

18th Sunday after Pentecost
September 22, 8:30 am & 11:00 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

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 22, 8:30 am & 11:00 am

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

Prelude Pastorale No. 1 by Christopher Uehlein
Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand as you are able.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin and come to God for holiness and healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.**

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

P God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ,

the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“God Is Here!”

ELW 526

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 God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C Amen.**

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

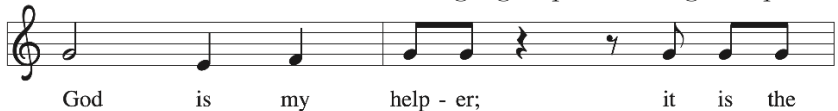
²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 54

*Cantor sings Refrain. All repeat refrain.
Cantor sings regular print. All sing **bold print.***



¹Save me, O God, | by your name;
in your might, de- | fend my cause.

²**Hear my | prayer, O God;**
give ear to the words | of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have |
sought my life, those who have no re- | gard for God.

⁴**Behold, God | is my helper;**
it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.

Refrain

⁵Render evil to those who | spy on me;
in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice**
and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from | every trouble,
and my eye looks down | on my enemies.

Refrain

Second Reading

James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.⁴

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

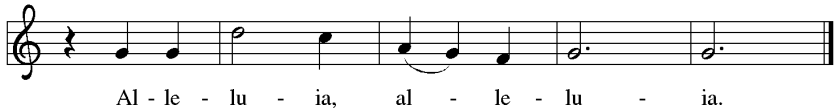
A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

All sing Alleluia.



Cantor: God has called us through the proclamation of the good news, that we may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thess. 2:14) All repeat Alleluia.*

Gospel

Mark 9: 30-37

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 9th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.”³² But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?”³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.”³⁶ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,³⁷ “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Rev. William Weidenbach

Silence for reflection.

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

“All Are Welcome”

ELW 641

Apostles Creed

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.

Prayers of the Church

After each portion of the prayers:

A Lord in your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Greet those around you with these or similar words. You may be seated.

Music at the Offering

Jesus Loves Me

by Gregg Sewell

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

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory

“Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring”

ELW 691

- A Blessed are you, O God,
 C **source of every gift of your creation.**
By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 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 our thanks and praise.**

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

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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 You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. . .
 To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
 C **Amen.**

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.**

Please be seated.

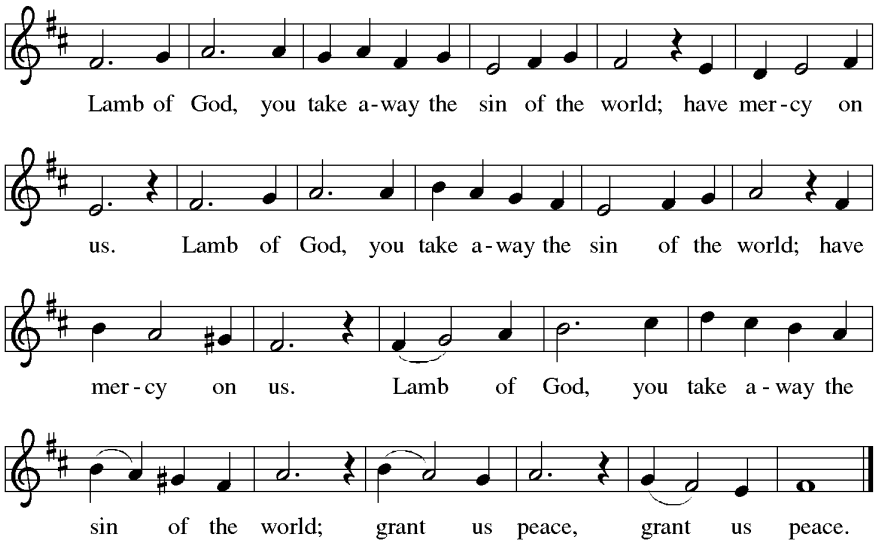
Communion

Concerning the sacrament — Holy Communion is Christ's gift to his Church, his true body and blood given with bread and wine for us to eat and drink. Here Christ confirms in us the benefits of his death and resurrection. He forgives our sins, refreshes our lives, and promises our salvation.

We welcome to the Lord's table all baptized and communing Christians who share this faith. In receiving, please follow the lead of the people around you. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. Quietly ask the Pastor for the Gluten-free host.

If coming forward not to commune but to receive a blessing, approach the Pastor with your arms crossed. If you are physically unable to come forward, simply let an usher or deacon know you would like to receive communion at your seat.

Lamb of God



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

“Jesus Loves Me!”

ELW 595

“I Come with Joy”

ELW 482

Please stand as you are able.

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

C Amen.

Eucharistic Ministers Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

A Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Sending

Blessing

P God all mighty,
God most merciful
✠ bless you, keep you
And give you peace.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” ELW 815

A Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Voluntary X

by John Stanley



Serving Today

Preaching Minister – Rev. William Weidenbach, Jr.

