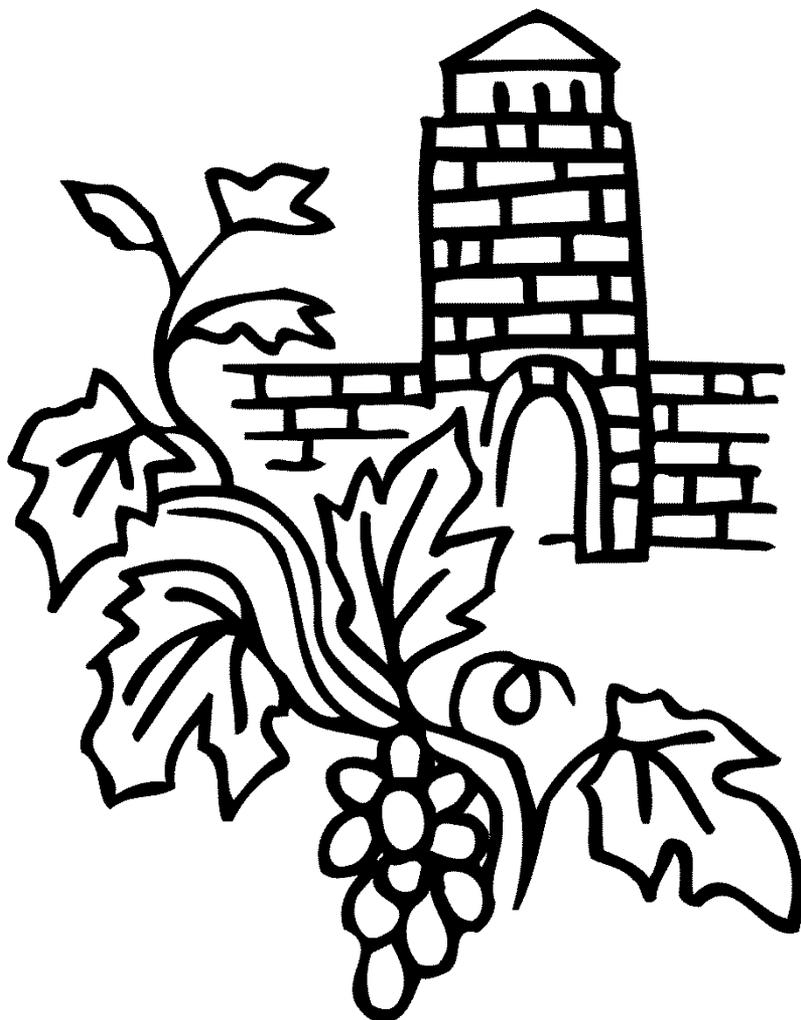


# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Messiah Lutheran Church  
October 4, 2020

(440) 331-2405  
[MessiahChurchFairview.org](http://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.

# **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

October 4, 8:30 & 10 am

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

Prelude                      “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,” Linda Scholes (8:30)  
   “Jesus Loves Me,” Shirley Brendlinger (10)

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

*Remain seated*

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

**C Amen.**

P Hear the testimony of John, our Lord’s apostle: “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

A Let us pray. Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

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*

# Gloria

*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*



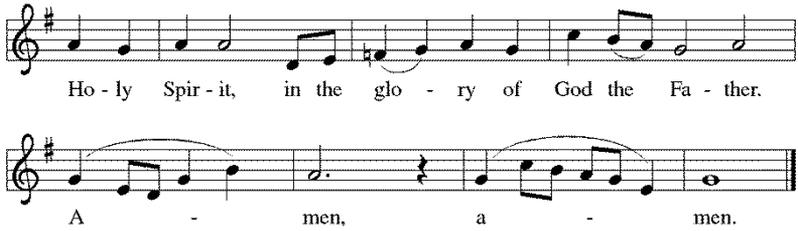
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



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



## 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. Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

# The Word of God

## First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

80:7-15

*Presented by the Singers*



<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O | God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

<sup>8</sup>**You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;**  
**you cast out the nations and | planted it.**

<sup>9</sup>You cleared the | ground for it;  
it took root and | filled the land.

