

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

June 1st, 2025



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR

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

PASTOR EMAIL: mlcsleister@gmail.com

OFFICE EMAIL: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE: mlcmifflintown.org

*Teach God's Grace through Fellowship,
Study, Service & Witness*

TODAY'S INTRODUCTION: *It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness¹, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.*

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
Nick & Gabby Reed
Olivia Mummah, Sofia & Stella Reed
Tammy Brackbill & Jen Hutchinson
Tammy Brackbill

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

June 1, 2025 – 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.]

GATHERING

* GATHERING HYMN *“Where Charity and Love Prevail”* #126 Green Hymnal (vss. 1-3)

* GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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.

* CANTICLE OF PRAISE (“Lord God, Heavenly King” -- In Unison)

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 O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

FIRST READING.....Acts 16:16-34

¹⁶One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." ¹⁸She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." ²²The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

L: Here ends the reading.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM.....Psalm 97 (*responsively*)

¹The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.

²Clouds and darkness surround the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.

³Fire goes before the LORD, burning up enemies on every side.

⁴Lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

⁵The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD, and all the peoples see your glory.

⁷Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.

⁸Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD.

⁹For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

¹⁰You who love the LORD, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

¹¹Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the honest of heart.

¹²Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name.

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.

SECOND READING.....Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

¹²See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. ¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. ¹⁶It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift."

²⁰The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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.

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

*** GOSPEL.....John 17:20-26**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 17th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰"I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²²The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON
SERMON

Pastor Leister
Pastor Leister

* HYMN OF THE DAY *"Where Charity and Love Prevail"* #126 Green Hymnal (vss. 4-6)

* APOSTLES' CREED (In Unison)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

* 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).

ANTHEM

OFFERING PRESENTATION

* SUNG OFFERTORY ('Create in Me')

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C Amen.

MEAL

* COMMUNION DIALOG

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.

P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

C 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 Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

* 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.

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 Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* SENDING HYMN

"Soon and Very Soon"

#744 Blue Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Reprinted from *Words for Worship*, copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB154530

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Kate Swailes

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Nick & Gabby Reed

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Olivia Mummah, Sofia & Stella Reed

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise & Cynthia Smith (6/2/25 – 6/29/25)

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Barb Geedey

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

Today: Ron & Christie Yorks

June 15: Marylou Hazard & Jean Berry

June 8: Tammy Brackbill & Mary Grimm

June 22: Clint Miller & Nick Beward

June 29: Slone Smith & 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 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.

JUST A THOUGHT – Samuel Johnson, English Author (1709 – 1784): The three persons in the Godhead are three in one sense and one is another. We cannot tell how – and that is the mystery.

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.

A VOTER'S ASSEMBLY will be held on Sunday, June 22nd. Business: approval of painting project in sanctuary.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for Sunday, September 7th, when congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service, **“God's Work, Our Hands.”**

A CAR WASH will be held at Messiah on Saturday, June 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the parking lot to support the youth who are attending the Mission Trip to South Dakota. Cost: donation.

JUNE'S “MISSION OF THE MONTH” at Messiah will be for Juniata County Food Pantry Summer Backpack Program. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the Food Pantry to help provide lunches throughout the summer to school students who normally receive free or reduced price lunches at school. 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@embarqmail.com or the church office at mlchurchoffice@gmail.com by the deadlines which are listed monthly in the newsletter.

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:

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 NEWS

WELCA CONVENTION will be held on Saturday, July 26th at Faith Lutheran Church in Lewisburg. The theme will be “For All the Faithful Women.” The in-gathering will go to LDR. **The in-kind collection will be items for “period packs” which contain: regular tampons, super absorbency tampons, or packs of 12 pads that are unscented (long, super or ultra-thin).** We are hoping to be able to complete 200 kits at the convention. We will be collecting from now until the convention in July. If you are able to purchase either of these items, you can place them on the round table in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you would like to donate money to purchase these items, you may give your donation to Barb, Cynthia, Linda, Christie or Cindy. Anyone who is interested in attending the Convention, please contact Barb for a copy of the registration form. The cost will be \$40 which covers refreshments upon arrival, lunch and any item needed for the program.

THE NEXT WELCA MEETING will be Thursday, June 12th at 1:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. All women are invited to attend.

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, AND NON-CHOCOLATE PUDDING.
WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND
GIFT CARDS FOR GROCERY AND DISCOUNT STORES.

BLUEBERRY SALE – The Lion's Club is selling 10-pound boxes of New Jersey blueberries for \$32.00 a box. To place an order, you may call Andy Winder at 717-513-2398 or email him at awind157@gmail.com. Order deadline is **June 13th**. Payment must be by check (made payable to Mifflintown Lion's Club) or cash at or prior to pick up. Orders will be available for pick-up at the shed behind the Mifflin Agway store on June 23rd between 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Don Geedey or Pastor Sam.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion.
-PPC meeting following worship for discussion of painting project in sanctuary.
- Monday:** -5:00 p.m., Lion's Club in Fellowship Hall.
-7:00 p.m. AA in Youth Area.
- Wednesday:** -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
-7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal in sanctuary.
- Sunday:** -Pentecost Sunday/Wearing of the Red.
-10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion.

PRAYER LIST

Joedy Arnold	Mark Harvey	Diane Rowles
Linda Bahorik	Bill Heck	Greysley Rowles
Melissa Bargo	John (Pat) Henry	Kelley Rusenko
Jeremy Barnes	Sawyer Henry	Arlene Shearer
Ryan Barr	Nox Hepburn	Lowell Shearer
Bill Book	Nancy Howell	Gail Sherman
Linda Brouse	Annie Ingle	Althea Smith
Andrea Cameron	Michael 'Doc' Johnston	Dave Smith
Evitt Campbell	Guy Kerstetter	Jennifer Smith
Kenton Cohenour	Jesse Kint	Joyce & Todd Spangler
Kim Dumais	Nancy Kramer	Barry Strawser
Freda Durio	Cecilia Miller	Vicki Suoja
Cathy Dysinger	Curt Miller	Amy Swartz
Renee Dzikowski	Larry Miller	Molly Ulsh
Kevin Fetterhoof	Shirley Miller	George Varner
Neil & Pat Fisher	Marlin Milliken	Roscoe Warner
Bentley Fulkroad	Claire Mummah	Todd Wert
Kristen Gaisor	Linda (Kerchner) Parks	Kathy Whitesel
Terri Gayer	Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine	Jim & Heidi Woltman
Deb Geedey	Cheryl Pinkerton	George Zimmerman
Sheree Goss	Betty Ranck	Linda Zimmerman
Amanda Gregg	Keith Ranck	
Fred Gross	Dave Reed	

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, Thompsonstown, PA 17094
--Ruth Cisney – Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 112, Thompsonstown, PA 17094
--Ona Stoner – William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044