"Growing God's Kingdom"



THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 2nd, 2024

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: Deuteronomy makes clear that sabbath-keeping is meant for the welfare of all. God delivered the Israelites out of slavery, so they should observe this freedom with a day of rest. No one should work seven days a week; even slaves and foreigners should be able to rest. Yet human beings can turn even the most liberating religious practice into a life-destroying rule. Jesus does not reject sabbath-keeping but defends its original life-enhancing meaning. Our worship and our religious way of life are to lead to restoration: the hungry being fed and the sick being healed.

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
Hannah Ehrisman
Olivia Mummah & Hope Miller
Paige Martin, Thea & Brea Beward
Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner
Jenn Hutchinson

Pastor
Organist/Pianist
Organist/Pianist
Choir Director
Lector
Acolytes
Communion/Offering Presenters
Altar Guild
Manna Bread Baker

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST June 2, 2024 – 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.]

- * BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
 - P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
 - C Amen.
 - P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 - C Amen.
 - P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Most merciful God,
- C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our

neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GATHERING

- * GATHERING HYMN
- "God, Whose Almighty Word"
- #400 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.

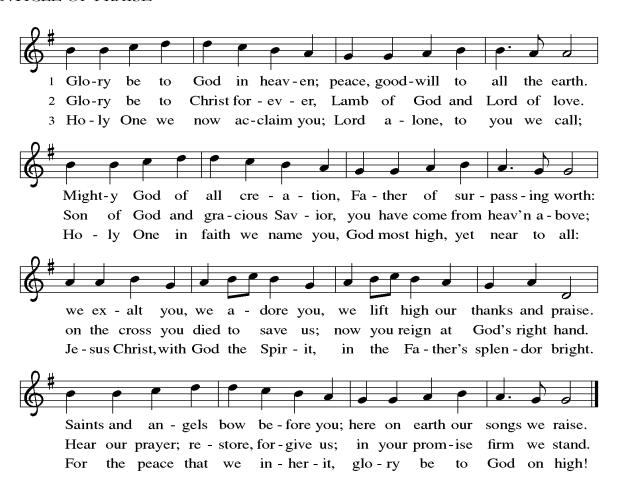


We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.

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



- * 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 Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

This portion of the Ten Commandments instructs the Israelites to keep the sabbath. The Israelites are to rest, and they are to allow their slaves, their livestock, and the foreigners living among them to do the same. They were once slaves, and so they are to treat their own slaves justly.

work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you. ¹⁵Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

¹Sing with joy to God our strength and raise a loud shout to the God of Jacob.

²Raise a song and sound the timbrel, the merry harp, and the lyre.

³Blow the ram's horn at the new moon, and at the full moon, the day of our feast;

4for this is a statute for Israel, a law of the God of Jacob.

⁵God laid it as a solemn charge upon Joseph, going out over the land of Egypt, where I heard a voice I did not know:

⁶"I eased your shoulder from the burden; your hands were set free from the gravedigger's basket.

⁷You called on me in trouble, and I delivered you; I answered you from the secret place of thunder and tested you at the waters of Meribah.

⁸Hear, O my people, and I will admonish you: O Israel, if you would but listen to me! ⁹There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not worship a foreign god.

¹⁰I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

When we carry out God's ministry we do so not for our glory but for the sake of Jesus Christ whom we proclaim as Lord. The power for ministry comes from God, not us, so that we persevere no matter what, trusting in God's power and promises at work through us.

⁵We do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





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



Jesus challenges the prevailing interpretation of what is lawful on the sabbath and tells his critics that the sabbath was made for humankind, not the other way around. Healing the man with the withered hand is work that cannot wait until the next day.

- * GOSPEL......Mark 2:23—3:6
 - P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 2nd chapter.
 - C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

²³One sabbath [Jesus] was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. ²⁴The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" ²⁵And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? ²⁶He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." ²⁷Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; ²⁸so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

^{3:1}Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. ²They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." ⁴Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Leister

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

APOSTLES' 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P Merciful God,
- C receive 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 Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.
 - 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 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.

C Through him, with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

* 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.

(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 Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

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 Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.
- C Amen.

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever.
 - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)
- * SENDING HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

#229 Green Hymnal

- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR - Marina Holderman

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES - Sofia & Stella Reed

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Zeb Berry, Nick & Gabby Reed

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise & Cynthia Smith (6/3/24 – 6/16/24)

JUNE COLLECTION COUNTERS:

- 2: Slone Smith & Ron Yorks
- 9: Marylou Hazard & Clint Miller
- 16: Cynthia Smith & Tammy Brackbill
- 23: Jean Berry & Don Geedey
- 30: Larry Goss & Ron Yorks

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 memory of Dad's 81st birthday on June 5th by Bob St. Clair.

JUST A THOUGHT – George Whitefield, Methodist Evangelist (1714 – 1770): It is an undoubted truth that every doctrine that comes from God, leads to God, and that which does not tend to promote holiness is not of God.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS <u>THURSDAY</u> 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 <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 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.

KATE SWAILES will be serving as our congregation's camperson with Camp Mount Luther again this year. This year's summer camp season at Camp Mount Luther will begin on June 23 and run until August 2. There are programs for all ages from elementary to senior high, and for adults and families. If you're looking for a place where your child can grow in faith and have fun doing it, Camp Mount Luther is that place. If you have any questions about camp, you can contact Kate or the camp office at 570-922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org. The camp brochures are available on the Camp Mount Luther site www.campmountluther.org and brochures will be mailed to campers who attended camp in the past. Submit your camp registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. You can also register online and provide the \$50 payment to Kate. The remaining portion of the cost of camp will be covered by various fundraising events, donations, etc. Kate will submit the registration forms to Mount Luther.