<sup>10</sup>**The mountains were covered | by its shadow**  
**and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.**

<sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea  
and its branches | to the river.

<sup>12</sup>**Why have you broken | down its wall,**  
**so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?**

<sup>13</sup>The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

<sup>14</sup>**Turn now, O | God of hosts,**  
**look | down from heaven;**

<sup>15</sup>behold and | tend this vine;  
preserve what your right | hand has planted.

Second Reading

Philippians 3:4b-14

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my

own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand as you are able*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*

Jesus says, I chose you and ap- | pointed you  
to go and bear fruit | that will last.

**Gospel**

Matthew 21:33-46

*At the announcement of the Gospel:*

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

[Jesus is speaking to the chief priests and elders in Jerusalem.] <sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated

them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’ <sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*You may be seated*

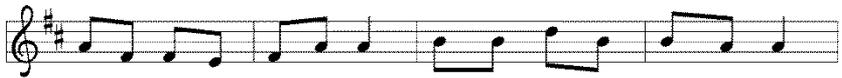
Sermon

Pastor Burce

*Stand as you are able*

Song of the Day

“Jesus Loves Me!” #595

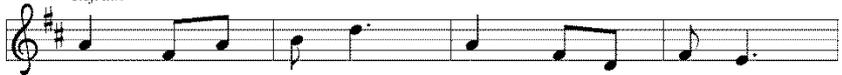


1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;  
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;  
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

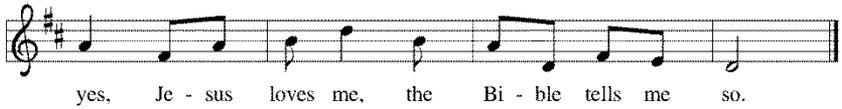


lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.  
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.  
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

*Refrain*



Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,



## Confession of Faith

P With the Church of every time and every place, we confess our faith.

A I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

C **Amen.**

A 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.

C **Amen.**

A 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.

C **Amen.**

## 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 Offering “Song of Hope,” Robert Hobby, (8:30)  
“How Clear Is Our Vocation Lord,” John Behnke (10)

*¡Dios de la esperanza, danos gozo y paz!  
Al mundo en crisis, habla tu verdad.  
Dios de la justicia, mándanos tu luz,  
Luz y esperanza en la oscuridad.*

*Oremos por la paz,  
Cantemos de tu amor.  
Luchemos por la paz,  
Fieles a Ti, Señor.*

May the God of hope go with us ev’ry day,  
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
Bringing light and hope to ev’ry land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace,  
Singing, share our joy with all,  
Working for a world that’s new,  
Faithful when we hear Christ’s call.

Praying, let us work for peace,  
Singing, share our joy with all,  
Working for a world that’s new,  
Faithful when we hear Christ’s call.

A Let us pray.

God of mercy and grace, you adorn our lives with neighbors to love,  
bread to share, and good news to tell. Help us embrace our work with  
joy, and use what we have gathered to glorify your holy name, through  
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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.

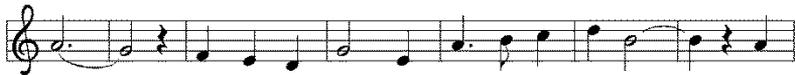
**C It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

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 - 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.

P It is certainly right to thank and praise you ... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C Christ has died. Christ risen. Christ will come again.**

P Gracious Father, fill us with your Holy Spirit . . . now and forever.

