

Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



✝ Holy Communion ✝

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 9, 2024



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Kneel

P: God, our provider,

C: help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

Stand

GATHERING HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory.....LBW 415


APOSTOLIC 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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain




Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



2 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.

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

3 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, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.
All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sit

WORD**FIRST READING: Genesis 3:8-15**

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

A: A Reading from Genesis:

⁸Adam and Eve heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

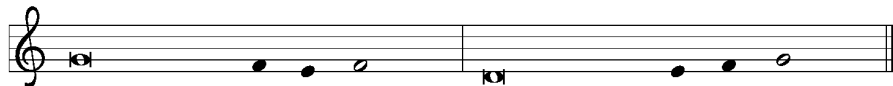
PSALM: Psalm 130

The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it.



Wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steady love.

Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.



¹Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD;

²**O LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins,

O LORD, who could stand?

⁴**Yet with you is forgiveness,**

in order that you may be feared. R

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

⁶**My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep**

watch for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is

steadfast love;

with the LORD there is plentiful redemption.

⁸**For the LORD shall redeem Israel**

from all their sins. R

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

A: A Reading from Second Corinthians:

¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture— “I believed, and so I spoke”—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: The ruler of this world will be ¹ driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people ¹ to myself.

C: Repeat the Alleluias

GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the third chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus went home; ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that Jesus and the disciples could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”—³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

SERMON.....Janet Stroble, ALWL

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Rise, Shine, You People!.....LBW 393

APOSTLES' CREED

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A brief silence is held after the introduction.

P: We come before the triune God to pray for our communities,
ourselves, and our world.

After each petition:

P: Merciful God,
C: receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through
the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.
C: Amen

PEACE**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.**C:** And also with you.*The pastor and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you. R: Peace be with you

Sit

MEAL**OFFERING***The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

Stand

OFFERTORY*As the gifts are presented, the Offertory is sung*

- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.

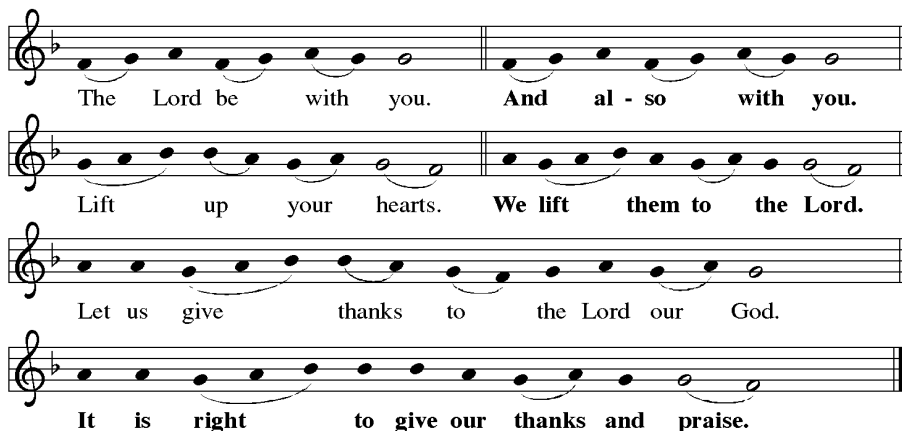


We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
 What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
 Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.



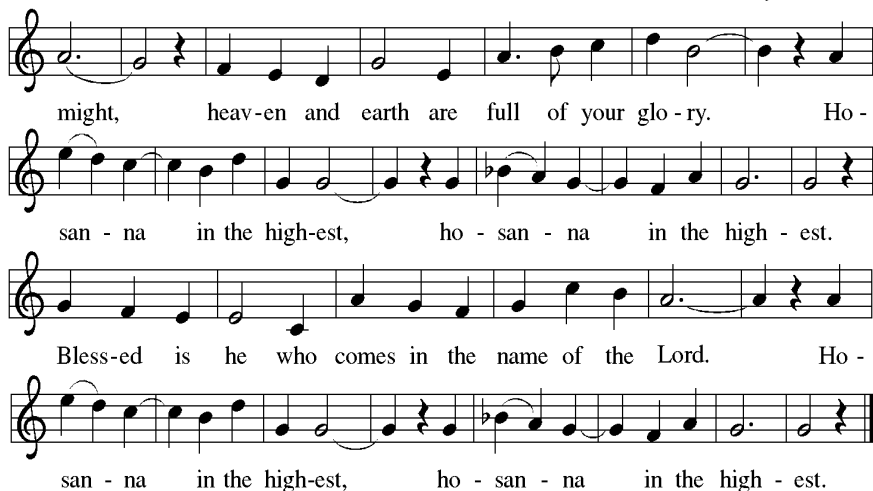
OFFERING PRAYER**A**: Let us pray:

