

# Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



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**The labourer is  
worthy of his hire ...**

**Luke 10:7**

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✝ Holy Communion ✝

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

July 6, 2025



**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.*

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

*Stand*

**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.

*Kneel*

**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

*Stand*

**GATHERING HYMN**

***My God, How Wonderful Thou Art* .....LBW 524**



1 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thy maj - es - ty how bright!  
2 How won - der - ful, how beau - ti - ful the sight of thee must be—  
3 No earth - ly fa - ther loves like thee; no moth - er, e'er so mild,  
4 Yet I may love thee too, O Lord, al - might - y as thou art,  
5 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thou ev - er - last - ing friend!



How beau - ti - ful thy mer - cy seat in depths of burn - ing light!  
thine end - less wis - dom, bound - less pow'r, and awe - some pu - ri - ty!  
bears and for - bears as thou hast done with me, thy sin - ful child.  
for thou hast stooped to ask of me the love of my poor heart.  
On thee I stay my trust - ing heart till faith in vi - sion end.




Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863  
Music: DUNDEE, *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615


**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.

**HYMN 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.



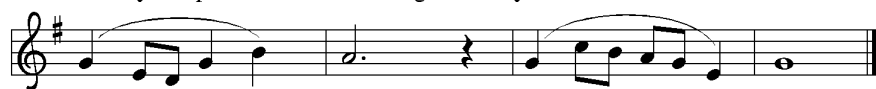
3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



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.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C:** Amen*Sit***WORD****FIRST READING: Isaiah 66:10-14**

*Those who returned from the exile found that the hopes for the glorious restoration of Judah were not completely fulfilled. For these disappointed people, the prophet envisions salvation in the image of a nursing woman. Mother Jerusalem and a mothering God remind the community how they are sustained and supported.*

**A:** A Reading from Isaiah:

<sup>10</sup> Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,  
all you who love her;  
rejoice with her in joy,  
all you who mourn over her—

<sup>11</sup> that you may nurse and be satisfied  
from her consoling breast;  
that you may drink deeply with delight  
from her glorious bosom.

<sup>12</sup> For thus says the LORD:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river,  
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;  
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,  
and dandled on her knees.

<sup>13</sup> As a mother comforts her child,  
so I will comfort you;  
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

<sup>14</sup> You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;  
your bodies shall flourish like the grass;  
and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants,  
and his indignation is against his enemies.

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

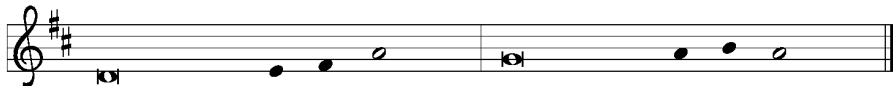
**PSALM: Psalm 66:1-9**

*The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it.*



All the earth bows down be-fore you and sings out your name.

*Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.*



<sup>1</sup> Be joyful in God, | all you lands;  
be joyful, | all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> **Sing the glory | of God's name;  
sing the glory | of God's praise.**

<sup>3</sup> Say to God, "How awesome | are your deeds!  
Because of your great strength your enemies | cringe before you.

<sup>4</sup> **All the earth bows | down before you,  
sings to you, sings | out your name." R**

<sup>5</sup> Come now and see the | works of God,  
how awesome are God's deeds | toward all people.

<sup>6</sup> **God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the  
wa- | ter on foot,  
and there we re- | joiced in God.**

<sup>7</sup> Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch o- | ver the nations;  
let no rebels ex- | alt themselves.

<sup>8</sup> **Bless our | God, you peoples;  
let the sound of | praise be heard.**

<sup>9</sup> Our God has kept us a- | mong the living  
and has not allowed our | feet to slip. **R**

**SECOND READING: Galatians 6:7-16**

*In the close of his letter to the Galatians, Paul encourages them to live as people made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice about how believers exercise common concern for one other in "the family of faith."*

**[A]:** A Reading from Galatians:

<sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. <sup>8</sup> If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap

at harvest time, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

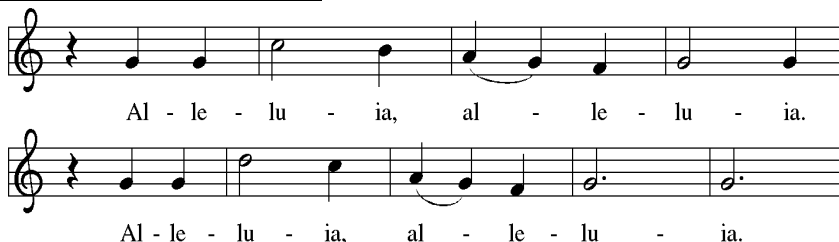
<sup>11</sup> See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! <sup>12</sup> It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. <sup>14</sup> May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! <sup>16</sup> As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

**A:** The word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**Cantor:** Let the peace of Christ rule † in your hearts,\* and let the word of Christ dwell † in you richly.

