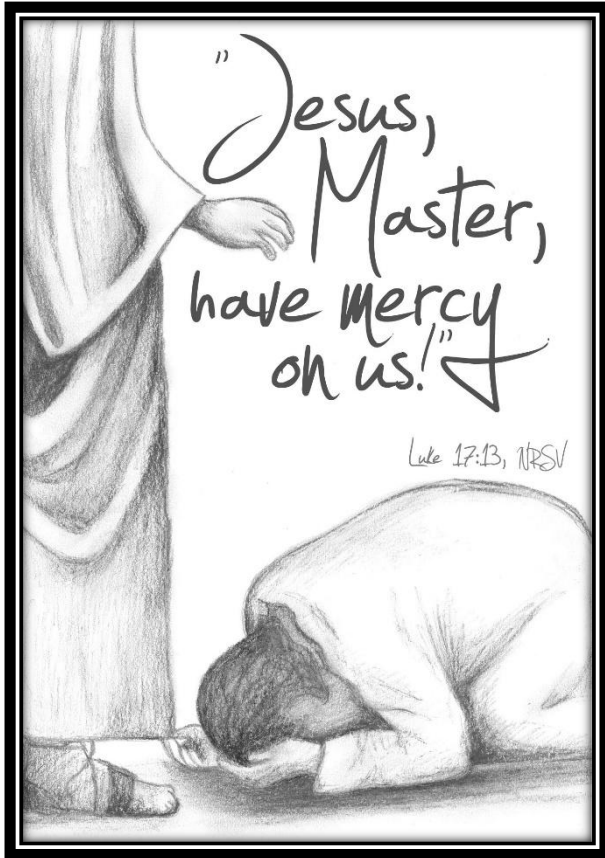


Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



✝ Holy Communion ✝

18th Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 2025

**18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

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.

GATHERING**PRELUDE***Stand***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.

Kneel

P: Merciful and loving God,

C: 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

*Stand***GATHERING HYMN *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven***

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your trib - ute bring.
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Ten - der - ly he shields and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows.
4 An - gels help us to a - dore him, who be-hold him face to face.

Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing.
Praise him, still the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
In his hands he gent - ly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.
Sun and moon bow down be - fore him; all who dwell in time and space.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.
Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880

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

The congregation brings forward offerings of food and money.

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

All

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.

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.

C: Amen

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

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.

A: A Reading from Second Kings:

¹ Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's

wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease."

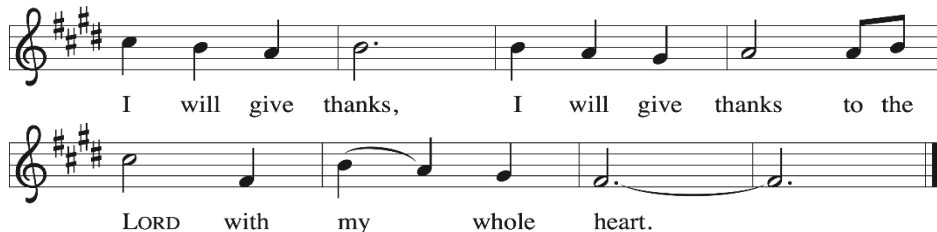
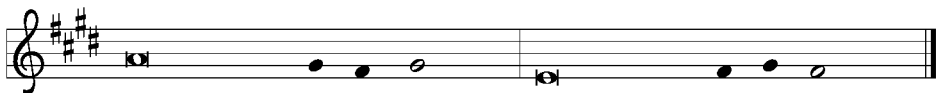
⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸ 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." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But 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 skin disease! ¹² Are 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. ¹³ But 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'?" ¹⁴ So 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.

^{15a, b, c} 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."

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 111*The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it.**Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.*

¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

² **Great are your works, O LORD,
pondered by all who dwell in them. R**

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

⁴ **You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵ You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

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

⁷ The works of your hands are faithful-ness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

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

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

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

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

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.

A: A Reading from Second Timothy:

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained.

¹⁰ Therefore 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.

¹¹ The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he will also deny us;

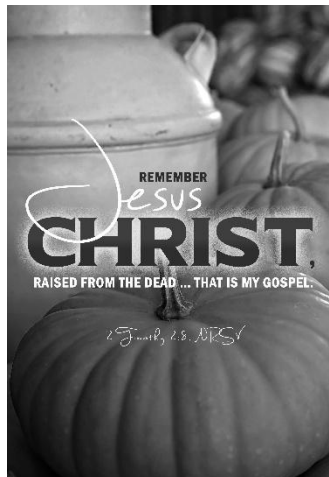
¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴ Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵ Do 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.