C: Jesus, Bread of life,
 you have set this table with your very self,
 and called us to the feast of plenty.
 Gather what has been sown among us,
 and strengthen us in this meal.
 Make us to be what we receive here,
 your body for the life of the world.
 Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING**PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high-est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

[P]: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
 that all those who believe in him should not perish,
 but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you

for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
 that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
 as he comes to us in his holy supper.

[C]: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

[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]: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

C: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

COMMUNION

All baptized believers are invited to this holy meal. Those not communing are invited for a blessing. Please follow the instructions of the ushers to gather at the altar table. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen

COMMUNION HYMN***When Peace, like a River (It is Well with My Soul)***

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888
Music: VILLE DU HAVRE, Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

Stand

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray:

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.

C: Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

On Our Way Rejoicing LBW 260

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Dave and Rita Stickler, Carl Gee, Jody Fullmer, Arch Watkins, Jimmy Gardner **Lay Assistant:** Pam Eveleth; **Communion Assistant:** Debbie Day
Acolyte: Jordan Morris **Altar Guild:** Rita Strickler, Betty Fenstermacher
Greeters/Communion Presenters: Don and Shirley Fullmer
Cantor: Bob Schweppenheiser **Flower Delivery:** Jody Fullmer

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones. **The Basket of Flowers** is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Betty Weiskerger on her heavenly 97th birthday on June 12th by her family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Messiah Church! It is our joy to have you worship with us. If you are visiting, please make yourself known and leave your name & information to a congregation member. We hope to see you again.

This morning we welcome Janet Stroble, an Authorized Lay Worship Leader (ALWL) of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Janet has received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and has been authorized by the bishop of the synod to preside at the Eucharist.

Vacation Bible School, Scuba Diving into Friendship with God

Monday, June 17 – Friday, June 21, 9:00 am – Noon. Walk-ins are welcome, BUT . . . You can help us plan - register early! **COMPLETE ONE FORM FOR EACH CHILD AND RETURN** by Thursday, June 6th.

Registration forms are available on the Bald Eagle entrance bulletin board or in the Church Office. Email: messiahoffice@comcast.net Web Site:

www.messiahsouth.org

WELCA collected 210 pairs of shoes for SOULS4SOULS. Thank you everyone for your support of this important mission.

Remember our Pack the Pantry Challenge. If you haven't picked up a bag yet, please be sure to get the bag in the Narthex after worship. Please be sure to bring all your filled bags with you on Sunday June 30th and place in the front pew of the sanctuary so that all can see how much we were able to collect.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

JARED GIST, ORGANIST

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No Room for Compromise

Some things seem more trouble than they're worth. People who fish with monofilament line may find that when it kinks, and tangles it isn't worth the effort to pull apart the knots. Likewise, for knitters whose balls of yarn unravel into a snarl on the floor. Or when packages of puff pastry can be had from the grocer's freezer case, a baker may well find making it from scratch more bother than benefit and opt for ready-made. Those banking on Jesus' admonition to forgive seventy times seven may find it impossible to make peace with his uncompromising warning that "whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness." Like a foreign-language crossword puzzle, it might seem unsolvable.

Some might find relief in joining the people gathered around Jesus' home who concluded that it would be best to ignore him: "He has gone out of his mind." Others, like his family, stay on the edge of conflict and attempt to restrain him—"Hush, you're making a scene." Tensions are high, not only out among the crowds, not merely *close* to home, but in the *center* of home, the very heart of community and family. The air sizzles with discord. It must have been like the many broken bonds and hollowed-out relationships familiar to us today, at a time roiling with division. Pursuing hope and finding healing might seem not worth the effort.

To that temptation Jesus delivers a scorching, confounding warning: by ascribing his actions to the evil one, rejecting good as though it were demonic, judging the spirit of God's love to be wicked—all of this is to choose *against* forgiveness and mercy. Without recognizing the urgency of love behind Jesus' warning, we may think his words a contradiction to Jesus' commitment to forgiveness. In fact, he uncompromisingly claims that the way of forgiveness belongs to the kingdom of God. Period!

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