

# 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday, August 26, 2018**

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

## TO OUR GUESTS: WELCOME!

May the God who led you here today refresh you with his grace and peace in Christ Jesus as you spend this hour with us. We're glad you're here.

### *Some helpful things to know*



- ***Restless children?*** Nursery care is available during Sunday morning services. We also have a room where parents can tend to little ones while watching and listening to the service. Ask an usher for directions.
- ***Large print bulletins and personal audio receivers*** are available at Sunday services for any who may find them helpful. Don't hesitate to ask an usher.
- ***May you commune at Messiah?*** Yes, if you're a baptized communicant elsewhere and are able to respond with joyful confidence when Christ invites you to meet him in the sacrament here. As he says of the bread, "This is my body," and of the cup, "This is my blood"; and of both he says, "given and shed *for you.*"
- ***Our communion procedures:*** the sacrament is distributed at the head of the aisle. Come forward as the usher directs. For receiving the wine, two cups are available, one to drink from and a second to dip the host in. Follow your preference. If you choose not to commune but would like even so to receive a blessing, approach the pastor or assisting minister with your arms crossed. For a gluten-free host, quietly ask the pastor.
- ***Let us know that you were here.*** You'll find a visitor's card in the pew rack that you can fill out and either hand to an usher or drop in the offering plate.

# 14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 26, 8:30 & 10 AM

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

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## WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S GIFTS...

*Music and Quiet*

"Come, Thou Almighty King," Benjamin Culli

### *Asking God's Forgiveness*

*Stand*

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

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ Jesus in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's promise of mercy and forgiveness. Let us therefore turn to God in trust and hope as we make confession of our sins.

*Silence is kept for self-examination.*

Let us pray. Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**and renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence.

**And take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again,

**And sustain me with your bountiful spirit.** (Psalm 51:10-12)

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:

**Have mercy and hear us. We humbly confess that we keep sinning against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we do, and by what we leave undone. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us; by the power of the Holy Spirit, rescue and restore us: that we may come before you in peace, find joy in your goodness, and serve you all our days in faith, hope and love, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God proves his love for us in this, that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. *Romans 5:8* 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.

**Amen.**

## *Opening Hymn*

“Come, Thou Almighty King,” #408

## *Greeting*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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## *GOD'S WORD*

### *Today's Prayer*

Let us pray. Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Sit*

### *From the Old Testament*

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

<sup>1</sup>Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2a</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and

the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*From the Book of Psalms*

34:15-22

*Cantor sings refrain; all sing refrain*



The eyes of the LORD are up - on the righ - teous.

*Cantor sings verses; congregation sing verses in bold*



<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD are up- | on the righteous,  
and God’s ears are open | to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the LORD is against those | who do evil,  
to erase the remembrance of them | from the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry, and | the LORD hears them  
and delivers them from | all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The LORD is near to the | brokenhearted  
and saves those whose spir- | its are crushed. Refrain**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the troubles | of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers them from | every one.

<sup>20</sup>**God will keep safe | all their bones;  
not one of them | shall be broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Evil will bring death | to the wicked  
and those who hate the righteous | will be punished.

<sup>22</sup>O LORD, you redeem the life | of your servants,  
and those who put their trust in you will | not be punished. **Refrain**

## From a New Testament letter

Ephesians 6:10-20

<sup>10</sup>Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## From one of the four Gospels

John 6:56-69

### Gospel Acclamation

*Congregation sings refrain*

*Refrain*

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.  
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.  
 Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

*Cantor sings verse:*

If we believe and eat this bread, we will have eternal life.

*Congregation repeats refrain*

*When the Gospel is announced:*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit*

*God's Word for Today*

*Pr. Bridger*

*Stand*

## *Hymn for Today*

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” #504

### *Confessing our Faith*

**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**

### *Recognition of Wedding Anniversaries*

#### *Offering our Prayers*

*After each portion of the prayers:*

Lord, in your mercy. . .  
. . . **hear our prayer.**

#### *Sharing Christ's peace*

The peace of the Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

*Greet those around you with these or similar words*

*Sit*

#### *Gathering Gifts*

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” Sandra Eithun

*Stand*

#### *The Gifts are Presented*

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service,”  
#712 stanzas 1, 2

Let us pray. Spirit of Life

**You bring us from doubt 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. Amen.

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## CHRIST, OUR FOOD AND DRINK

