

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Messiah Lutheran Church
September 6, 2020

(440) 331-2405
MessiahChurchFairview.org

To our Guests: Welcome!

Worship Patterns in Pandemic Days

God be praised for every person here this morning and for all who are with us in spirit as they watch and pray at home. God strengthen us all through his word and promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The continued threat of coronavirus infection requires us to change our habits during the time we spend together. Please follow these rules to keep each other safe:

On entering—

- Masks are required. Please be sure to wear one.
- Sit only in pews marked with a bow.
- Keep the spacing rod between you and your family and the person or family at the other end.
- Greet each from a distance.

During the service—

- Refrain from singing. Instead, listen to the singers in the balcony and follow the words in the bulletin.
- When we share the Peace, do not hug or shake hands except with members of your own family. Wave or bow to the people around you.
- Offering plates will not be passed. If you missed the basket on your way in, place it there when you leave.

During communion—

- Keep a safe distance from the person in front of you as you approach.
- Hold out your cupped hands for the host. The pastor will not place this in your mouth or extended fingers.
- For the wine, take a cup from the basket, remove it from its bag, and hold it steady as the pastor fills it. Deposit the cup and bag in the receptacle as you return to your place.

As you leave—

- Unless you need the elevator, exit through front doors only.
- Feel free to gather on the front lawn for conversation, keeping safe distances.

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 8:30 & 10 am

*The congregation is invited to participate at the places marked with **bold** type*

Prelude

“Our Father Who From Heaven Above,” J. S. Bach

Confession and Forgiveness

Remain seated

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us call on the Lord in humble repentance, confessing our sin.

From the singers as we listen and reflect—



A Gracious God, we confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

P Is this also your prayer? If so, say “Amen.”

C Amen.

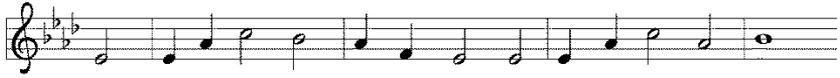
P Then, as a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand as you are able

Gathering Song

“Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”#772



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

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.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

The Word of God

First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I

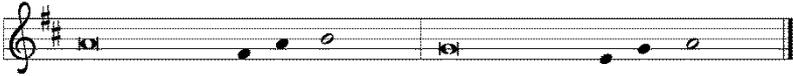
have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

119:35-40, *Presented by the Singers*



³⁵Lead me in the path of | your commandments,
for that is | my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to | your decrees
and not to | unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;
give me life | in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise | to your servant,
which is for | those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach | that I dread,
because your judg- | ments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for | your commandments;
by your righteousness en- | liven me.**

Second Reading

Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

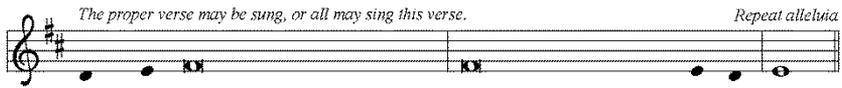
The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able

Gospel Acclamation

#169



In Christ | God was reconciling the world to himself,
entrusting the message of reconcilia- | tion to us. (2 Cor. 5:19)

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-29

At the announcement of the Gospel:

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated

Sermon

Pastor Burce

Stand as you are able

Song of the Day

“Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace,”

#761, stanzas 1, 2, 4, 5

1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all
 2 Break down the wall that would di - vide thy chil - dren,
 3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less
 4 Give me thy cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er
 5 With thine own love may I be filled and by thy

peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son may I
 Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let me pur -
 act and thought - less word. Make me to see the wrong I
 strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self the vic - tim
 Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, wher - e'er I

see my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by thee.
 sue; let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
 do will cru - ci - fy my Lord a - new.
 be, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring thee.
 be, may be di - vine - ly touched by thee.

