

6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 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. Instructions for communion distribution can be found in the worship bulletin at the time of communion.

During the summer months (weather permitting), we invite you outside on the front lawn of the Church to enjoy "Lemonade on the Lawn." Again, welcome to worship! We hope you experience something meaningful here in this place.

Introduction to The Day

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

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

Prelude

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Georg Boehm

Gathering

Stand and turn to face the cross of Christ at the Entrance to the Sanctuary

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

Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove

ELW 404

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,

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

“Faithful Stories”

Word

First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:8-14

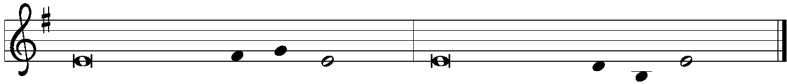
Cantor sings refrain; All sing refrain: Cantor sings verses; Refrain sung by all.



The LORD is gra - cious and full of com - pas - sion, the



LORD is full of com - pas - sion.



⁸The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works. R**

¹⁰All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom
and speak | of your power,**

¹²that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures
through- | out all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your
works.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down. **R**

Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand.

²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

All sing refrain

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

Cantor: Blessed are you, Lord of heav'n and earth; you have revealed these things to infants. (Matthew 11:25)*

All repeat refrain

Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

Sermon

Pastor Bridger

Silence for Reflection; Stand

Hymn of the Day

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

ELW 611

Apostles' Creed

ELW page 105

**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 Lord, in your mercy. . .

C Hear our prayer

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

Music at the Offering

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Georg Boehm

Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 182

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward



Let the vine - yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles-sing. Gath - er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

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 word may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

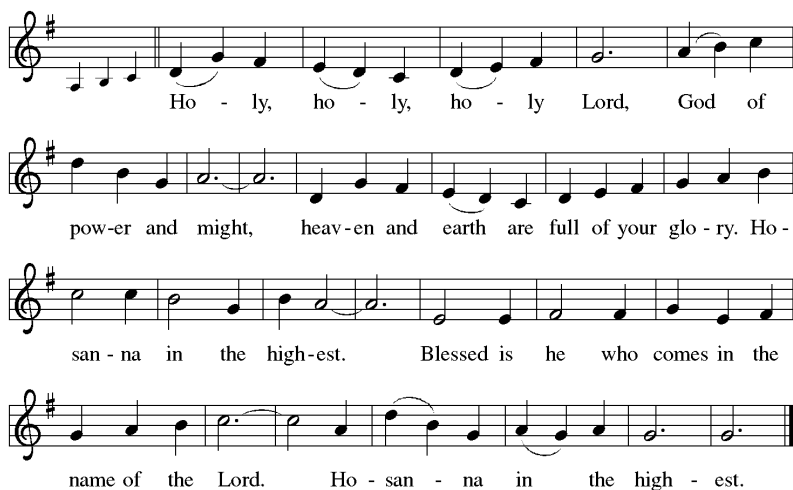
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines.



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. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

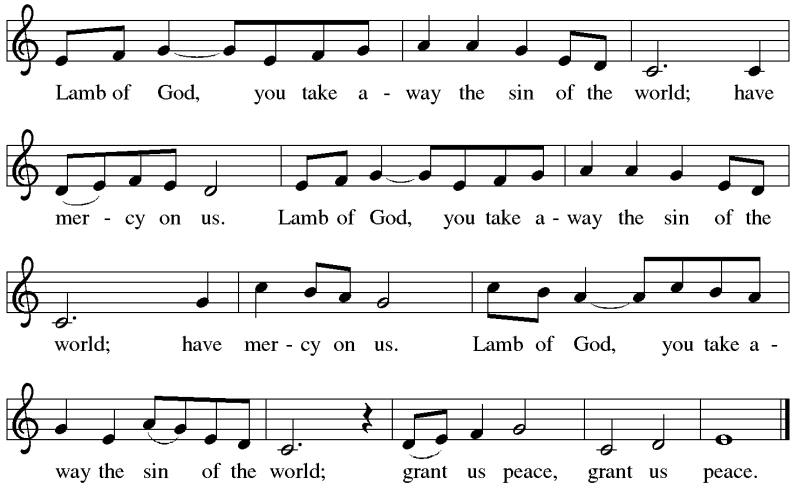
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Communion

Lamb of God

ELW page 112



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

If You But Trust in God to Guide You
Day by Day

ELW 769
ELW 790

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.

Sending Hymn

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

ELW 545

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing settings by Aaron David Miller
and Wolfgang Rubsam

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Serving Today

Preaching Minister– Pastor Bridger

Presiding Minister – Pastor Krehill

Assisting Ministers – Chris Neumann (8:30) Janice Snyder (10)

Acolyte – Paige Neumann (8:30) Nigel Copland (10)

Guest Organist – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Cantor – Nigel Copland (8:30) Claire Connelly (10)

Deacons – Trish Kvasnicka (8:30) Bob Trapp (10)

Usher – Brad Paton (8:30) Ken Novack (10)

Altar Guild – Marilyn Edwards, Martha Trapp

Altar Flowers

Are given by Jean Uhle in Celebration of the 2nd birthday
of her Great Grandchild, Porter Uhle.

In Our Prayers

- For the upcoming Vacation Bible School Day Camp at Messiah. For the campers, the volunteer staff, and the Counselors from Hopewood Outdoors who are coming to lead the camp.
- 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, Rachel Roeder, and Allison Younger-Waugaman.
- For those with health concerns: Joan Schluep, Barb Slovak, Phyllis Helms, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Officer Nicholas, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), Kevin Kubovcik (son of Bob & Carol Kubovcik), Audrey Ruetzger, Elizabeth Dimmock, Dan Feuerstein, Susy Tershak (cousin of Christopher Peters), Andrew Boraggina, Marc Heidmann, Jane Hegg, and all who are currently hospitalized or awaiting test results.
- For the Holy Spirit to give the "holy nudge" to those who will be sharing their "faithful stories" this summer during worship services.

This Week's Commemorations

**Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, died around 540
Tuesday, July 11, 2023**

Benedict is known as the father of the Western monastic movement. Educated in Rome, he went to live as a hermit, and eventually gathered a community of monks around him. He wrote a rule for living in monasteries that is used by Benedictines and adapted by others.

**Nathan Söderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1931
Wednesday, July 12, 2023**

A winner of the Nobel Prize for peace for his efforts to unite peoples after the First World War, Söderblom also called attention to the revival of early church worship principles, and helped to lay the groundwork for the World Council of Churches.

God's Word for Next Week **7th Sunday after Pentecost**

Isaiah 55:10-13, Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13, Romans 8:1-11,
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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 – 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

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Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Interim Pastor – The Rev. Steven M. Krebill

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Interim Music Director – Deacon Linda Kempke

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.