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.

JUNE IS MESSIAH'S MONTH TO VOLUNTEER AT THE FOOD PANTRY – Volunteers will be needed every Saturday in June (1, 8, 15, 22 & 29) from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon to stock shelves, fill grocery orders and count donations. A sign-up sheet is posted in the kitchenette. Please write your name and phone number next to the date and time you want to volunteer. **We can use up to 4 volunteers each Saturday** including teenagers who would be willing to help. **Please arrive by 8:30 a.m. for training and updates**. **Parking is at the rear of the building in the staff/volunteer lot**. If you cannot come during your scheduled time, please call Glenda Fultz at the Food Pantry at 717-436-9718 at least a day ahead of time. Your help is very much appreciated!

BIBLE STUDY WILL CONTINUE on Tuesdays, at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. We will be studying the book of Revelation from Augsburg publishers. Anyone is welcome to attend.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet on Monday, June 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. (Meeting was moved to June due to the Memorial Day holiday).

JUNE'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be Meals on Wheels. 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.

THE NEW LECTOR SCHEDULE for July 2024 through June 2025 will be completed soon. If you are not already serving as a lector and you would like to read the weekly scripture readings, please notify the church office. Any young people who would like to read on the first Sunday of the month are also asked to notify the church office. If you would like to be deleted from the list, again let the office know. All lectors will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.

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:

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Tuesday -9:00 \text{ a.m.} - 5:00 \text{ p.m.}
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Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

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

--Laundry Detergent
 --Clorox
 --Dryer Sheets
 --Dish Soap
 --Body Wash

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

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS are being collected for Baby Kits:

- --white tee-shirts, sizes 6-24 months (no onesies). Hobby Lobby has these.
- --pajamas, sleepers, or tops and pants that could be used as pajamas, sizes 6-24 months (no feet in any of these items).
- --hand towels, sizes 15x18, 15x25 or 15x30 (preferably darker colors).

SAVE THE DATE – All women of Messiah are invited to attend the 36th annual Convention of the Women of the ELCA, Upper Susquehanna Synod on <u>August 10, 2024</u> at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Turbotville, PA. Convention theme is "Don't Go it Alone....Follow Jesus." We will be electing a Treasurer and Secretary as well as 2 board members. Rev. Mindy Bartholomew will lead the worship service and Bible Study and Josie Miller will be leading the second workshop with chair yoga. A freewill offering will be received during the worship service on Saturday morning. It will be used to support the on-going ministries of the Women of the ELCA This year our Mission Ingathering will support Lutheran Immigration Services and our In-Kind Offering will be collecting non-perishable food items for Agape Ministries in Bloomsburg. Please contact Barb Geedey for a registration form.

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 BACKPACK PROGRAM NEEDS

SINGLE-SERVE, NON-PERISHABLE LUNCH ITEMS
SUCH AS 15 OZ. CANS OF PASTA MEALS OR READY-TO-HEAT SOUP,
MICROWAVEABLE MEALS, FRUIT CUPS AND PUDDING CUPS.
MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

The Food Pantry's Summer Backpack Program will begin its 12th year beginning in June. Any Juniata County children who received free or reduced lunches and completed Kindergarten through 8th grade are eligible. Kids will receive at least 20 easy to prepare meals and some snacks and drinks to help offset the cost of food during the summer months.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -Early Service Begins.

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

Monday: -6:30 p.m., Property Committee meeting in Choir Room.

-7:00 p.m. AA in Youth Area.

Tuesday: -10:30 a.m., Bible Study.

Wednesday: -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.

-7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.

Thursday: -1:00 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.

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

PRAYER LIST

Pastor Rick Adams & family Bob & Eddi Kay Gill Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine Steve & Linda Bahorik Sheree Goss Betty Ranck Jeremy Barnes Keith Ranck Sylva Grimm Ryan Barr Fred Gross Dave Reed Donna Barton Hannah Hart Diane Rowles Tony Beward Bill & Jan Heck Kellev Rusenko Bill Book John (Pat) Henry Arlene Shearer Linda Brouse Ken Henry Joyce & Todd Spangler Andrea Cameron Nox Hepburn Donna Stoner Barry Strawser Evitt Campbell Judy Hosler Terry Coder Nancy Howell Vicki Suoja Kenton Cohenour Erin Husler Tonya Tabb Heather Compton Molly Ulsh Terry Imes Fred & Dot Dowling Annie Ingle George Varner Seth Dowling Guy Kerstetter Doug & Marsha Wagner Kim Dumais Jesse Kint Heather Walton Freda Durio Carlen McClure Roscoe Warner Cathy Dysinger Alice McClure Mary Jane Williamson Renee Dzikowski Andi McDanel Hannah Wirt Family of Kathie Eichenberger Cecilia Miller Jim & Heidi Woltman Rev. Jodi Ellis Gary Zeiders Curt Miller Neil & Pat Fisher Larry Miller Paul Zeiders Kevin Fetterhoof Shirley Miller Mike Zendt Bentley Fulkroad Claire Mummah George Zimmerman Terri Gayer Jean Zimmerman Donna Parks Deb Geedey Ron & Linda (Kerchner)Parks Linda Zimmerman

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

- --Jane Marhefka -- Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Room 221, 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
- --Ona Stoner William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044