# "Growing God's Kingdom"



# THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

**REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR** 

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

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**WEBSITE:** mlcmifflintown.org

**TODAY'S INTRODUCTION:** A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

## 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
Marina Holderman
Sofia & Stella Reed
Zeb Berry, Nick & Gabby Reed
Diana Wise & Cynthia Smith

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

# THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST June 9, 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 of Grace and God of Glory"

#415 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.

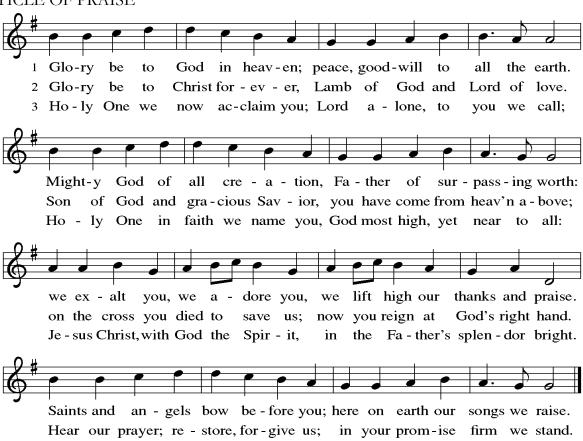


We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.

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



in - her - it,

\* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken)

the peace that we

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (In Unison)
  - P Let us pray...
  - C All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

glo - ry

be

to

God on high!

#### **WORD**

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

<sup>14</sup>The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

<sup>3</sup>If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

<sup>5</sup>I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

<sup>6</sup>My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

8For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup>because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

<sup>5:1</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### \* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.

for

the good news that you bring.

- - P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

Lord, we sing

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

Al - le - lu - ia!

[Jesus] went home; <sup>20</sup>and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—<sup>30</sup>for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

<sup>31</sup>Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." <sup>33</sup>And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

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

Pastor Leister Pastor Leister

HYMN OF THE DAY "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

#526 Green Hymnal

\* 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

"When Peace, like a River"

#346 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 - Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES - Brea & Thea Beward

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS - Olivia Mummah, Julia Martin & Silas Smith

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

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Cynthia Smith

#### JUNE COLLECTION COUNTERS:

- 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.

JUST A THOUGHT – G. K. Chesterton, English Christian Writer (1874 – 1936): A man was meant to be doubtful of himself but undoubting about the truth. This has been exactly reversed.

#### **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 <a href="mailto:mlcsleister@gmail.com">mlcsleister@gmail.com</a>.

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 <a href="mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com">mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</a> 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 <a href="mailto:mlcsleister@gmail.com">mlcsleister@gmail.com</a>.

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.

JUNE'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for Juniata County Meals-on Wheels. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to Meals-on-Wheels to continue assisting in the effort to feed the shut-ins 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.

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 <a href="mailto:msgoss@gmail.com">msgoss@gmail.com</a>.

#### 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.

#### **WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

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

--Laundry Detergent
 --Shaving Cream
 --Shampoo
 --Dryer Sheets
 --Deodorant
 --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 36<sup>th</sup> 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 NEEDS FOR JUNE:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, PERSONAL CARE ITEMS,
CLEANING SUPPLIES, & PAPER PRODUCTS
SUMMER BACKPACK LUNCH PROGRAM: SINGLE-SERVE MEALS, JELLO CUPS, & NON-CHOCOLATE PUDDING. MONETARY DONATIONS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

The Food Pantry's Summer Backpack Program will begin its 12<sup>th</sup> year beginning in June. Any Juniata County children who received free or reduced lunches and completed Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> 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:** -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion.

Monday: -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.

**Sunday:** -Father's Day

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

#### PRAYER LIST

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

#### 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

#### **WORSHIP & MUSIC SURVEY**

If you have not received an email survey from Bob St. Clair and the Board of Worship & Music, or do not have access to email, or you just didn't reply to the survey, we ask that you take a few minutes to complete the following one-question survey.

Pastor Sam Leister has brought before our Worship & Music Committee a proposal to possibly change our worship times to one of the three options listed below. We would like YOU to tell us, if you had to choose, which ONE of the options below that would suit you. THIS IS FOR ALL MESSIAH MEMBERS AND WILL BE OPEN UNTIL MONDAY, JULY 1st. Surveys can be placed in the offering plates or handed directly to Bob St. Clair. THANK YOU!!

NAME(s)
<b>OPTION 1</b> Stay with our current schedule of 9:15 AM for summer (June-July-August) and 10:30 AM for the remainder of the year (September through May).
<b>OPTION 2</b> 10:00 AM services for the entire year.
<b>OPTION 3</b> 10:30 AM services for the entire year.