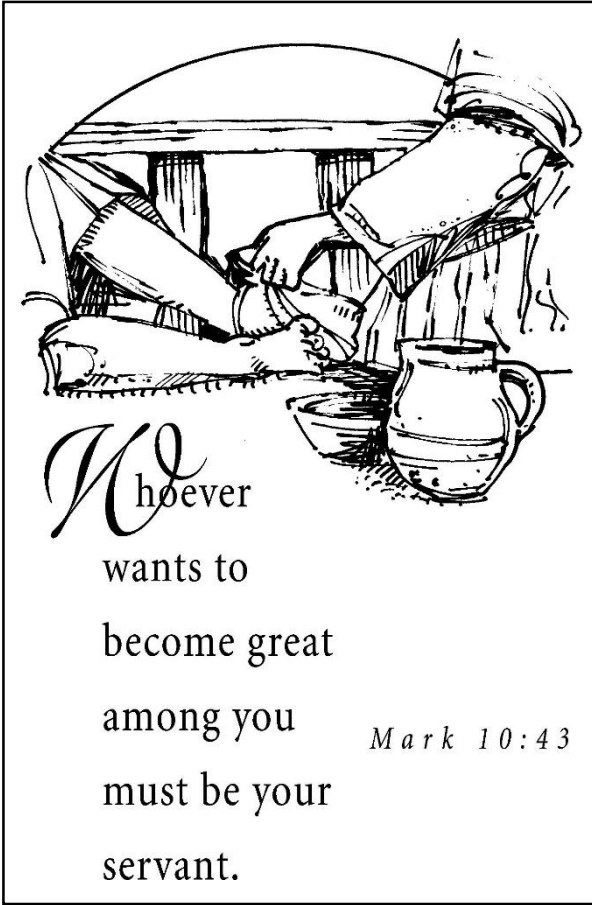


Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



✠ Holy Communion ✠

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2024

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

GATHERING

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

You Servants of God.....LBW 252

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



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 53:4-12

This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called "servant songs." Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the servant's healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life and death of Christ.

A: A Reading from Isaiah:

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

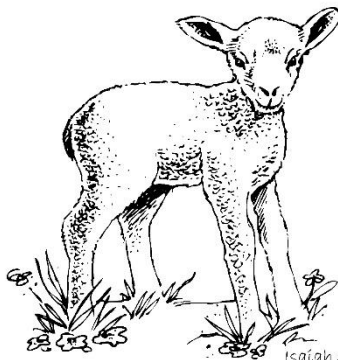
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

He was oppressed,
and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open
his mouth; like a lamb
that is led to the
slaughter ...



Isaiah 53:7, NRSV

PSALM: Psalm 91:9-16*The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it.*

You have made the LORD your ref - uge, and the
Most High your hab - i - ta - tion.

Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.

⁹ Because you have made the | LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,

¹⁰ **no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.**

¹¹ For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.

¹² **Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone. R**

¹³ You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.

¹⁴ **I will deliver those who | cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they | know my name.**

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.

¹⁶ **With long life will I | satisfy them,
and show them | my salvation. R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:1-10

Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God's saving plan. Through his suffering and death he has become the source of eternal salvation.

A: A Reading from Hebrews:

¹Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but

was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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 Son of Man came not to be served | but to serve, and to give his life as a ran- | som for many.

C: **Repeat the Alleluias**

GOSPEL: Mark 10:35-45

On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask Jesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that he and his followers will “rule” through self-giving service.

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

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

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then

Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON.....**Pastor Amme**

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY *O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us*

1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our
 2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -
 3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver -
 4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -

king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose
 give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that
 all, you said the first must be the last and
 nown; you died for us up - on a cross with

praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to
 we might rise and live. To break the law of
 ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,
 thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the

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 ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,
 thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the

glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you
 death you came, the law of love to bring: a
 church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for
 span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for

walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.
 dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous-ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.
 still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.
 now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler, 1824-1902

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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: Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world,
and the whole creation.