**C:** Repeat the Alleluias

### **GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20**

*Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.*

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

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

<sup>1</sup> After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his

harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ <sup>6</sup> And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’ ”

<sup>16</sup> “Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

<sup>17</sup> The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” <sup>18</sup> He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. <sup>19</sup> See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, 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**.....Janet Stroble

*Stand*



**HYMN OF THE DAY**    *We All Are One in Mission*


1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
 2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.  
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.

our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:  
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.

A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
 to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,

to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
 so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

**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]:** Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the  
wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

*After each petition:*

**[P]:** God of Grace,

**[C]: hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

**[P]:** Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through 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**

***His Eye is on the Sparrow .....C.D. Martin***

*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:** Creator God,

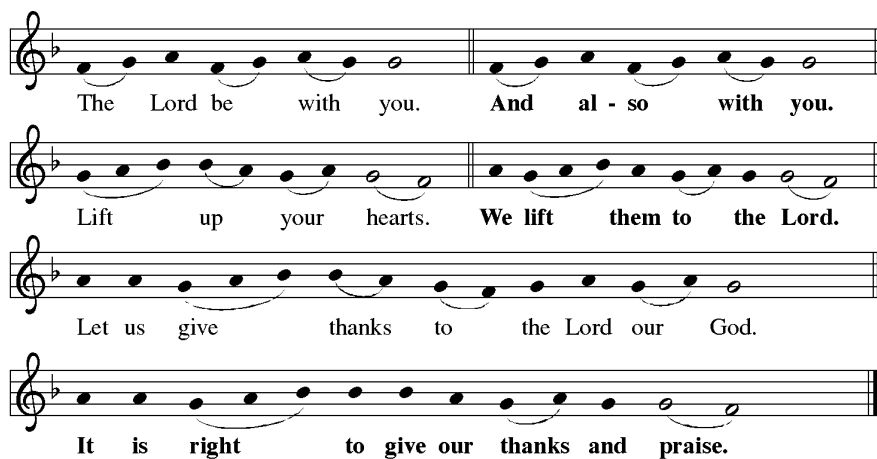
**in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good  
and the harvest is plentiful.**

**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.**

**Amen**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

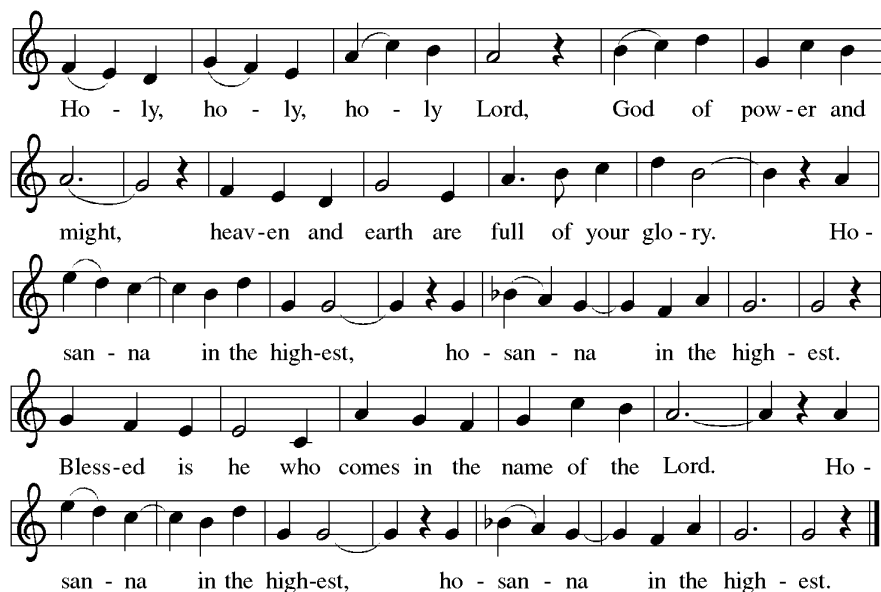
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our 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 - er and

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:** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
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, therefore,  
his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**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.

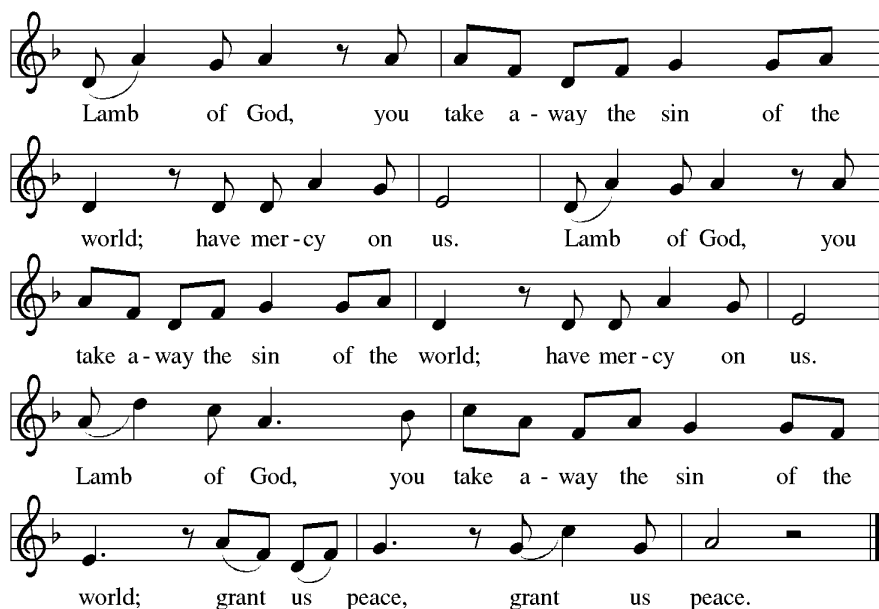
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