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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Alleluia acclamation. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter notes: A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, D5, C5, B4, A4. The second staff follows the same pattern. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating that the syllables are spread across multiple notes.

Cantor: Give thanks in all | circumstances;* for this is the will of God in Christ Je- | sus for you.

C: Repeat the Alleluias

GOSPEL: Luke 17:11-19

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.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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

Sit
SERMON.....Janet Stroble, ALWL

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY *Baptized in Water*

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
 tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic 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: Renewed in God’s everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all creation.

After each petition:

P: God of Grace,
C: receive our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and
mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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

We Can Share his Love..... Don Besig

Stand

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


C 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**: 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.

Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING


P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **A** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
A 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:

A 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, 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

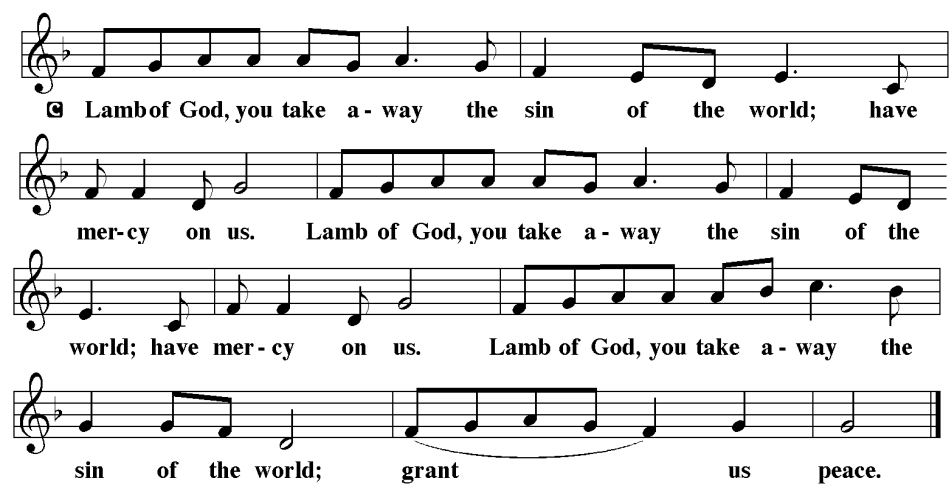
LORD'S PRAYER

**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: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come to this meal of mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.




C 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

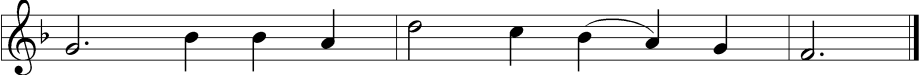
All baptized believers are invited to this holy meal. Those not communing are invited for a blessing. Please follow the instructions of the ushers to gather at the altar table. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

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

COMMUNION HYMN
Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray..... LBW 225



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray that we may
2 The chas - tened peace of sin for - giv'n, the fil - ial
3 Our trem - bling hearts cleave to thy word. All thou hast
4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, u - nit - ed
5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: oh, keep us
feast on thee to - day; be - neath these forms of bread and
joy of heirs of heav'n, grant as we share this won - drous
said thou dost af - ford; all that thou art we here re -
by our life in thee, thy love pro - claim till thou shalt
stead - fast to that day, that each may be thy wel - comed



wine en - rich us with thy grace di - vine.
food, thy bod - y bro - ken and thy blood.
ceive, and all we are to thee we give.
come to bring thy scat - tered loved ones home.
guest when thou shalt spread thy heav'n - ly feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932
Music: GRACE CHURCH, Ignaz J. Pleyel, 1757–1831

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.

