

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 20th, 2023

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:

In Isaiah we hear that God’s house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today’s gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in 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

Slone Smith

Evan Miller & Carter Ehrisman

Hannah Ehrisman, Grace & Hope Miller

Linda Clark & Chris Martin

Diana Wise

Pastor

Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

Choir Director

Lector

Acolytes

Communion/Offering Presenters

Altar Guild

Manna Bread Baker

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 20, 2023 – 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, 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

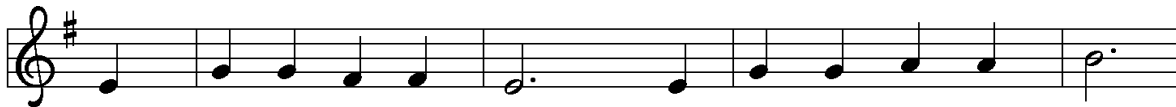
* GATHERING HYMN *"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"* #328 (vss. 1-4) Green Hymnal

* 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.

* KYRIE



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;

Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.

For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

* 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 **God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you.**

Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

FIRST READING.....Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:Psalm 67 (*Responsively*)

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

²Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

³Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁴Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁶The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.

⁷May God give us blessing,

and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

SECOND READING.....Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have

now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

* GOSPEL.....Matthew 15:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 15th chapter.

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

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)**

YOUNG FOLKS SERMON
SERMON

Pastor Leister
Pastor Leister

* 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, now 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 “*All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!*” #328 (vss. 5-7) Green Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Share the harvest. C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB154530

NEXT WEEK’S LECTOR – Kate Swailes

NEXT WEEK’S ACOLYTES – Haley Mumma & Brea Beward

NEXT WEEK’S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Carter Ehrisman, Harrison & Olivia Mumma

NEXT WEEK’S ALTAR GUILD – Linda Clark & Chris Martin (7/31/23 – 8/27/23)

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 worshipping 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 loving memory of sister, Evelyn Showers and brothers, Charles and Wayne Miller by the Miller family.

JUST A THOUGHT – Francis Quarles, English Poet (1592 – 1644): True obedience neither procrastinates nor questions.

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 Pastor Leister at mlcsleister@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 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 mlchurchoffice@gmail.com 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 mlcsleister@gmail.com.

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.

BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME on Tuesday, September 5th 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 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

REMINDER: Beginning on September 3rd, 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.

A NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE is being drawn up for “Year B,” which runs from Sunday, December 3, 2023 (First Sunday of Advent) through Sunday, November 24, 2024 (Christ the King Sunday). If you would like to join the Altar Guild or help in the baking of Manna Bread for communion, please let Slone Smith or Bob St. Clair know as soon as possible. Thanks to all who serve!

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 NEXT VOTER’S ASSEMBLY will be held on September 17, 2023 following the worship service. Business: Approval of proposed budget for 2024 and minutes of the boards.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS with the people of **Maui, Hawaii**, as they deal with the absolutely devastating death and destruction of the wildfires which occurred in the beginning of August. As of this writing, nearly 100 people have been confirmed dead and thousands of homes, businesses, and structures have been destroyed. If you would like to contribute to assist those fire victims and their families, etc., please go to [HTTPS://COMMUNITY.ELCA.ORG/USWILDFIRES](https://community.elca.org/uswildfires) or simply mark your offering envelope for Hawaii Wildfires and we will be sure that those monies get sent to Lutheran Disaster Relief.

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.

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT:

August 6, 2023 Worship Attendance – 35

Total Offering	\$4,345.00	<u>Other Funds</u>	
Other Funds	<u>955.00</u>	Mission of Month	\$205.00
General Fund	\$3,390.00	Summer Camp	300.00
		Building Fund	300.00
		Benevolence	<u>150.00</u>
		Total	\$955.00

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 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 3rd 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:** -7:00 p.m., AA in Disciple’s Class. Area.
- Wednesday:** -9:00 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
- Friday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion.

PRAYER LIST

Steve & Linda Bahorik
Jeremy Barnes
Ryan Barr
Donna Barton
Gary Bechtold
Dan Brackbill
Linda Brouse
Andrea Cameron
Terry Coder
Freda Durio
Cathy Dysinger
Renee Dzikowski
Neil & Pat Fisher
Jane Fogleman
Gary Frantz
Bentley Fulkroad
Terri Gayer
Deb Geedey
Bob & Eddi Kay Gill
Arrin Gilson
Deborah Gingrich
Sylva Grimm
Fred Gross

Nox Hepburn
Judy Hosler
Erin Husler
Terry Imes
Annie Ingle
Curt Kauffman
Guy Kerstetter
Jesse Kint
Pam Lawson
Norma Leach
Bobby Lillis
Michael Lozano
Anthony Martin
Carlen McClure
Alice McClure
Cecilia Miller
Ellwood Miller
Larry Miller
Shirley Miller
Claire Mummah
Paul Ogden
Ron & Linda (Kerchner)Parks
Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine

Betty Ranck
Keith Ranck
Dave Reed
Diane Rowles
Kelley Rusenko
Ron & Arlene Shearer
Jan & Dave Smith
Joyce & Todd Spangler
Barry Strawser
Vicki Suoja
Tonya Tabb
Dorothy Towsey
Molly Ulsh
Doug Wagner
Roscoe Warner
Florence Williams
Jim Woltman
Gary Zeiders
Paul Zeiders
George Zimmerman
Linda Zimmerman

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