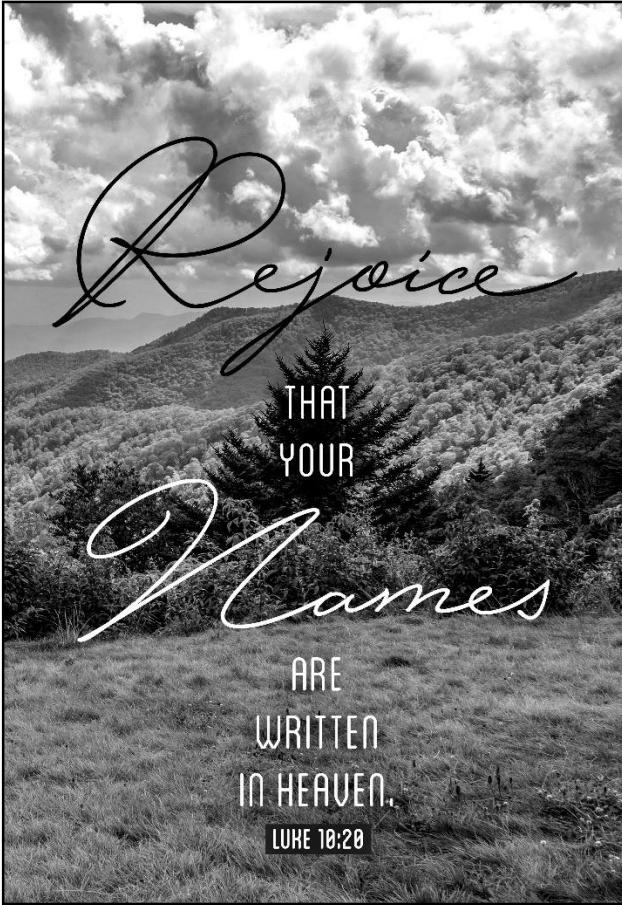


Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



✠ Holy Communion ✠

Michaels and All Angels

September 29, 2024



MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

The archangel Michael is pictured as a prince and a general of the heavenly army, defeating the dragon (the ancient serpent, the devil, Satan). It is important, though, to see in Revelation 12:11 that God's victory ultimately comes by Jesus' death and the testimony of his followers. The power of God's truth gives us confidence in the face of evil on earth, even in the face of our own death.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Kneel

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

In our desire to be first

we make distinctions among ourselves.

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of † Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

Stand

GATHERING HYMN

Praise, My soul, the King of HeavenLBW 549

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

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **I** Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was
 slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **II** Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
 strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.
C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **I** Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
 join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

C This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. **III** For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

C This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have wonderfully established the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that as Michael and the angels contend against the cosmic forces of evil, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God whom we worship and praise with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sit

WORD**FIRST READING: Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3**

Daniel trembles in the presence of an angel. That angel tells the prophet about the good and terrible future when the dead will be resurrected and the archangel Michael will usher in the deliverance of the nation.

A: A Reading from Daniel:

¹⁰A hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees. ¹¹He said to me, "Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I am going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to you." So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling. ¹²He said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me twenty-one days. So Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia, ¹⁴and have come to help you understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is a further vision for those days.

^{12:1}"At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

A: The word of the Lord.**C:** Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22

The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it.



Bless the LORD, you an - gels, all you hosts of God.

Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.



- ¹Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.
- ²**Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God's benefits—**
- ³who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
- ⁴**who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy;**
- ⁵who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
- ²⁰**Bless the LORD, you angels, you mighty ones who | do God's
bidding, who obey the voice | of God's word. R**
- ²¹Bless the LORD, all you | hosts of God,
you servants who | do God's will.
- ²²**Bless the LORD, all you works of God, in all places | where
God rules;
bless the LORD, | O my soul. R**

SECOND READING: Revelation 12:7-12

Armed with the power of God, Michael and the angels of God fight those armed with the power of evil, the devil and the devil's angels. The "blood of the Lamb," our crucified Lord Jesus, gives Michael the power to force the devil from a place in heaven.