### Preparing our hearts

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

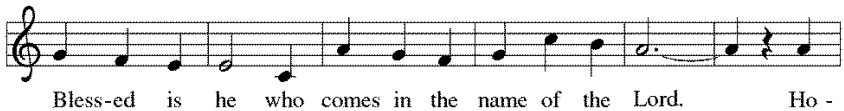
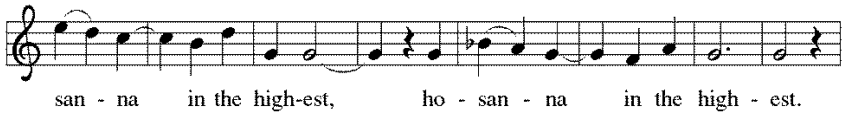
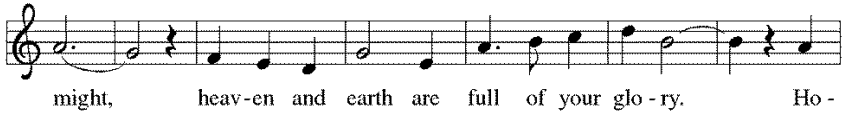
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise**

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



## *Prayer of Consecration*

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day, across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

**We thank you, O God.**

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 his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

**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**

*Sit. To learn how we distribute communion, see the inside front cover.*

## Communion Songs

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.

"O Bread of Life from Heaven"

#480

"What Feast of Love"

#487

*Stand*

*Post Communion Blessing and Prayer*

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## ON OUR WAY

### *A Final Word and Promise*

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### *A Song*

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

#810

*A Mission*

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Music as we leave*

“O Jesus, I Have Promised,” Valerie Floeter

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**2018 Wedding Anniversaries**

55<sup>th</sup>

The Rev Richard & Joan Schluep

60<sup>th</sup>

Ron & Janet Geiling  
Robert & Jane Hahn

## SERVING TODAY

*Preaching & Presiding Minister* – Pr. Bridger

*Assisting Ministers* – Linda Herhuth (8:30); Janice Snyder (10:00)

*Lectors* – Ruth King (8:30); Peggy Schauer (10:00)

*Communion Assistants* – Joe King, Alan Parrott,  
Kent Skurkey, Lee Vysoky(8:30);

Mike Allan, James Quayle, Peggy Schauer, Eileen Spicer (10:00)

*Acolytes* – Gabrielle Bayness, Colin Neumann (8:30);  
Karyn Carlin (10:00)

*Instrumentalist* –Don Braun

*Cantor* – Brad Paton

*Organist* – Connie Triplett

*Deacons* – Matt Berghaus, Raffee Johns (8:30);  
Amy Hunger, Mark Hunger (10:00)

*Greeters*—Wil & Geri Schuett(8:30);  
Bob & Ann Kreps (10:00)

*Ushers* – Ken Novack, Greg Paton, Greg Prohaska, Gregory Prohaska (8:30);  
Padraig Donohoe, Tyler Seagro, George Skliros (10:00)

*Trustee* – Mike Green

*Altar Guild* – Maria Geier, Bonnie Price

*Nursery* – Nadia Kauntz, Tanya Kauntz (10:00)

## *IN OUR PRAYERS*

- ✦ For the newly baptized, especially Kendall Lewis baptized last Sunday at the 10 am worship service and for Jaxon Charles Hemenway baptized on Saturday evening
- ✦ For those who are beginning school, and for those who teach them and for all who serve in the education of our young people
- ✦ For the new member class which will begin in October and for those who have recently begun worshiping in this faith community
- ✦ The ill: David Campogni, Dorothy Juergens, Edith Kundtz, Marlyne O'Malley, Nancy Mickan, John Rowland

## *THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS*

*Aug. 28*—ST. AUGUSTINE, d. 430, bishop of Hippo in North Africa, renowned philosopher, and perhaps the greatest of all theologians in the Western church. MOSES THE BLACK, d. 405, the leader of a gang of bandits who became a desert monk and whose conversion had a great impact on his native Ethiopia.



## Messiah Lutheran Church

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## Messiah Lutheran School

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*Servants and Missionaries* – All MLC members

*Senior Pastor*– Jerome Burce

*Associate Pastor* – Seth Bridger

*Music Director* – Connie Triplett

*Messiah School Principal* – Helen Casselberry

*Administrator* – Darlene Waugh

*Pierstorff Memorial Fund Director* – Martin Uhle

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**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.*