EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 12th, 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's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.

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
Marina Holderman
Julia Martin & Ella Harris
Paige Martin, Hope Miller & Braedon Walton
Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner
Clint Miller & Nick Beward

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST October 12, 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 Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
 - C Amen.
 - P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

- P Merciful and loving God, we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.
- P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
- C Amen.

GATHERING

- GATHERING HYMN "O Jesu
- "O Jesus, I Have Promísed"
- #503 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.



- * 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 Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

WORD

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." 9So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

^{15c}Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

L: Here ends the reading.

C: Thanks be to God.

²Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion. ⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

8They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.

⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; ¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

- 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' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy.

- * GOSPEL.....Luke 17:11-19
 - P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 17th chapter.
 - C Glory to you, O Lord. (Sung)

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

- 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

"Let the Whole Creation Cry"

#242 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 receive 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).

ANTHEM

"Lord God, We Worship Thee" - arranged by Hal H. Hopson

Choir

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 Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our 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 sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

* 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 O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.
- C Amen.

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.
 - C Amen, Amen, Amen. (Sung)
- * SENDING HYMN "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" #559 Green Hymnal
- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
 - C Thanks be to God.

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 – Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Hope & Grace Miller

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS - Evan Miller, Silas Smith & Ella Harris

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner (9/29/25 – 10/19/25)

NEXT WEEK'S MANN BREAD BAKER - Cynthia Smith

COLLECTION COUNTERS:

Today: Clint Miller & Nick Beward 10/19: Marylou Hazard & Jean Berry

10/26: Mary Grimm & Tammy Brackbill

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 memory of Herm and Marge McKee, given in love by Great-granddaughters Annabelle McGowan Miller and Sloane McKee Miller.

JUST A THOUGHT – Charlotte Perkins Gilman, American writer and Social Reformer (1860 – 1935): Eternity is not something that begins after you are dead. It is going on all the time. We are in it now.

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.

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.

ATTENTION YOUTH CURRENTLY IN 6TH GRADE AND UP – There will be an informational Workcamp meeting on Sunday, October 19th at 6:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. Workcamp 2026 will be in Mt. Gilead Ohio June 14-20. Parents are encouraged to attend. Please be prepared to pay the \$100 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit for each participant.

OCTOBER'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will be for Mifflintown Fire Co. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the Fire Company 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.

NEW ALTAR GUILD & OFFERING COUNTER SCHEDULES are being organized for "Year A," which runs from Sunday, November 30th, 2025 (First Sunday of Advent) through Sunday, November 22nd, 2026 (Christ the King Sunday). If you would like to join the Altar Guild or help in the baking of Manna Bread for communion or would like to volunteer a few Sundays a year to help count the morning offerings, please let Slone Smith or Bob St. Clair know as soon as possible. Thanks to all those who serve.

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

TO ALL MEMBERS OF MESSIAH – As the Executive Director of PPC and on behalf of all of the board members, we would like to discuss a very delicate topic.

It was decided at our last PPC meeting that we would decrease our benevolence from \$12,000 per year to \$6,000 per year. We did this with heavy hearts. This decision was made because in the past several months up to and including the present time, we are running in the red. It is hard to ask our congregation to try to dig deeper into their pockets. We ask that you please pray about your giving and pray about the future of Messiah. We, as a congregation, have always moved forward on behalf of our church. So, I am asking each and every one of our members to please do their best to help our church continue and grow and be able to support everyone of our members and missions into the future.

Prayerfully yours, Marylou Hazard, Messiah PPC Executive Director

WOMEN OF THE ELCA NEWS:

THE NEXT WELCA MEETING will be Thursday, November 13th at 1:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. All women of Messiah are invited to attend.

THE THANKOFFERING SPEAKER for November 9th will be Ann Supplee/DeLauter Youth Center.

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE SEAFARER'S BAGS:

- --Sweatshirts (hooded or unhooded) M-L-XL only
- --T-shirts (long or short sleeved) M-L-XL only
- --Socks (thermal or gymn) NO ankle socks

Please remove all store tags from each item and place the items in the plastic tub in the Adult Sunday School Room. We will be collecting these items until next October of 2026.

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

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY OCTOBER UPDATE – Again this year the Food Pantry will join forces with the Boy Scouts, Kiwanis, and YOU to bring Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to as many Juniata County families living in poverty as possible. When the Boy Scouts come to your door in November for their annual food drive, please give generously. If you can help us to start stockpiling the foods listed below for the holidays, we would really appreciate it. Our goal is to provide 800 meals: 400 for Thanksgiving and 400 for Christmas. We are also collecting winter attire for kids for Christmas gifts: hats, coats, mittens, and scarves.

HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS

(These are the foods that are more difficult for us to secure) turkey breasts, hams (3-5 lbs.), canned sweet potatoes, instant potatoes, stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, and brownie or cookie mix

P.O. BOX 44, 114 N. MAIN ST., MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059 PHONE: 717-436-9718 HOURS: TUES. 9-12 & 1-5, SAT. 9-12

*PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY. (CONTACT PERSON: GLENDA FULTZ). Email jcfp122017@gmail.com

Website: www.jcfoodpantry.com

Our vestibule is open 24 hours a day to receive donations. Cash, checks, or gift cards may be deposited in the vestibule's mail slot. *Non-perishable foods and non-food items may be dropped off at any time in our vestibule. Please deliver perishable foods only when someone is available to receive them. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -8:45 a.m., Confirmation Class in the sanctuary.

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

-1:30 p.m., Registration for Juniata County CROP WALK at Walker Park.

-2:00 p.m. CROP WALK.

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 Library.

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

-7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal in sanctuary.

Sunday: -NO CONFIRMATION CLASS.

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

-6:00 p.m., Youth Workcamp Meeting at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

PRAYER LIST

Joedy Arnold Linda Bahorik Melissa Bargo Jeremy Barnes Ryan Barr Bill Book Andrea Cameron Evitt Campbell Deb G. Chambers Nathan Clark Kenton Cohenour Jean Compton Scott & Heather Compton Bill Conn Stacy Couture Kim Dumais

Freda Durio Cathy Dysinger Renee Dzikowski Kevin Fetterhoof Neil Fisher Bentley Fulkroad Kristen Gaisor Terri Gaver Deb Geedev

Josslyn Geedey

Marilyn Gilbert Sheree Goss Amanda Gregg Fred Gross Mark Harvey Bill Heck John (Pat) Henry Karen Henry Sawyer Henry Nox Hepburn Nancy Howell Annie Ingle Michael 'Doc' Johnston Guy Kerstetter George King Jesse Kint

Paul Lingenfelter Cecilia Miller Curt Miller Larry Miller Shirley Miller Marlin Milliken Claire Mummah Linda (Kerchner)Parks Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine

Betty Ranck Keith Ranck Dave Reed Diane Rowles Greysley Rowles Kellev Rusenko Arlene Shearer Lowell Shearer Wyatt Shellenberger Gail Sherman Althea Smith Dave Smith Jennifer Smith Barry Strawser Kenton Stuck Vicki Suoja Amy Swartz Molly Ulsh George Varner Roscoe Warner Sandy Wert Todd Wert Kathy Whitesel Jim & Heidi Woltman

George Zimmerman

Linda Zimmerman

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Cheryl Pinkerton

- --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