

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 29th, 2024

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
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TODAY’S INTRODUCTION: *Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.*

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

Kate Swailes

Braedon Walton & Thea Beward

Silas Smith, Zeb Berry & Brea Beward

Christie Yorks & Sabrina Shipp

Barb Geedey

Pastor

Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

Choir Director

Lector

Acolytes

Communion/Offering Presenters

Altar Guild

Manna Bread Baker

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 29, 2024 – 10:00 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.]

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

pg. 121 Green Hymnal

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

pg. 198 Green Hymnal

GATHERING

* GATHERING HYMN *“Son of God, Eternal Savior”* #364 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 ((C-Sung)

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the
unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

* HYMN OF PRAISE (“Lord God, Heavenly King” – In Unison)

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,
we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

* 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 **Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

WORD

FIRST READING Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,' to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. ²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!"

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM:Psalm 19:7-14 (**responsively**)

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

SECOND READING.....James 5:13-20

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (In Unison)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

* GOSPELMark 9:38-50

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 9th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (Sung)

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"⁴²If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (Sung)

SERMON

Pastor Leister

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Leister

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Jesus Loves Me" by William B. Bradbury* pg. 13 in bulletin
(Kids and Choir sings vss. 1 & 2 – Congregation sings vss. 3 & 4)

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

(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 (**"Create in Me"**)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, 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 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.

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come, here is your God.

* LAMB OF GOD (Sung)

C Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in the front of the chancel).

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 Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P God all mighty, God most merciful + bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (Sung)

* SENDING HYMN *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”* #259 Green Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK’S LECTOR – Olivia Mummah

NEXT WEEK’S ACOLYTES – Julia Martin & Hannah Ehrisman

NEXT WEEK’S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Ella Harris, Paige Martin & Carter Ehrisman

NEXT WEEK’S ALTAR GUILD – Christie Yorks & Sabrina Shipp (9/16/24 – 10/6/24)

NEXT WEEK’S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Barb Geedey

SEPTEMBER COLLECTION COUNTERS:

Today: Tammy Brackbill & Nick Beward

OCTOBER COLLECTION COUNTERS:

6: Clint Miller & Mary Grimm

13: Don & Barb Geedey

20: Ron & Christie Yorks

27: Marylou Hazard & Jean Berry

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 honor of Ona Stoner's birthday by Dan and Michelle Stoner.

GOD CREATES A NEW SAINT TODAY through His Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We welcome Huxley Shannon Clark, son of Cade Clark and Kalea McGreehan.

WE ALSO WELCOME through Affirmation of Baptism, Kalea McGreehan, into the fellowship of our congregation. We are pleased to have her become a part of the Messiah Family.

JUST A THOUGHT – M. F. Unger, Christian Thinker: Divine inspiration makes the Bible uniquely the Word of God and not merely a book containing the Word of God, and as such is different from any other book sacred or secular.

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.

SEPTEMBER “MISSION OF THE MONTH” at Messiah will be for CJEMS. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to CJEMS 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.

REMINDER: **Please have all information to be placed in the newsletter** to Bob at stclairb@embargo.com or the church office at mlchurchoffice@gmail.com by the deadlines which are listed monthly in the newsletter.

A NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE is being assembled for “Year C,” which runs from Sunday, December 1, 2024 (First Sunday of Advent) through Sunday, November 23, 2025 (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!

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS – 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.

BAPTISMAL/MEMBERSHIP CLASS – 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.

IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS, please contact Sheree Goss at 717-436-9613 or email her at msgoss@gmail.com.

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! Refreshments following worship service.

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 |
| --Clorox | --Shampoo |
| --Dryer Sheets | --Deodorant |
| --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).

THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL KIT ITEMS are still needed and will be collected until mid-September:

- 19 pencil sharpeners
- 4 pairs of blunt scissors
- 45 black or blue pens (no gel pens – each school kit needs 5 pens)

THE NEXT WELCA MEETING will be Thursday, October 10th at 1:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

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 SEPTEMBER:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, PERSONAL CARE ITEMS
CLEANING SUPPLIES AND PAPER PRODUCTS
WE GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion.
-Sacrament of Holy Baptism/Affirmation of Baptism.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., The Knitters in Junior Church Room.
-7:00 p.m. AA in Youth Area.
- Tuesday:** -10:30 a.m., Bible Study in Choir Room.
- Wednesday:** -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
-7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.
- Sunday:** -World Communion Sunday/Blanket Sunday.
-10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion (Bishop Craig Miller speaking).

PRAYER LIST

Joedy Arnold
Linda Bahorik
Melissa Bargo
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
Kevin Fetterhoof
Neil & Pat Fisher
Ed Fraker
Bentley Fulkroad

Terri Gayer
Deb Geedey
Sheree Goss
Fred Gross
Hannah Hart
Bill Heck
John (Pat) Henry
Nox Hepburn
Judy Hosler
Nancy Howell
Terry Imes
Annie Ingle
Guy Kerstetter
Jesse Kint
Carlen McClure
Alice McClure
Andi McDanel
Cecilia Miller
Curt Miller
Larry Miller
Shirley Miller
Claire Mummah
Family of Joy Noerr
Linda (Kerchner)Parks
Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Cheryl Pinkerton

Betty Ranck
Keith Ranck
Dave Reed
Diane Rowles
Greysley Rowles
Kelley Rusenko
Arlene Shearer
Jennifer Smith
Joyce & Todd Spangler
Donna Stoner
Barry Strawser
Vicki Suoja
Molly Ulsh
George Varner
Kristy Wagner & family
Heather Walton
Roscoe Warner
Mary Jane Williamson
Jim & Heidi Woltman
Gary Zeiders
Paul Zeiders
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