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

**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.

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 I Survey the Wondrous Cross ..... LBW 482



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some words split across lines. The hymn consists of four verses, with the first verse being the most prominent. The lyrics are: 'When I sur-vey the won-drous cross on which the For-bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor-row and Were the whole realm of na-ture mine, that were a prince of glo-ry died, my rich-est gain I death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that love flow min-gled down. Did e'er such love and trib-ute far too small; love so a-maz-ing, count but loss and pour con-tempt on all my pride. charm me most, I sac-ri-fice them to his blood. sor-row meet, or thorns com-pose so rich a crown? so di-vine, de-mands my soul, my life, my all!'

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
Music: ROCKINGHAM OLD, adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807

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.

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**

**SENDING HYMN**

***Sent Forth by God's Blessings..... LBW 221***

**DISMISSAL**

**[A]:** Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**[C]: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**



### **SERVICE ASSISTANTS**

**Ushers:** Fred Harbaugh, AnnMarie Hohman, Jean Nolan, Diana Rooker, Susan Christ; **Lay Assistant:** Dave Bausinger; **Communion Assistant:** Candy Watkins; **Acolyte:** Dylan Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Alice Morrison, Yvonne Kaiser  
**Greeters/Presenters:** Mike and Dianne Larson; **Cantor:** Dave Bausinger  
**Flower Delivery:** Charles Luppert

### **IN BLESSED MEMORY**

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Bill Miller with love by Linda, Mike, Nathan, Tammy and their families.

**The Basket of Flowers** is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Carl E. Fenstermacher on the fifth anniversary of his passing on July 6<sup>th</sup>, by his wife 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 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.

**\*Reminder\* OFFICE HOURS for July, 9:00 am – Noon.**

**Thank you to everyone who participated in our Pack the Pantry Challenge!** As you can see (in the insert) we have an over-abundance of food for our pantry shelves. This will definitely keep us stocked for a few months. After many trips from the sanctuary to the office it is now done. We were able to collect \$370. in monetary donations and 630 food items that everyone was so generous to donate.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE – I PUT THE WRONG DATE IN THE MESSENGER** The Correct date that the Eucharistic ministers go out is July 13<sup>th</sup>. Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Please let the office know if you are not available to take communion. If anyone is homebound, can't get to church and would like to receive Communion please notify the church office at 570-326-9171.

**YOUTH GROUP LEADERS NEEDED:** Details are still being worked out, but it would be great to have someone volunteer soon so they can be part of the discussions and decision making. There are a number of fourth and fifth grade youth already interested, and we would also like to offer something for high school youth. Contact Kathryn Pratt at 570-244-6964 if you have any questions. Please prayerfully consider helping with this very worthwhile opportunity.

## MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

JARED GIST, ORGANIST

324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702  
(570) 326-9171 | [www.messiahsouth.org](http://www.messiahsouth.org)

### **The Gift of Vulnerability**

A familiar adage says, “It’s better to deal with the devil you know than the one you don’t know.” The idea is that it’s safer to deal with something you’re familiar with than to take a risk with something new. This new thing can be scary, disarming, even harmful. On the other hand, although it takes work to let go of things that provide security and support self-reliance, vulnerability can also lead to connection, openness, and love.

Jesus asked the seventy disciples to enter the towns ahead of him to proclaim the good news that God’s kin-dom was coming near, to care for the sick, to stand with the weak and defenseless, and to love the brokenhearted. He knew he was asking them to make themselves vulnerable to the villagers they would encounter on their mission and that they’d likely receive both negative and positive responses. Although they might face rejection, hate, or dismissiveness, they might also be met with care, appreciation, and affirmation.

Gathering around God’s table in memory of Jesus’ full embodiment of love is also a vulnerable and tender moment together. The gift of free grace we receive in the holy sacrament of bread and wine is worth the risk to stand close to our neighbor. The gift doesn’t require perfection, but it allows for a moment to let go of whatever proverbial baggage and deep-rooted brokenness we live with. Jesus meant for all to be fed and welcomed with gracious hospitality at the table. And when the time comes to leave the gathering spaces, God’s hope is that all who gathered feel filled and affirmed so they can go out again into the world of unknowns.

May each one find the courage to embrace the gift of vulnerability as we enter both places of worship and living spaces, remaining in a state of holy wonder about the unknown.

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