Presiding Minister -- Rev. Seth Bridger

Choir Director & Coordinator of Music Ministry – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Principal Organist – Michael Cherup

Altar Guild – Elenor Davis, Marilyn Edwards

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SB131019.

Permission to stream/print the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE.NET, License #A-702571.

Pastorale No. 1, Christopher Uchlein, copyright © 1993 Augsburg Fortress

All Are Welcome, Wayne L. Wold, copyright © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

Jesus Loves Me, Wilbur Held, copyright © 1993 Augsburg Fortress

Jesus Loves Me!, J. Bert Carlson, copyright © 2007 Augsburg Fortress

I want to Walk as a Child of the Light, Marilyn Biery, copyright © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

Voluntary X, John Stanley, copyright © 2010 Birnamwood Publications

“God Is Here”, Text copyright © 1979 Hope Publishing Company, Music copyright © 1942, ren.

19970 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

“All Are Welcome”, Text and Music copyright © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

“I Come with Joy”, Text copyright © 1971 rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

“I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light”, Text copyright © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

Jesus Loves Me, Gregg Sewell, copyright © 2001 Lorenz Publishing Co.

In Our Prayers

- For people all over the world, especially in places like Springfield, Ohio, the Middle East, and South America.
- For Pastor William Weidenbach, Messiah's newly called Senior Pastor, and his wife Linda as they transition to living in the Cleveland area.
- For educators, school staff, and administrators during these important early days of the new school year.
- For those with health concerns: Carol Markus, Alta Renard, Jackie Kaska, Sue Nerlinger, Nina Long, Andrew Boraggina, Ray Durban, Cliff Preuss, Rev. Gerry Miller (former Pastor with Messiah Lutheran), Michael Miller, Liz Dimmock, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Marc Heidmann, Officer Nickolas, Baby Miles, Carla, those quietly receiving medical treatments, those seeking employment, and those living with addictions.

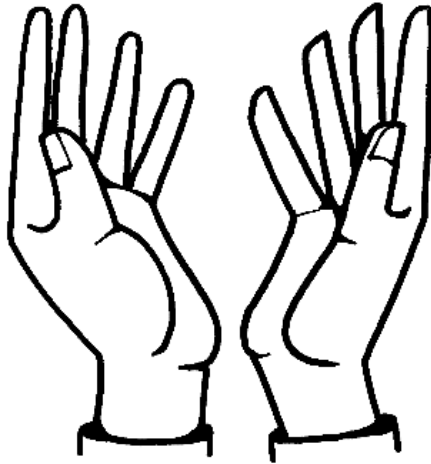
--

Altar Flowers

Are given in memory of my dear Cheryl,
the Love of my Life,
by David Kucera.

This Week's Commemorations

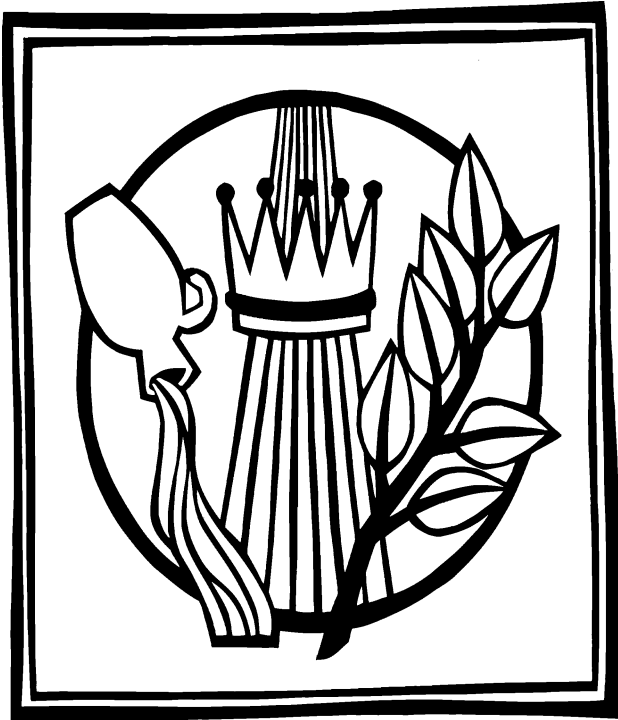
Sept. 25—SERGIUS, d. 1392, renewer of monastic life in Russia. He also ended four wars between Russian princes.



God's Word for Next Week
19th Sunday after Pentecost

Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29, Psalm 19: 7-14,
James 5: 13-20
Mark 9: 38-50

We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for worship next week.



Messiah Lutheran Church

21485 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, OH 44126

(440) 331-2405

E-mail – church@messiahfp.org

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

Senior Pastor -- The Rev. William C. Weidenbach, Jr.

Associate Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Choir Director & Coordinator of Music Ministry – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Principal Organist – Michael Cherup

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

Bookkeeper & 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.