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

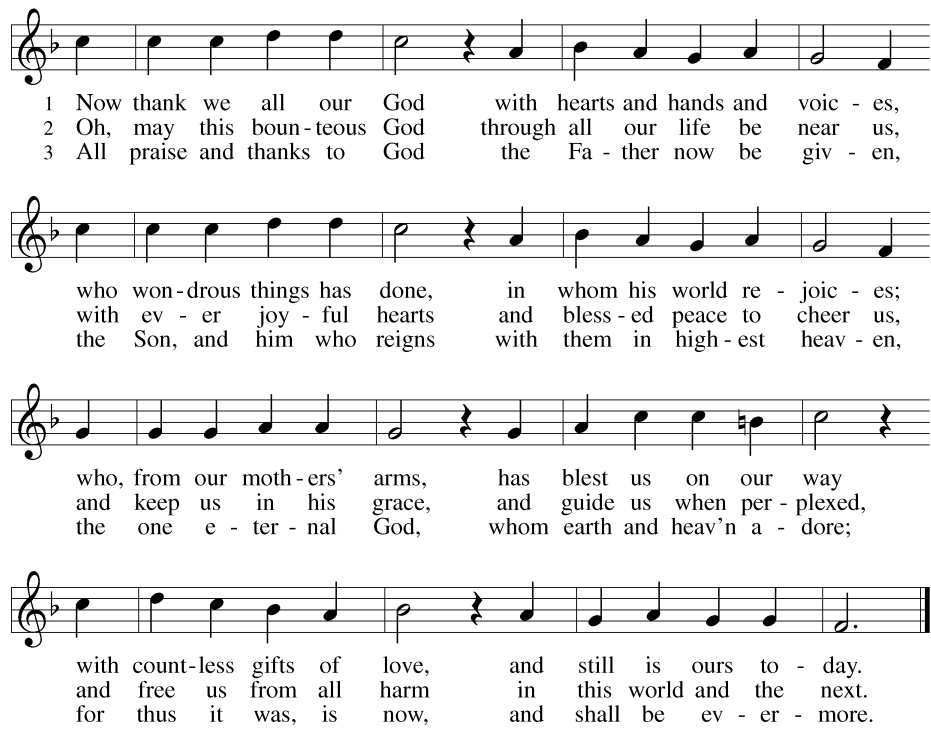
BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God..... LBW 534



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice - es,
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-ther now be giv-en,


who won-drous things has done, in whom his world re-joice-es;
with ev-er joy-ful hearts and bless-ed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and him who reigns with them in high-est heav-en,

who, from our moth-ers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
the one e-ter-nal God, whom earth and heav'n a-dore;

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

DISMISSAL

-  Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
-  Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Carl Gee, Jody fullmer, Dave & Rita Strickler, Jimmy Gardner

Lay Assistant: Carola Storrs; **Comm. Asst.:** Mary Schultz

Acolyte: Alyx Taylor; **Altar Guild:** Jody Fullmer, Jeannie Bower

Greeters/Presenters: Barb Waltz, Alyx Taylor

Cantor: Bob Schweppenheiser; **Flower Delivery:** Marilyn Winter

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of all our loved ones.

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.

MLP Gift Card Bingo is Saturday, October 25 at 11:30 am. Presale tickets are \$20 and at the door \$25. Tickets will be available *anytime in the church office*.

Bible Study and Fellowship continues Wednesday's at 6:30 pm. *All are welcome!*

White Gifts Project Soon to Begin ... Each year, Messiah has put up an angel tree to provide gifts to those in the local community and in our congregation who can use a helping hand. Families in our congregation who are experiencing a need and can benefit are encouraged to call the church office. *Forms will be provided for gift suggestions, which will need to be returned to us **no later than October 31** so that we have time to prepare the tags for the tree.*

There will be no Sunday School this morning. Look forward to seeing you next week! Mrs. Pratt

Reminder to all committee chairpersons to get your committee reports to the office for the Annual Report. *Thank you!*

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

JARED GIST, ORGANIST

324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702

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

On Common Ground

Ten people are healed by Jesus, but only one returns to thank him. That is the central tension of today's gospel story. But there is also a twist, one we may have missed if we were not listening closely: the one who thanked Jesus was a Samaritan.

The faithful of Jesus' time would have known all about the hostility between Judeans and Samaritans. The conflict between the two groups stretched back generations and generations. It was animosity so entrenched that people probably did not remember the specifics of the fight. They just knew they hated the other side. A Judean would never associate with a Samaritan, much less heal one of them.

But as we see in this story and others throughout the gospels, Jesus did not seem to care about the labels the world assigned to people: scribe or Pharisee, sinner or tax collector. Jesus also did not stop to consider whether the person was from Judea or Samaria. He looked into the eyes of all who came to him and saw directly to their humanity. He brought healing and wholeness to everyone.

Just as Jesus told the Samaritan, he could tell us, too, that our faith makes us well. God gives us faith that overcomes the destructive words of the world, allowing us to transcend barriers and labels and to recognize the humanity in each individual. God is also calling us as a whole community to go and seek out the Samaritans of our own time and place—anyone whom the rest of the world rejects and reviles—and show them the same compassion and mercy we have received.

God's love makes us whole. Words can hurt, but thanks to Jesus, words can heal too. More often than not, we will find common ground through God's power to heal, even among the Samaritans.

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