Member Class, please let Pastor Sam or the church office know so a class can be scheduled.

FIRST COMMUNION – Please let Pastor Sam or the church office know if you would like your child to attend a First Communion Class and a date and time will be arranged with those who are interested.

MESSIAH'S PPC has purchased two AED'S (Automatic Electronic Defibrillators) along with upgraded first aid products for the Fellowship Hall and the main worship area. The estimated cost is approximately \$3,000. We are all given the opportunity to contribute to the purchase of these life-saving devices. There is a chart showing envelopes with numbers on them in the Adult Sunday School Room. The number is the amount of a contribution you can make to help with this purchase. Please take an envelope and return it when you come to church.

"GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS" SUNDAY will be September 10, 2023.

THE SYNOD OFFICE HAS MOVED to the new location at 100 Mahoning Street, Milton. UPDATE! The internet is now hooked up and staff are able to access email. Phone service is not yet up and running, so please be patient with synod communications. The mailing address will remain P.O. Box 36, Lewisburg, PA 17837.

IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS, please contact Sheree Goss at 717-436-9613 or email her at msgoss@gmail.com.

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. **July 30, 2023** Worship Attendance – 40

		Other Funds	
Total Offering	\$1,851.00	Mission of Month	45.00
Other Funds	141.00	AED	76.00
General Fund	\$1,710.00	Building Fund	20.00
		Total	\$ 141.00

#### WOMEN OF THE ELCA

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS are being collected for Shelter Service, Inc. in Lewistown:

Laundry Detergent	Shaving Cream
Clorox	Shampoo
Dryer Sheets	Deodorant
Dish Soap	Body Wash

Please place items in the Adult Sunday School Room in the container provided.

ITEMS BEING COLLECTED FOR SCHOOL KITS (during August and September).

--four (70-80 sheet) spiral notebooks-wide or college-ruled

- --1-30 centimeter/inch ruler
- --1 pencil sharpener
- --1 pair of blunt scissors
- --5 black or blue ballpoint pens
- --1 box of 16 or 24 crayons

# WOMEN OF THE ELCA PURPOSE STATEMENT

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

#### **COMMUNITY**

## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR AUGUST:

#### CANNED POTATOES, CANNED CARROTS.

#### DISH SOAP, ANY CLEANING SUPPLIES AND LAUNDRY DETERGENT.

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES, (ESPECIALLY 1" BINDERS) AND PENS.

## \*WE GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS.

THE JUNIATA COUNTY FAIR CHURCH SERVICE will be held on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at the Kint Pavilion behind the Grandstand. Message by Pastor Sam Leister.

BROOKLINE HEALTHCARE AND REHABILITATION is having a Family and Community Appreciation Day on Friday, August 25, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We will be serving Hot Dogs on the grill, Potato Chips, Cookies, and assorted beverages. There will be a photo booth, games and face painting for the children. Everyone is welcome to attend!

#### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today: -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion.
- Monday: -2:00 p.m., Lion's Club meeting in Fellowship Hall. -7:00 p.m., AA in Disciple's Class. Area.
- Wednesday: -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.

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

### PRAYER LIST

Steve & Linda Bahorik	Nox Hepburn	Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Jeremy Barnes	Judy Hosler	Betty Ranck
Ryan Barr	Erin Husler	Keith Ranck
Donna Barton	Terry Imes	Dave Reed
Gary Bechtold	Annie Ingle	Diane Rowles
Dan Brackbill	Curt Kauffman	Kelley Rusenko
Linda Brouse	Guy Kerstetter	Ron & Arlene Shearer
Andrea Cameron	Jesse Kint	Jan & Dave Smith
Terry Coder	Pam Lawson	Joyce & Todd Spangler
Freda Durio	Norma Leach	Barry Strawser
Cathy Dysinger	Bobby Lillis	Vicki Suoja
Renee Dzikowski	Don Littleton	Tonya Tabb
Neil & Pat Fisher	Michael Lozano	Dorothy Towsey
Jane Fogleman	Anthony Martin	Molly Ulsh
Gary Frantz	Carlen McClure	Doug Wagner
Bentley Fulkroad	Alice McClure	Roscoe Warner
Terri Gayer	Cecilia Miller	Florence Williams
Deb Geedey	Ellwood Miller	Jim Woltman
Bob & Eddi Kay Gill	Larry Miller	Gary Zeiders
Arrin Gilson	Shirley Miller	Paul Zeiders
Deborah Gingrich	Claire Mummah	George Zimmerman
Sylva Grimm	Paul Ogden	Linda Zimmerman
Fred Gross	Ron & Linda (Kerchner)Parks	

# The Family and Co-Workers of Trooper Jacques Rougeau Trooper Lieutenant James Wagner

# PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

- --Jane Marhefka Brookline Retirement Village, 92 Village Drive, Mifflintown, PA 17059
- --Rich Smith -- Magnolia Personal Care Center, 68 Lexi St., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- --Ray Bramm Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- --Ruth Cisney Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 112, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- --Edith Nipple 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059

--Ona Stoner -- William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044