After each petition:

P: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in
the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.

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

Sov'reign Lord, Creator, Righteous One..... Mary McDonald

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

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 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: 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.

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

Lord, Speak to Us, that We May Speak..... LBW 403

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

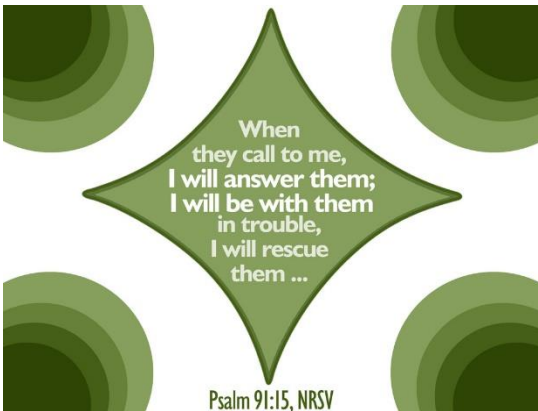
O Christ, Our Hope..... LBW 300

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



Service Assistants

USHERS	Carl Gee, Jody Fullmer, Arch Watkins, Dave and Rita Strickler, Jimmy Gardner
LAY ASSISTANT	Kim Brofee
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Candy Watkins
ACOLYTE	Brennen Hess
ALTAR GUILD	Vicki Bair, Doris Butt
GREETERS/COMM. PRESENTER	Rita and Dave Strickler
CANTOR	Dave Bausinger
FLOWER DELIVERY	Paul Weaver

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Shirley Shaffer's 96th birthday, with love from Ed and Marlene Young.

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.

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!

The Mountie Backpack Program is looking for individuals to deliver the food bags on Friday's to all the schools in SWASD. Please contact Dianne Larson, 570-220-3702; Connie McLaughlin, 570-326-3618, or Mary Schultz, 570-772-8021. *Many hands lighten the load.*

The Missional Outreach Committee is looking for volunteers to help with "Hearts that Care", a part of the Seasoned Helpers Ministry. This committee will do occasional wellness checks, home/hospital visits, provide transportation if needed. If you are interested in this mission please sign up on the sign-up sheet provided in the Narthex, please take note, this is not an every day occurrence. You are not required to be available 24/7. For more information call the church office.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

REV. BRUCE AMME, PRESIDING AND PREACHING

JARED GIST, ORGANIST

324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702

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

Savior from Scratch

Have you ever made something from scratch—a cake, a meal, a table? There is something special about the words “I baked this cake from scratch” or “It’s a family recipe” or “This is a hand-crafted solid-oak table.” You could have bought the cake from the store, ordered the same meal for delivery, or bought a table from a manufacturer, but you chose to give of your time and effort to make it yourself.

God made a savior from scratch. God could have popped into Jerusalem and declared, “Everyone is saved!” Or even had a full-grown man formed out of the dust ride into Jerusalem and get crucified. The gospels would be a lot shorter if this were how God worked. All those chapters and details about God’s Son that come before the Holy Week accounts are there to tell us something important about God and what God wants us to learn from Jesus: relationships.

In today’s gospel reading, you can almost see Jesus rolling his eyes over the disciples’ lack of understanding. James and John are acting like teenagers in a school cafeteria, trying to reserve themselves the best seats next to the coolest kid.

But Jesus says to them, “You do not know what you are asking.” Jesus shares with them the key to being his followers: it’s not about being first, coolest, or at the top of the hierarchy; it’s about serving. Once again, Jesus points us to relationships.

The cake is special because it was crafted carefully with love for someone special. The meal is so delicious because it was cooked with a family recipe passed down from generation to generation through relationships. Jesus is who he is because he built relationships with the disciples and those he met along the way. He sat with the woman at the well, held little children, and went fishing with his friends. Loving relationships that led him to the cross to make salvation from scratch.

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