# 14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 8:30 & 10 am

# **Messiah Lutheran Church**

# MessiahFairview.org (440) 331-2405

Welcome to worship! We are delighted you are here and have chosen to worship today. We believe the Holy Spirit of God gathers us together as one. May you be strengthened through his word and the promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The mission statement of Messiah Church is: *Drawing in to Christ, Building up in Christ, Sending out for Christ.* Our aim is to love each other as Christ has loved us all. We continue to encourage sensible social distancing. If you wish to wear a mask, please do so. If you are feeling ill, please take precautions and consider worshipping via the livestream ministry of Messiah. Online services can be found at *MessiahFairview.org; click "watch services" online.* 

Holy Communion is shared at every worship service. The sacrament of holy communion is central to our worship life. If you are a first-time worshipper here, know that you are invited to receive and partake in the sharing of holy communion.

# Introduction to The Day

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

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

#### Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in G Major

from Little Preludes and Fugues J. S. Bach

# Gathering

## Confession and Forgiveness

- P In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for self-examination.

- P Most merciful God
- C we confess that we are captive 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.

  Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the H Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# **Gathering Hymn**

Son of God, Eternal Savior

**ELW 655** 

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

Soli Deo Gloria

**ELW878** 

## Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray,

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

"Faithful Stories"

### Word

## First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;

remember me and visit me,

and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:

If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. <sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the

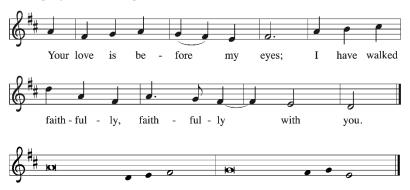
<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

A The Word of the Lord.

#### C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 26:1-8

Cantor sings refrain; All sing refrain:



- Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.
- <sup>2</sup>Test me, O | LORD, and try me; examine my heart | and my mind.
- <sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes; I have walked faithful- | ly with you.
- <sup>4</sup>I have not sat | with the worthless, nor do I consort with | the deceitful. R
- <sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of | evildoers; I will not sit down | with the wicked.
- <sup>6</sup>I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD, that I may go in procession | round your altar,
- 7singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.
- <sup>8</sup>LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell and the place where your glo- | ry abides. R

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

## **Gospel Acclamation**

ELW page 198

All sing refrain



Cantor: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes | of our hearts,\* so that we may know the hope to which | God has called us. (Ephesians 1:17 18)

All repeat refrain

Gospel Matthew 16:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

## C Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

Pastor Bridger

Silence for Reflection; Stand

Hymn of the Day

Will You Come and Follow Me ELW 798 Stanza 3 High Voices, Stanza 4 Low Voices I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.\*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come 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

After each portion of the prayers:

A Hear us, O God,...

C Your mercy is great.

#### Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Greet those around you with these or similar words
Sit

# The Lord's Supper

If the Lord so moves you, you can make an offering by text to 855-913-1744 or by visiting our online giving portal at tinyurl.com/giveMLC

# Offering is Received

# Music at the Offering

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

**ELW 678** 

# Offertory

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward

A Let us pray, God of field and forest, sea and sky,

C you are the giver of all good things.
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving** 

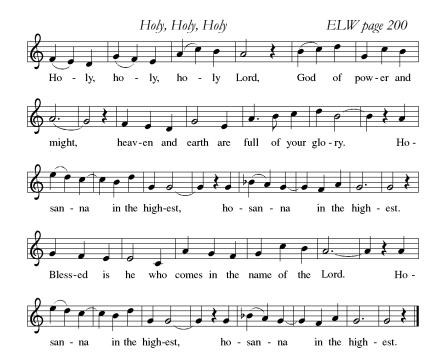
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** 

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.

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

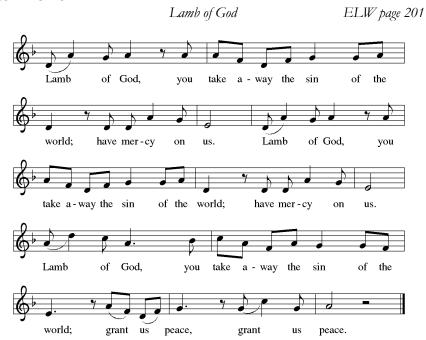


P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord ... (the prayer continues) ... to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

#### C Amen.

The Lord's Prayer 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

#### Communion



## **Distribution Hymns**

Cantor Solo We Who Once Were Dead Jacobse/Veelenturf (text ELW 495)

Bread of Life from Heaven ELW 474

Stand after all have communed

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

#### C Amen.

A Let us pray:

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

# Sending

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and 中 give you peace.

C Amen.

**ELW 548** 

#### Dismissal

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### Postlude

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

Benjamin M. Culli

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# **Altar Flowers**

Are given in memory of Richard & Essie Lee Hayduk by John & Kathy Hayduk.

# **Serving Today**

Preaching Today – Pastor Bridger

Assisting Ministers - Carl & Linda Herhuth (8:30) Janice Snyder (10)

Acolyte –Leroy Russ (10)

Organist - Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Cantor – Brad Paton (8:30) Dale Mortensen (10)

Deacons – Michael Eckert (8:30) Bob Trapp (10)

Usher – Joe King (8:30)

Altar Guild – Elenor Davis, Martha Trapp

# In Our Prayers

- For the Pastoral Call process and for those serving on the Pastoral Call Committee as Messiah seeks to call a 2nd Pastor: Sam Gmetro, John Hayduk, Jay Machado, Kathy Neumann, Allison Younger-Waugaman, and Karen Wolf.
- In remembrance of life for Jeanine Minek and prayers for her husband, Bill, and their family. A time of visitation will be on Sunday, September 10 at Corrigans Funeral Home from 3 pm to 5 pm with a Memorial Service beginning at 5 pm. In remembrance of Susy Tershak and prayers for her family (cousin of Christopher Peters, daughter of Carol & Andrew Tershak)
- For those with health concerns: Linda Stoddard, Nina Long, Brianna Kaska (niece of Jacklyn Kaska, granddaughter of Nancy Kaska), Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Officer Nickolas, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), Kevin Kubovcik (son of Bob & Carol Kubovcik), Liz Dimmock, Dan Feuerstein, An (the brother in law of Jim Quayle, Andrew Boraggina, Marc Heidmann, Jane Hegg, Pastor Mulba here in Cleveland, Pastor Sabine in Texas, Pastor Dana in Michigan, and all ahead of upcoming surgeries or medical appointments.

## This Week's Commemorations

Sept. 4—ALBERT SCHWEITZER, d. 1965, the world-class organist and theologian whose later service as a missionary doctor in Africa inspired a generation of European and American Christians.

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 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40, Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20

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

## **Messiah Lutheran Church**

21485 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, OH 44126 (440) 331-2405 E-mail – <u>church@messiahfp.org</u>

Connect with Messiah - text 'MESSIAHFP' to 84576 to sign-up

## **Messiah Lutheran School**

4401 W. 215th St., Fairview Park, OH 44126 (440) 331-6553 Email – school@messiahfp.org

## www.messiahfairview.org

Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members
Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger
Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen
Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey
Minister of Youth – Adonai Henderson
Technology Manager – Jared Waugaman
Building Manager – Jason Reynolds
Messiah School Principal – Helen Casselberry
Administrator & Pierstorf College Fund Director – Darlene Waugh
Communications Coordinator – Sarah Heinsbergen
Admin. Assistant & Pierstorf College Fund Business Manager – Lisa Daley
Administrative Assistant – Diane Ward



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