A: A Reading from Revelation:

⁷War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,
"Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,

for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night before our God.

¹¹But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.

¹²Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!

But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down to you
with great wrath,
because he knows that his time is short!"

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: Bless the LORD, you angels, you mighty ones who do God’s bidding.

C: Repeat the Alleluia

GOSPEL: Luke 10:17-20

The missionary church (“the seventy-two”) is given magnificent power. Greater than this gift of power over the enemy, however, is the gift of salvation: their names are written in heaven.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” ¹⁸He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON Ray Huff, ALWL

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones LBW 175

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A brief silence is held after the introduction.

P: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God’s good creation, and all who are in need.

After each petition:

P: Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

P: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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.

ANTHEM

***Angels and The Saints* Arr. Elizabeth Campbell**

Stand

OFFERTORY

As the gifts are presented, the Offertory is sung

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
 fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



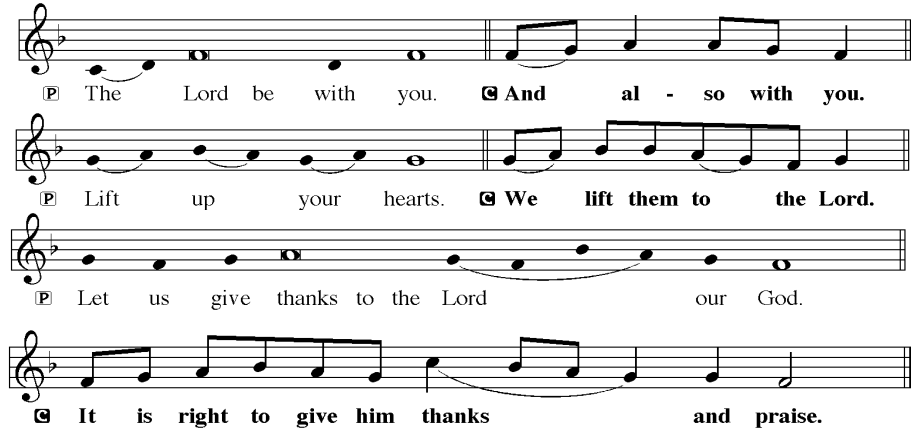
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
 pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray:

C: Blessed are you, O God,
 source of every gift of your creation.
 By these gifts and with our lives,
 help us to serve one another and all in need,
 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 Amen.

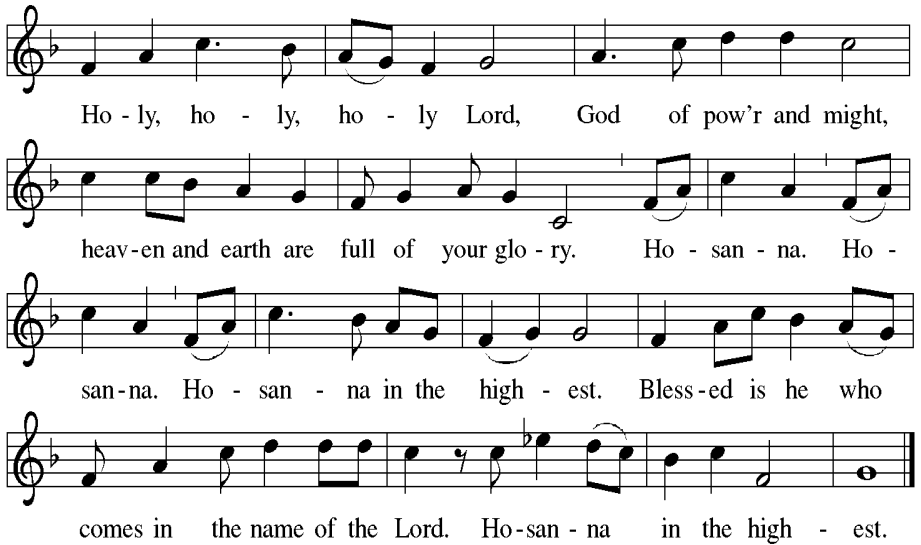
GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
 within each cell; with every breath.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day;
 across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to
 those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C: We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit:

in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

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: Jesus welcomes you to this table.
Come, here is your God.

