

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 ✠ 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

¹⁵O 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.
¹⁶Your 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.
¹⁷I 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.
¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.
¹⁹Therefore 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.

²⁰And 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.

²¹I 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:

Your love is be - fore my eyes; I have walked
 faith - ful - ly, faith - ful - ly with you.

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;
 I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.

²Test me, O | LORD, and try me;
 examine my heart | and my mind.

³For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;
 I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

⁴**I have not sat | with the worthless,
 nor do I consort with | the deceitful. R**

⁵I have hated the company of | evildoers;
 I will not sit down | with the wicked.

⁶**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.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in | which you dwell
 and the place where your glo- | ry abides. R**

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

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "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." ²¹Do 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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From 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. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But 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."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For 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?

²⁷For 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. ²⁸Truly 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

Lamb of God

ELW page 201

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.

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 ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

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 Corrigan's 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

15th 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

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E-mail – church@messiahfp.org

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

Messiah Lutheran School

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(440) 331-6553

Email – school@messiahfp.org

www.messiahfairview.org

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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



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.