SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 22nd, 2025



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

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

TODAY'S INTRODUCTION: This Sunday's texts paint startling pictures of the horrific nature of sin. The church's repeated celebration of holy communion counters that tragic reality in a continued showing forth of the death of Jesus until he comes again. It is a dramatic declaration of "how much God has done for you."

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
Andrea Cameron
Evan Miller
Silas Smith, Paige Martin & Grace Miller
Diana Wise & Cynthia Smith
Tammy Brackbill & Mary Grimm

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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST June 22, 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.]

- * 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 Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

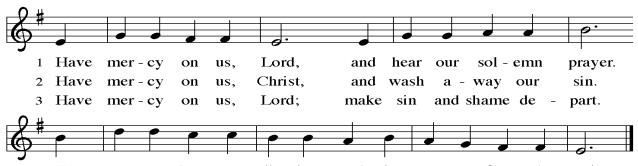
- P Merciful God,
- C you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.
- P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
- C Amen.

GATHERING

- * GATHERING HYMN
- "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
- #543 Green Hymnal

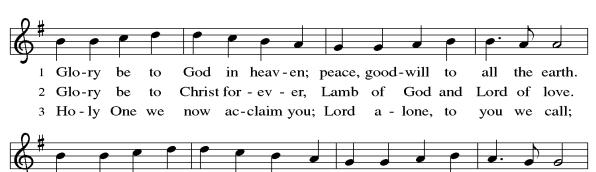
- * GREETING
 - P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
 - C And also with you.

* 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 O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

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

PSALM: Psalm 22:19-28 *(Responsively)*19But you, O LORD, be not far away; O my help, hasten to my aid.

²⁰Deliver me from the sword, my life from the power of the dog.

²¹Save me from the lion's mouth! From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²²I will declare your name to my people; in the midst of the assembly I will praise you. ²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied. Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

SECOND READING......Galatians 3:23-29

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

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



Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

- * GOSPELLuke 8:26-39
 - P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 8th chapter.
 - C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

²⁶Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes,

and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"— ²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you. So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON SERMON Pastor Leister Pastor Leister

HYMN OF THE DAY "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

#506 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 to the dead. 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 God of grace,
 - 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 Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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 The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

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 Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
- C Amen.

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit + bless you and give you peace.
 - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)
- * SENDING HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West" #359 Green Hymnal
- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
 - C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR - Barb Geedey

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES - Olivia Mummah & Gabby Reed

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS - Nick, Stella & Sofia Reed

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

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER - Jamie Miller

JUNE OFFERING COUNTERS:

29: Slone Smith & Barb Geedey

JULY OFFERING COUNTERS:

- 6: Cynthia Smith & Larry Goss
- 13: Slone Smith & Christie Yorks
- 20: Clint Miller & Nick Beward
- 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 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 – Dave Veerman, Christian Thinker: Biblical application means allowing the truth of the scripture to penetrate our lives, to make a difference in how we live.

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 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.

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 today following the worship service. 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."

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 continue assisting in the effort to feed the children of our community through the summer months. 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.

FOOD PANTRY MONTH – June is Messiah's month to volunteer at the Food Pantry. Volunteers will be needed every Saturday in June (7, 14, 21, & 28) 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.

REMINDER: **Please have all information to be placed in the newsletter** to <u>Bob</u> at <u>stclairb@embarqmail.com</u> or the <u>church office</u> at <u>mlchurchoffice@gmail.com</u> 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.

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.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion.

-Voter's Assembly following worship service.

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

Tuesday: -Church Office closed today.

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

Friday: -Newsletter Deadline.

Sunday: -10:00 a.m., Worship/Communion/Service of Healing.

PRAYER LIST

Joedy Arnold Linda Bahorik Melissa Bargo Jeremy Barnes Ryan Barr Bill Book Linda Brouse Andrea Cameron Evitt Campbell Kenton Cohenour Kim Dumais Freda Durio Cathy Dysinger Renee Dzikowski Kevin Fetterhoof Neil & Pat Fisher Bentley Fulkroad Kristen Gaisor Terri Gayer Deb Geedev

Fred Gross Family of Richard Hackenberger Mark Harvey

Sheree Goss

Amanda Gregg

Bill Heck John (Pat) Henry Karen Henry Sawyer Henry Nox Hepburn Nancy Howell Annie Ingle Michael 'Doc' Johnston Guy Kerstetter George King Jesse Kint Nancy Kramer Pastor Sam Leister Cecilia Miller Curt Miller Larry Miller Shirley Miller Marlin Milliken Claire Mummah Linda (Kerchner)Parks

Claire Mummah
Linda (Kerchner)Parks
Fred Parnell
Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine
Cheryl Pinkerton
Betty Ranck
Keith Ranck

Dave Reed Diane Rowles Grevslev Rowles Kelley Rusenko Arlene Shearer Lowell Shearer Wyatt Shellenberger Gail Sherman Althea Smith Dave Smith **Jennifer Smith** Joyce & Todd Spangler Barry Strawser Vicki Suoja Amy Swartz Molly Ulsh George Varner Roscoe Warner Todd Wert Kathy Whitesel Jim & Heidi Woltman George 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