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.

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence LBW 198

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:

Holy God,
 you have welcomed us to this meal
 and fed us with dignity at your table.
 Send us now to welcome others
 and to be at peace with one another,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

P: God all mighty,
God most merciful
‡ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty..... LBW 543

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Bill Reasner, Sally Congdon, Mike Gardner
Lay Assistant: Carol Waltz; **Communion Assistant:** Debby Day;
Acolyte: Dylan Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Marie Welter, April Gardner;
Greeters/Communion Presenters: Jody Fullmer and Carl Gee
Cantor: Bob Schweppenheiser; **Flower Delivery:** Arch Watkins

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Gladys Reigel Batey by her daughters, Evelyn, Merry and Penny.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dorothy and Gordon Ritter by their daughter Deborah Leonard and 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, Ray Huff an Authorized Lay Worship Leader (ALWL) of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Ray 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.

Bible Study is on Wednesday evening at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there!

The Preschool Bingo Committee is asking for your help. On October 26, the committee will be having their 2nd Gift Card Bingo event. During this event there will be themed baskets for the Chinese Auction. Please consider donating a basket or items to make a basket to help us raise funds for our preschool. Thank you!

Harvest Home and Blanket Sunday is on Sunday, October 6, 2024.

The Mountie Backpack Program is ready for the new school year. Bagging is on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in Shaheen Hall beginning September 26th.

Please call the church office with names and addresses of college students or service members for *WELCA's annual mailing of cookie boxes* which will be packed and sent on **November 19th**.

Ushers' Meeting: Current ushers and anyone willing to serve please plan on meeting in the Chapel following the worship this morning.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

JARED GIST, ORGANIST

324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702

(570) 326-9171 | www.messiahsouth.org

Sharing in Holy Work

In the late first century, when the author of Mark was writing the story of Jesus for the new Galilean Christian church, other Christian churches were forming in neighboring regions too, with other teachers sharing and professing the wonders of Christ Jesus. And, well, like churches of all times, each one did things a little differently. They told the stories in their own unique styles. They emulated the works of Jesus in their healings, teachings, and evangelism in varied ways. And some in the church in Galilee started to think, "Hey! Those other Christians are doing it wrong!" So the author of Mark made sure to include this account about Jesus and the first apostles.

In our world today, there are so many kinds of Christians professing and teaching in various ways. So who is right when Christians around the world all see Jesus and his ministry a little differently? Many of these churches have their own supporting documents: Lutherans have the works of Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon. Methodists and other churches with English heritage have the work of John Wesley. From historical theologians like Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, and Julian of Norwich to modern theologians like James Cone and Rosemary Radford Ruether, theologians and writers about Jesus have inspired our faith and how we are to live in and share the love of God through Jesus Christ across time and space.

As Jesus shares with the disciples, any work that shares love, grace, mercy, and justice in his name is holy. Many of our faith communities partner with people of other traditions to share Jesus' love through holy work. What holy work are others in your community doing? What ecumenical partnerships do you share in? Is there a Jesus movement truly inspiring you right now, even if it's not through your own church? If so, thanks be to God!

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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In the presence of our Lord
As we start our Sabbath Day,
Some people choose a place to sit
And then begin to pray
And others choose to read a hymn
And others read a Psalm
Preparing heart and mind and soul
In Worshipful, peaceful calm.

We certainly like to greet each other
And share our thoughts and news,
But maybe we could be more mindful
Of those who are in the pews.

We could use our smaller voices
Before our worship starts
Maintaining a reverent quiet
That speaks to our souls and hearts.

We need your help to lower the level
As we enter God's holy house.
We could all just talk in whispers.
Be as quiet as a mouse.

Author Unknown

