"Growing God's Kingdom"



THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 7th, 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: Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the "between": between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

Messiah Lutheran Church

Pastor

Lector

Acolytes

Altar Guild

3 South Third Street Mifflintown, PA 17059 Church Office: 717-436-6213

Rev. Samuel Leister Bob St. Clair Organist/Pianist Slone Smith Organist/Pianist Andrea Cameron Choir Director/Lay Worship Leader Grace Miller Grace & Evan Miller Hope Miller, Olivia Mummah & Silas Smith Communion/Offering Presenters Tammy Brackbill & Jen Hutchinson Manna Bread Baker Barb Geedey

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST July 7, 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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
 - C Amen.
 - P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God, our provider,
- C help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.
- P Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
- C Amen.

GATHERING

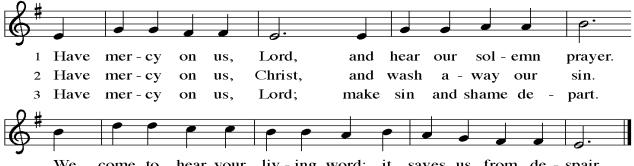
* GATHERING HYMN

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

#522 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



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





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 the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

In 597 BCE, the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

WORD

- L: Here ends the reading.
- C: Thanks be to God.

¹To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

²As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.

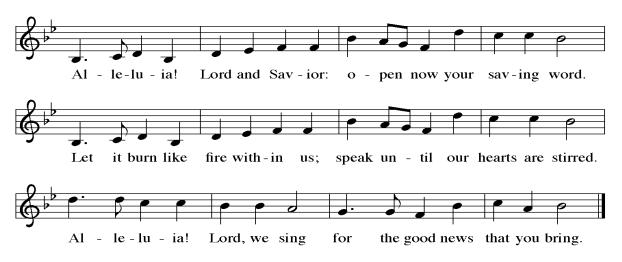
³Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt, ⁴too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud.

Christians do not boast in their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will

be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

- L: Here ends the reading.
- C: Thanks be to God.
- * GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



At home and abroad, Jesus and his disciples encounter resistance as they seek to proclaim God's word and relieve affliction.

- - P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 6th chapter.
 - C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on

two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON
HYMN OF THE DAY
"Rise Up, O Saints of God!"
#383 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 In your mercy,
 - C hear 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. (sung)
- * SENDING HYMN

"Just as I Am, without One Plea"

#296 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 - Hannah Ehrisman

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES - Zeb Berry & Braedon Walton

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Brea Beward, Hope & Evan Miller

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Tammy Brackbill & Jenn Hutchinson (7/1/24 – 7/28/24)

JULY COLLECTION COUNTERS:

Today: Clint Miller & Mary Grimm

14: Cynthia Smith & Slone Smith

21: Ron & Christie Yorks

28: Don & Barb Geedey

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 Dan Stoner's birthday by Michelle, Sandy and Braedon.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Andrea Cameron, an authorized Lay Worship Leader of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Authorized Lay Worship Leaders have received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and also have been authorized by the Bishop of the synod to preside at the Eucharist in specific situations. We pray God's blessing on Andrea as she ministers to us today.

JUST A THOUGHT - Fredrick von Hugel, Christian Thinker: Behind every saint stands another saint.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

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

THE JULY 2024 "MESSIAH HERALD" is now available online. Hard copies are available in the church office, Adult Sunday School Room, Kitchenette, and Fellowship Hall. If you want something placed in the Messiah Herald, please contact BOTH the church office at mlchurchoffice@gmail.com and Bob St. Clair at stclairb@embarqmail.com prior to the newsletter deadline, which is listed on the calendar in the newsletter, or online at mlcmifflintown.org. Also, if anyone would like to add or remove names from our email list, please let Bob know as well.

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.

JULY'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for the Juniata County Library. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to our community library to continue to serve our local area. 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! During our October 6th morning worship service, which is also Blanket Sunday and World Communion Sunday, Bishop Craig Miller will be at Messiah and will be speaking and sharing about his experiences in the Holy Land. Be sure to mark this special date on your calendars now and plan to attend worship that morning!

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
 --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).

MESSIAH WELCA will meet on Thursday, July 11th at 1:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. All women are invited to attend.

THE 36th ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA, Upper Susquehanna Synod, will be held 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. All women of Messiah are invited to attend. 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 JULY:

CANNED BEETS & BAKED BEANS,
CLEANING SUPPLIES & TOILET PAPER,
BACKPACK PROGRAM: SINGLE-SERVE FRUIT CUPS
JELL-O CUPS, NON-CHOCOLATE PUDDING & SINGLE-SERVE MEALS
WE GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

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

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

Tuesday: -Church office closed.

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

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

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

Note: The church office will be closed on Tuesday, July 9th.

Pastor Sam will be on vacation July 2nd through July 14th. If you need a pastor during that time, please contact Pastor Rick Adams at St. Stephen's at 717-436-6989 (office) or 717-253-0235 (home).

PRAYER LIST

Joedy Arnold Linda Bahorik Family of Steve Bahorik Jeremy Barnes Ryan Barr Donna Barton Tony Beward Bill Book Linda Brouse Jim Burdge Andrea Cameron Evitt Campbell Terry Coder Kenton Cohenour Heather Compton Fred & Dot Dowling Seth Dowling Kim Dumais Freda Durio Cathy Dysinger Renee Dzikowski Rev. Jodi Ellis Neil & Pat Fisher Kevin Fetterhoof Bentley Fulkroad Terri Gayer Deb Geedey Family of Bob Gill

Eddi Kay Gill Sheree Goss Family of Sylva Grimm Fred Gross Hannah Hart Family of Ron Hart Bill & Jan Heck John (Pat) Henry Ken Henry Nox Hepburn Judy Hosler Nancy Howell Erin Husler Terry Imes Annie Ingle Guy Kerstetter Jesse Kint Carlen McClure Alice McClure Andi McDanel Cecilia Miller Curt Miller Larry Miller Shirley Miller Claire Mummah Donna Parks Linda (Kerchner)Parks Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine

Betty Ranck Keith Ranck Dave Reed Diane Rowles Greysley Rowles Kelley Rusenko Arlene Shearer Joyce & Todd Spangler Donna Stoner Barry Strawser Vicki Suoja Tonya Tabb Molly Ulsh George Varner Kristy Wagner Heather Walton Roscoe Warner Mary Jane Williamson Hannah Wirt Jim & Heidi Woltman Gary Zeiders Paul Zeiders Mike Zendt George Zimmerman Jean Zimmerman 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