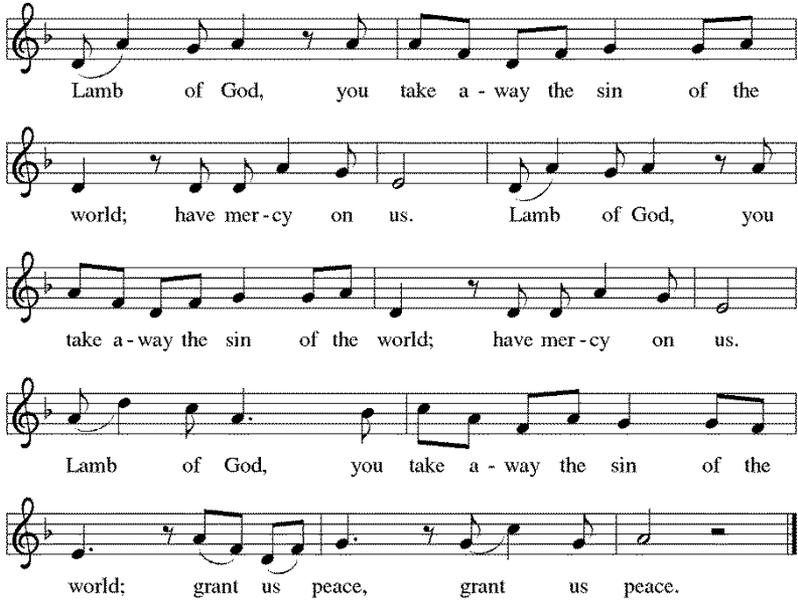
**C Amen.**

**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 sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*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 Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.**

## Sending

### Blessing

- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
- C Amen.**

# Sending Song

# “Christ Our Cornerstone”

1. Christ is our cor - ner - stone, on Him a - lone we build;  
2. Here may we gain from heav'n the grace which we im - plore,  
3. Oh, then, with hymns of praise these hal - lowed courts shall ring;

5  
with His true saints a - lone the courts of heav'n are filled.  
and may that grace, once gi'vn, be with us e - er - more  
10  
our voic - es we will raise the three in one to sing

14  
On His great love our hopes we place  
un - til that day when all the blest  
and thus pro - claim in joy - ful song,

of pres - ent grace and joys a - bove.  
to end - less rest are called a - way.  
both loud and long, that glo - rious name.

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord

**C Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone,” Sharon Wilson

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# Serving Today

*Preaching Minister* – Pastor Burce

*Presiding Minister* – Pastor Bridger

*Assisting Minister/Lector* – Chris Neumann (8:30); Mike Allan (10)

*Acolytes* – Bryce Neumann (8:30); Kaitlyn Carlin (10)

*Singers* – Allison and Brad Paton (8:30);  
John Hayduk & Priscilla Hinsch (10)

*Joy Ringers (8:30)* – Directed by Ruth King

*Organist* – Connie Triplett

*Deacons* – Trish Kvasnicka, Terrie Leske (8:30);  
Amy & Mark Hunger (10)

*Welcoming Team* – Darla Neumann

*Sound Technician* – Jared Waugaman

*Altar Guild* – Debbie Luekens, Diane Paton

## In Our Prayers

- The Church in its call to hear and trust the Gospel and to live in its light
- The mood and spirit of our nation
- The schools in our communities and our own Messiah School
- Our first-communion and confirmation classes
- People coping with the aftermath of floods, fires, and other disasters
- In need of healing: Carla Barrett, Lou Celesky, Summer Dodson, Dan Rossbach, Tom & Rita-Ann Shaffer
- People struggling with grief today

## This Week's Commemorations

*Oct. 4*—FRANCIS OF ASSISI, d. 1226, example for the ages of Christ-like commitment to “the least of these.” THEODORE FLIEDNER, d. 1864, a German pastor who revived the ministry of Lutheran deaconesses.

*Oct. 6*—WILLIAM TYNDALE, d. 1536, burned at the stake for translating the Bible into English.

*Oct. 7*—HENRY MELCHIOR MUHLENBERG, d. 1747, missionary and organizer of the first Lutheran synod in America.

## God's Word for Next Week

### Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 23, Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14

*We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for divine services.*

## Messiah Lutheran Church

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## Messiah Lutheran School

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[www.messiahfairview.org](http://www.messiahfairview.org)



*Servants and Missionaries* – All MLC members

*Senior Pastor* – Jerome Burce

*Associate Pastor* – Seth Bridger

*Minister of Youth* – Adonai Henderson

*Pastoral Assistant* – Ruth Mortensen

*Music Director* – Connie Triplett

*Messiah School Principal* – Helen Casselberry

*Administrator & Pierstorff Memorial Fund Director* – Darlene Waugh



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*Drawing in to Christ. Building up in Christ. Sending out for Christ.*

*To the glory of God, through the strength of the Spirit.*