



March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-6213

**OFFICE EMAIL:** [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)

**WEBSITE:** [mlcmifflintown.org](http://mlcmifflintown.org)

Messiah Lutheran Church  
3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA. 17059

Rick Adams, Mindy Petrovcic, Sam Leister  
Andrea Cameron  
Bob St. Clair

Pastors  
Choir Director  
Organist

WELCOME

P: The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C: **Amen.**

P: It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C: **to sing praise to your name, O Most High;**

P: to herald your love in the morning,

C: **your truth at the close of the day.**

\*HYMN

*"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"*

#328 Green Hymnal

\*CONFESSION

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

Holy and gracious God,

C: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of Heaven, and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned against you this day. Some of my sin I know- the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed-- but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace.**

P: By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. We rest now in his peace and rise in the morning to serve him.

C: **Amen.**

PSALM.....Psalm 84:1-12 (Responsively)

P: <sup>1</sup>How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

C: <sup>2</sup>**My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord, my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

P: <sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

C: <sup>4</sup>**Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.**

P: <sup>5</sup>Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

C: <sup>6</sup>**As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.**

P: <sup>7</sup>They go from strength to strength; the God of Gods will be seen in Zion.

C: <sup>8</sup>**O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!**

P: <sup>9</sup>Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.

C: <sup>10</sup>**For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.**

P: <sup>11</sup>For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.

C: <sup>12</sup>**O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

READING.....Ezra 6:1-16

<sup>1</sup> Then King Darius made a decree, and they searched the archives where the documents were stored in Babylon. <sup>2</sup> But it was in Ecbatana, the capital in the province of Media, that a scroll was found on which this was written: “A record. <sup>3</sup> In the first year of his reign, King Cyrus issued a decree: Concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, let the house be rebuilt, the place where sacrifices are offered and burnt offerings are brought; its height shall be sixty cubits and its width sixty cubits, <sup>4</sup> with three courses of hewn stones and one course of timber; let the cost be paid from the royal treasury. <sup>5</sup> Moreover, let the gold and silver vessels of the house of God that Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple in Jerusalem and brought to Babylon, be restored and brought back to the temple in Jerusalem, each to its place; you shall put them in the house of God.”

<sup>6</sup> “Now you, Tattenai, governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai, and you, their associates, the envoys in the province Beyond the River, keep away; <sup>7</sup> let the work on this house of God alone; let the governor of the Jews and the elders of the Jews rebuild this house of God on its site. <sup>8</sup> Moreover, I make a decree regarding what you shall do for these elders of the Jews for the rebuilding of this house of God: the cost is to be paid to these people, in full and without delay, from the royal revenue, the tribute of the province Beyond the River. <sup>9</sup> Whatever is needed—young bulls, rams, or sheep for burnt offerings to the God of heaven, wheat, salt, wine, or oil, as the priests in Jerusalem require—let that be given to them day by day without fail, <sup>10</sup> so that they may offer pleasing sacrifices to the God of heaven and pray for the life of the king and his children. <sup>11</sup> Furthermore, I decree that, if anyone alters this edict, a beam shall be pulled out of the house of the perpetrator, who then shall be impaled on it. The house shall be made a dunghill. <sup>12</sup> May the God who has established his name there overthrow any king or people who shall put forth a hand to alter this or to destroy this house of God in Jerusalem. I, Darius, make a decree; let it be done with all diligence.” <sup>13</sup> Then, according to the word sent by King Darius, Tattenai, the governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai, and their associates did with all diligence what King Darius had ordered. <sup>14</sup> So the elders of the Jews built and prospered, through the prophesying of the prophet Haggai and Zechariah son of Iddo. They finished their building by command of the God of Israel and by decree of Cyrus, Darius, and King Artaxerxes of Persia, <sup>15</sup> and this house was finished on the third day of the month of Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius.

<sup>16</sup> The people of Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the rest of the returned exiles celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy.

**\*THE GOSPEL**

Mark 11:15-19

<sup>15</sup> Then they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling and those who were buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves; <sup>16</sup> and he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. <sup>17</sup> He was teaching and saying, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations’? But you have made it a den of robbers.” <sup>18</sup> And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching. <sup>19</sup> And when evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

SERMON

“Crown of Thorns”

Pastor Mindy Petrovcic

\*HYMN

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

#170 Green Hymnal

**\*THE APOSTLE’S CREED (In Unison)**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He**

ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

**\*RESPONSORY**

**P:** Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**C:** **Into your hands I commend my spirit.**

**P:** You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

**C:** **Into your hands I commend my spirit.**

**P:** Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Into your hands I commend my spirit.**

**P:** Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are yours, and to you the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray.

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)**

**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.**

**\*LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

**All:** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray You to forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**\*HYMN**

*"Now the Day Is Over"*

#280 vss. 1-4 Green Hymnal

**WELCOME TO ALL!**

WITH CHRIST'S LOVE AND GOD'S GRACE, we welcome all who worship at Messiah this evening. If you are a VISITOR or GUEST, we invite you to record 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. Young children are also encouraged to join us in our worship experience! We are so thankful that you joined us for worship today!

WE WELCOME OUR NEIGHBORS, FRIENDS AND CHRISTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS from other churches of our community and appreciate the opportunity that is ours as fellow Christians to worship together. Messiah is glad to have you as our guests this evening and we pray that the service will be a rich blessing to you.

**2024 MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP: THE WOUNDS OF CHRIST**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Preaching</b>
3/13	Hands	7:00 p.m.	Aldersgate	Pastor Sam Leister
3/20	Feet	7:00 p.m.	St. Stephen's	Pastor Mindy Petrovcic
3/27	Side	7:00 p.m.	Messiah	Pastor Rick Adams
3/28 Maundy Thurs.	Breakfast	7:00 a.m.	Messiah	Pastor Sam Leister
3/28 Maundy Thurs.	Maundy Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Aldersgate	Pastor Mindy Petrovcic
3/29 Good Fri.	Good Friday	7:00 p.m.	St. Stephen's	Pastor Rick Adams

**HOLY WEEK: STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST. STEPHEN'S**

Monday	3/25		Noon	4:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	3/26		1:00 p.m.		7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	3/27	10:30 a.m.	Noon	2:00 p.m.	
Thursday	3/28	10:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	
Friday	3/29	11:00 a.m.	Noon	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.

**2024 LADIES LENTEN TEA SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Host Church</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>
March 13	Westminster Presbyterian	Connie Benner (436-2304)
March 20	Aldersgate Methodist	Pastor Mindy Petrovcic (513-7194)

\*Social time begins at 9:30 a.m. with light refreshments followed by Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

\*Bible Study books will be given to the hosting church several weeks ahead of time

\*If you have any questions or concerns, please call Kathy Whitesel at 717-436-2401 or 717-363-6144

**2024 PORT ROYAL LADIES LENTEN TEA SCHEDULE**

(All services will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the social room of Port Royal Lutheran Church)

--**March 12:** *“Testimony of the carpenter who made the cross,”* presented by Pastor Ken Hepner.

--**March 19:** *“Testimony of the stone mason who carved the stone that was rolled in front of the tomb,”* presented by Curt Dreibelbis.

--**March 26:** *“Communion Litany,”* led by Pastor Samuel Leister.