

## **9th Sunday after Pentecost**

July 30, 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.

## Introduction to The Day

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

# 9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 8:30 & 10 am

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

## Prelude

*Partita on Jesu, Meine Freude* (Chorale, Aria, Trio) Setting: David M. Cherwien

## 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

*Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now*

ELW 527

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,  
Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of  
your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your  
Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes  
from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Sit*

## Call Committee Update

### Word

#### First Reading

1 Kings 3:5-12

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

A The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 119:129-136

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

When your word is opened, it gives  
light and understanding.

- <sup>129</sup>Your de- | crees are wonderful;  
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.
- <sup>130</sup>**When your word is opened | it gives light;  
it gives understanding | to the simple.**
- <sup>131</sup>I open my | mouth and pant  
because I long for | your commandments.
- <sup>132</sup>**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,  
as you always do to those who | love your name. R**
- <sup>133</sup>Order my footsteps | in your word;  
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.
- <sup>134</sup>**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,  
and I will keep | your commandments.**
- <sup>135</sup>Let your face shine up- | on your servant  
and teach | me your statutes.
- <sup>136</sup>**My eyes shed | streams of tears,  
because people do not | keep your teaching. R**

Second Reading

Romans 8: 26-39

<sup>26</sup>The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.

<sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;  
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A The Word of the Lord.

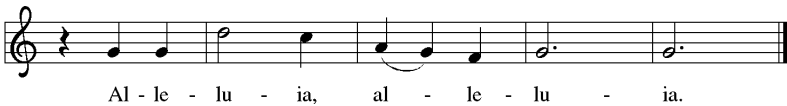
**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

ELW page 198

*All sing refrain*



*Cantor: Many will come from the east and west  
and will eat in the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 8:11)*

*All repeat refrain*

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;<sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup>on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Sit*

Sermon

Pastor Bridger

*Silence for Reflection; Stand*

Hymn of the Day

*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

ELW 775

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](http://tinyurl.com/giveMLC)*

### Music at the Offering

*In the Singing*

Carlton R. Young



# 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 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.

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

*ELW page 200*

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, 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, 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.

# 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

*Be Thou My Vision  
In the Singing*

ELW 793  
ELW 466

*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

*Toccata all'Offertorio*

Zipoli, Burkhardt

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# **Serving Today**

Preaching Today – Pastor Bridger

Presiding Minister – Pastor Krebill

Assisting Ministers – Ron Coulter (8:30) Christopher Peters (10)

Acolyte –Isabella Russ, Aliciana Medina (8:30) Hayden Wolf (10)

Organist – Deacon Linda Kempke

Cantor – Brad Paton

Deacons – Trish Kvasnicka (8:30) Amy & Mark Hunger (10)

Usher – Brad Paton (8:30)

Altar Guild – Trudy Gutske, Marilyn Edwards

## 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, Rachel Roeder, and Allison Younger-Waugaman.
- In remembrance of life for long-time Messiah member John (Jack) Cammarn. Jack recently passed away. He lived at the Masonic Home in Medina County for the last several years. Jack's wife Nancy passed away in 2016. Prayers go out to their family at this time and in the days to come.
- For those with health concerns: John McDonald, Sr, Jim Breckel, Joan Schluep, Jim Hoffman, Bev (the aunt of Mike Synder), Trudy Gustke, Ken Novack, 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, Susy Tershak (cousin of Christopher Peters), Andrew Boraggina, Marc Heidmann, Jane Hegg, Pastor Mulba, for the Boy Scout Scout Troop 421 and the 9 young men who are currently at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.
- 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**

*Aug. 8*—ST. DOMINIC, d. 1221, the Spanish priest who founded the Order of Preachers (quickly known as the Dominicans), an organization of itinerant preachers who were committed to living in poverty, studying theology, and defending the church against heretics.

## **God's Word for Next Week**

### **10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Isaiah 55:1-5, Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21, Romans 9:1-5,  
Matthew 14:13-21

*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](mailto:church@messiahfp.org)

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

## **Messiah Lutheran School**

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Email – [school@messiahfp.org](mailto:school@messiahfp.org)

[www.messiahfairview.org](http://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.*