

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 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), in between services, 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

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 8:30 & 10 am

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

Prelude

Dearest Jesus, We are Here settings: J. S. Bach, J. G. Walther, P. Manz

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

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word

ELW 520

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,
Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with
firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your
kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

“Faithful Stories”

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 46:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.
⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,
let them declare and set it forth before me.
Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.
⁸Do not fear, or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!
Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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



Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth.



¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.

¹²**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,
and glorify your name for- | evermore. R**

¹³For great is your | love toward me;
you have delivered me from the | pit of death.

¹⁴**The arrogant rise up against me, O God,
and a band of violent people | seeks my life;
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes.**

¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.

¹⁶**Turn to me and have mer- | cy on me;
give your strength to your servant,
and save the child | of your handmaid.**

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it
and be | put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and com- | fortified me. **R**

Second Reading

Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

ELW 172

All sing refrain

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
 - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
 lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Cantor: My word shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:11)

All repeat refrain

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field;²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

Chris Neumann

Silence for Reflection; Stand

Hymn of the Day

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW 693

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


Bnnessan setting by Kenneth T. Kosche

Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. 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 dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. 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.

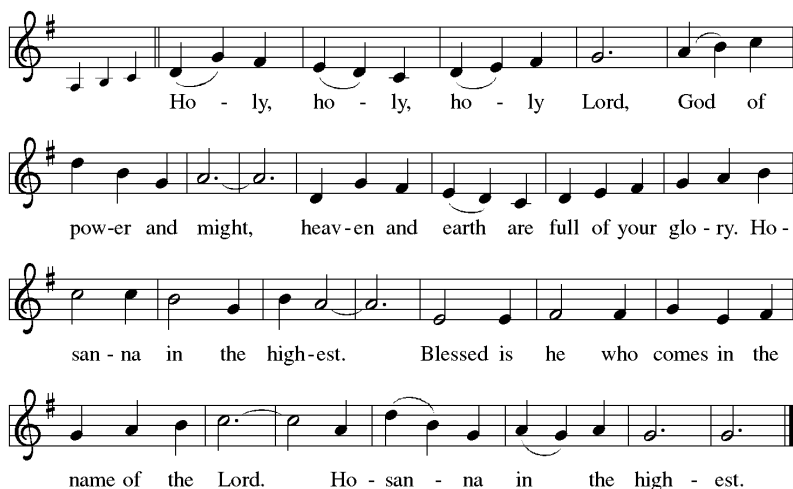
And also with you.

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.



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.

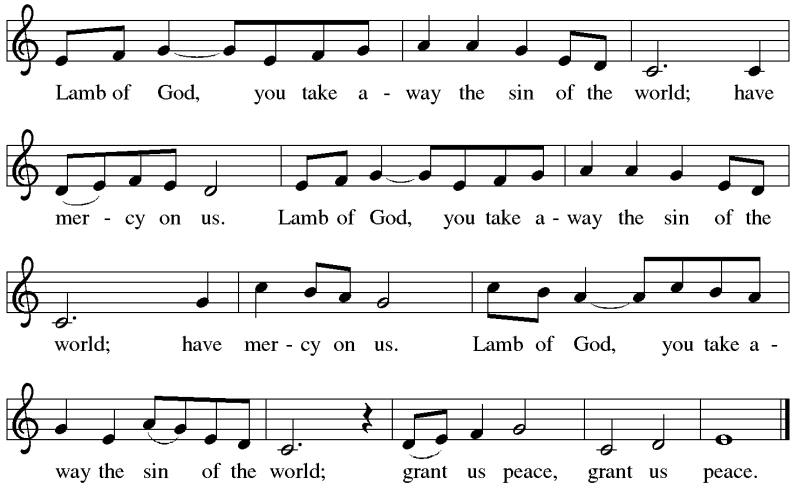
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,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

Praise and Thanksgiving

ELW 689

Now We Join in Celebration

ELW 462

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

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

ELW 204

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

O Lord, We Praise You

Heinrich Scheidemann

Permission to reprint and podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from OneLicense with License #702571.

Liturgy setting reproduced under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License SB131019.

Psalm from Psalter for Worship, Year A, copyright © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.

Let the Vineyards. Music: Ronald A. Nelson. Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin Augsburg Fortress.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, copyright © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Praise and Thanksgiving. Text © Oxford University Press. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Now We Join in Celebration. Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Thankful Hears and Voices Raise. Music: Richard W. Hillert. Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier. by Jan Bender, from Little Choral Preludes Vol. 1, Bärenreiter 2431,

copyright, © 1965.

Dearest Jesus, at Your Word, arrangement Frederick Frahm from Introductions and Alternate

Accompaniments for Organ, vol. 5, Augsburg Fortress copyright 2008.

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come, arr. Keith Kolander from Introductions and Alternate Accompaniments

for Organ, vol. 7, Augsburg Fortress copyright 2005.

St. George's, Windsor by Edmund Shay, MorningStar Music Publishers, MSM-10-805, copyright 1995.

Praise and Thanksgiving arr James Holloway, Marilyn Biery from Introductions and Alternate

Accompaniments for Organ, vol. 7, Augsburg Fortress copyright 2001.

Schmucke dich by Wilbur Held, Augsburg Publishing House copyright 1978.

Now We Join in Celebration, arr. Wayne Wold, Lynn L. Peterson, from Introductions and Alternate

Accompaniments for Organ, vol. 4, Augsburg Fortress copyright 2008.

Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness, David N. Johnson from Deck Thyself, My Should, with Gladness, Augsburg Publishing House,

copyright 1968

Baptized In Water, setting by Kenneth T. Kosche from Baptized and Set Free: Five Organ Settings, Augsburg Fortress, copyright 2009

Bunessan setting by Edmund Shay, MorningStar Music Publishers, copyright 1993

This Is a Day, Lord, Gladly Awaited by J. Bert Carlson, Augsburg Fortress, copyright 2007

Serving Today

Preaching Today– Chris Neumann

Presiding Minister – Pastor Bridger

Assisting Ministers – Mike Allan (10)

Acolyte –Maddie Kandrach, Paige Neumann (8:30) Nikolas Skliros(10)

Guest Organist – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Cantor – Ruth King (8:30) John Hayduk (10)

Deacons – Michael Eckert (8:30)

Usher – Ed Kus (8:30)

Altar Guild – Elenor Davis, Maria Geier

In Our Prayers

- In thanksgiving for a safe and fun Vacation Bible School Day Camp. Thankful for the Hopewood Outdoors staff (Taylor, Reagan, and Katy) and the Messiah families who served as host homes all week for the camp staff: Bob and Brenda Carpenter and Charlie and Harissa Henderson.
- 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: John McDonald, Jean Uhle, Chip DiFore, Joan Schlupe, Barb Slovak, Phyllis Helms, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Elizabeth Dimmock, Officer Nickolas, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), Kevin Kubovcik (son of Bob & Carol Kubovcik), 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

July 23—BIRGITTA, d. 1373, a Swedish laywoman famous for her works of devotion and charity.

July 25—ST. JAMES THE ELDER, the son of Zebedee and brother of John, and the first of the apostles to be martyred (Acts 12:1-2).

July 28—the great church musicians JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH, d. 1750, HEINRICH SCHUETZ, d. 1672, and GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL, d. 1759.

July 29—MARY, MARTHA, and LAZARUS, Jesus' friends (see esp. Luke 10, John 11). Also OLAF, d. 1030, the Norwegian king who established Christianity as the dominant religion of the realm.

God's Word for Next Week

9th Sunday after Pentecost

1Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-39,
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

+ + +

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.