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord in your mercy. . . . **Hear our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Greet those around you with these or similar words, after which you may be seated in prayerful silence as the altar is prepared. Stand again as you are able at the pastor's invitation

Presentation of the Offerings

“Simple Gifts,” Cindy Berry

A Let us pray. Holy Spirit, Giver of Life, you bring us from denial to faith, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to your service, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for the saving love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Lord's Supper

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also 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 God thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy. we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

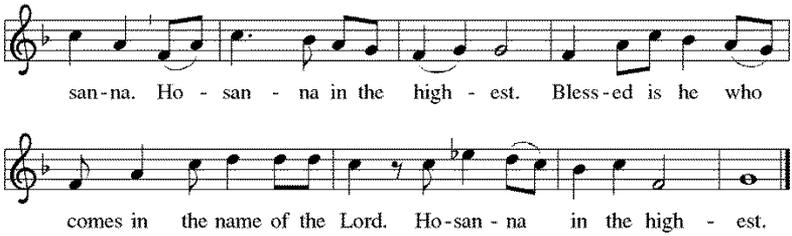
By the singers—



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.

P Blessed are you, O Lord our God...as he comes to us in this Holy Supper.

C **Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

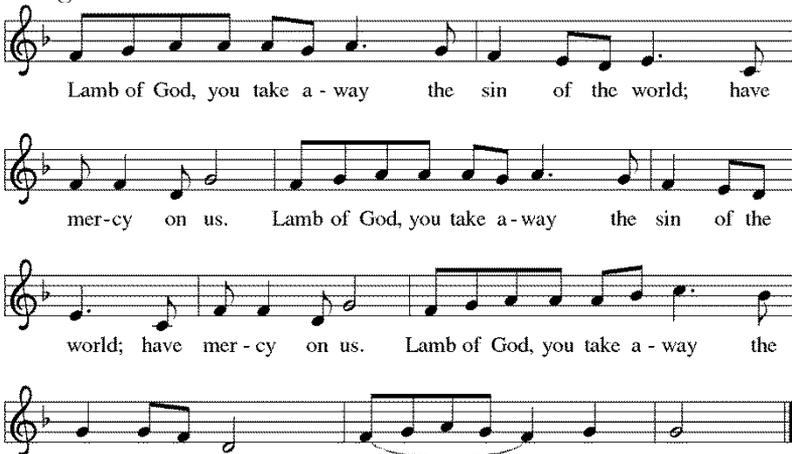
P In the night in which he was betrayed....

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

You may be seated

Communion

By the singers—



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

When all have communed, stand as you are able

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

C **Amen.**

A Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

P Almighty God, Father, †Son, and Holy Spirit keep you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sending Song

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,” #836



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

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Serving Today

Preaching Minister – Pastor Burce

Presiding Minister – Pastor Bridger

Assisting Minister/Lector – Christa Turnbull (8:30); James Quayle (10)

Acolytes – Gavin Waugaman (8:30); Kaitlyn Carlin (10)

Singers – Lisa Daley & John Hayduk (8:30);

Trudy Gustke & Jim Edwards (10)

Organist – Connie Triplett

Deacons – Joe Frantz, Trish Kvasnicka (8:30); Russ Digney, Bob Trapp (10)

Welcoming Team -- Debbie & Steve Schneider

Sound Technician – Jared Waugaman

Altar Guild – Tiffany Advani, Marilyn Edwards

In Our Prayers

- The readiness of Christians to see each as brothers and sisters
- The Church's witness in the world to the love of God
- Our country as it approaches the November election
- The pressing need for peace and justice throughout our land
- All who work for wages, and those looking for jobs
- Our brother Ed Kirst, and all faithful servants of the church
- To be married this week: Tim Coulter and Taran Beasley
- In need of healing: Emerson Buskirk, Paul Griffith, Tom and Rita-Ann Shaffer

Altar Flowers Are Given

In Honor of the 90th birthday of Ed Kirst by his family

This Week's Commemorations

Sept. 9—PETER CLAVER, d. 1654, a Jesuit missionary who ministered to slave ships arriving in the Columbian port of Cartagena.

God's Word for Next Week Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 103:8-13, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35
We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for divine services.