



April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

Pastors  
Choir Director  
Organist

WELCOME

OPENING WORDS

Pastor: We gather tonight at the cross.

**Congregation: It's hard to be here.**

Pastor: We look upon it – a place of torture and death.

**Congregation: Couldn't we just not look?**

Pastor: This is where the Prince of Glory died.

**Congregation: Died...for me.**

Pastor: Come wounded ones, tired ones, and know that at the cross there is hope and healing.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

CALL TO WORSHIP – Isaiah 53:4-12

<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;

**yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.**

<sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;

**upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.**

<sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way,

**and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;

**like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.**

<sup>8</sup>By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?

**For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.**

<sup>9</sup>They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich,

**although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.**

<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;

**through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.**

<sup>11</sup>Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

**The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;

**because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.**

\*HYMN

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

#482 Green Hymnal (vss. 1 & 2)

\*CONFESSION

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

Holy and gracious God,

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

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

**C: Amen.**

PSALM.....Psalm 20 (Responsively)

P: <sup>1</sup> The Lord answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you!

**C: <sup>2</sup> May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion.**

P: <sup>3</sup> May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices.

**C: <sup>4</sup> May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans.**

P: <sup>5</sup> May we shout for joy over your victory and in the name of our God set up our banners. May the Lord fulfill all your petitions.

**C: <sup>6</sup> Now I know that the Lord will help his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with mighty victories by his right hand.**

P: <sup>7</sup> Some take pride in chariots and some in horses, but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.

**C: <sup>8</sup> They will collapse and fall, but we shall rise and stand upright.**

P: <sup>9</sup> Give victory to the king, O Lord; answer us when we call.

\*SCRIPTURE.....Luke 18:31-34

<sup>31</sup>Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, "Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. <sup>32</sup>For he will be handed over to the gentiles, and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. <sup>33</sup>After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again." <sup>34</sup>But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

\*SCRIPTURE.....Matthew 16:24-26

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

MEDITATION

"A Radical Hymn"

Pastor Nancy McClure

\*HYMN

*"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*

#482 Green Hymnal (vss. 3 & 4)

\*THE APOSTLE'S CREED (In Unison)

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

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

ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*RESPONSORY**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

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

**\*HYMN**

*"Lift High the Cross"*

#377 Green Hymnal (vss. 2, 4 & 5)

*Refrain:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

vs.2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign, the hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.

*Refrain:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

vs. 4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.

*Refrain:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

vs. 5 So shall our song of triumph ever be: Praise to the Crucified for victory!

*Refrain:* Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

WELCOME TO ALL!

WITH CHRIST’S LOVE AND GOD’S GRACE, we welcome all who worship at Messiah this evening. If you are a VISITOR or GUEST, we invite you to record your visit in the guest book provided in the Narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the Pastor. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Young children are also encouraged to join us in our worship experience! We are so thankful that you joined us for worship today!

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

**2025 PORT ROYAL MEN’S PRAYER BREAKFASTS** will be held on Saturday mornings during lent at 7:00 a.m. at Port Royal Community Building. Locations and speakers will be:

April 12	Rev. Frank Swartz	New Beginning Community Church
April 19	Rev. Ron Shupe	River Church

**2025 WEST JUNIATA COUNTY MINISTERIUM LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Wednesday, April 16 – **7:00 p.m.**.....Grace Methodist Church (Mexico)

**Hymn Source:** “In the Hour of Trial” – **Speaker:** Pastor Sam Leister

Maundy Thursday, April 17 – **7:00 p.m.**.....Trinity Methodist Church (Mifflin)

**Hymn Source:** TBA – **Speaker:** Bishop Craig Miller

Good Friday, April 18 – **7:00 p.m.**.....Messiah Lutheran Church

**Hymn Source:** “Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed” – **Speaker:** Pastor Rick Adams

**HOLY WEEK STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

(All services at St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church)

Monday, April 14.....	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 15.....	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 16.....	1:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 17.....	10:00 a.m.
Friday, April 18.....	3:00 p.m.