

# Service of the Word

The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Lectionary 17 + Year B + July 25, 2021



**Messiah Lutheran Church**

*Lyndhurst, Ohio + 440.442.6941 + [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://messiahlyndhurst.org)*

# Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church!

It is good to be together, meeting once again in the church sanctuary. Please be advised that the Church Council has specified that wearing a mask is required while worshipping indoors (for the time being).

Find out more about Messiah Lutheran Church at [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://messiahlyndhurst.org) or on our facebook page! Sanctuary worship services are live-streamed every Sunday, and we invite you to find the bulletin and video link on our website.

Prayer Concerns can be shared via email ([pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org)) or phone (440-442-6941). Please indicate if you would like your request to be considered for inclusion in worship or with our Prayer Partners prayer chain ministry.

We are a community committed to the fostering of faith for young participants. Children are encouraged to participate fully in worship, and are encouraged to growth through Sunday School. Many lessons will be available online through the summer months.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is typically celebrated the first and third Sundays of each month, as well as on festival days – including all Sundays of the Easter Season. The date of our next Communion worship service is August 1. If Communion is new for you, we invite you to have a conversation with Pastor Paul.

## Serving in Worship Today:

<b>Minister</b>	The Rev. Paul Moody
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Kristy Bohinc
<b>Organist</b>	Glenn Odenbrett
<b>Reader</b>	Drinda Kiner
<b>Usher</b>	Gregg Greanoff

# GATHERING

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*(As God gathers us on this day of resurrection, we take time during the prelude to center ourselves and prepare to receive the Gospel: both its proclamation of grace and its call to action.)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(Please stand as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy.

**Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,  
let us confess our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection.)*

God, our provider,

**help us.**

**It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you.**

**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**

**Turn us again to you.**

**Where else can we turn?**

**Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.**

**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,

you are shown God's mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*  
(ELW #533)



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.  
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## WORD

### FIRST READING

**Kings 4:42-44**

*Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.*

<sup>42</sup>A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." <sup>43</sup>But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" <sup>44</sup>He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

**Psalms 145:10-18**

*You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)*

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

<sup>11</sup>**They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom  
and speak | of your power,**

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

<sup>13</sup>**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.**

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all | those who fall  
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup>**The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,  
and you give them their food | in due season.**

<sup>16</sup>You open | wide your hand  
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

<sup>17</sup>**You are righteous in | all your ways  
and loving in | all your works.**

<sup>18</sup>You are near to all who | call upon you,  
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

## **SECOND READING:**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

*We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.*

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup>and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup>I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup>Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **GOSPEL**

**John 6:1-21**

*In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.*

The Holy Gospel According to Saint John:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little."  
<sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

<sup>15</sup>When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

<sup>16</sup>When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup>got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup>The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup>When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup>But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." <sup>21</sup>Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ**

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

Pastor Paul Jones Moody

*(Please observe a moment of silence after the sermon. Please stand as you are able.)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*The Church of Christ in Every Age*  
(ELW #729)



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*(A brief silence)*

We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations (*especially*). Empower churches throughout the world and encourage missionaries who accompany global neighbors. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration, that all people may know your loving works. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and come to the aid of those enduring sweltering heat. Nurture wheat and barley crops grown for the nourishment of your people and conserve aquatic habitats and fish populations. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who govern. Cast out arrogance, selfishness, and corruption and instruct those who lead to practice compassion and humility. Inspire them with a vision of the common good and a commitment to ensure that all who hunger are fed. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those bowed down by heavy burdens: those who are unemployed or underemployed, those unable to find affordable housing, and those without health insurance. Console those who grieve and hear the cries of those who call to you for healing (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this assembly. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. When we worry that we do not have enough resources for ministry, assure us of your abundance. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*(Here other intercessions may be offered)*

We give thanks for those who have died. As you sustained them through all their days, so dwell in our hearts, that we may have the power to comprehend, with (*the apostle James, name/s, and*) all the saints, the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(If you are gathered with others, please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you" or similar response)*

# THANKSGIVING

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.**

# SENDING

## MISSION PRAYER

As God has gathered us and filled our hearts with the Gospel, now God sends us forth to serve in mission. Let us pray:

**Gracious God, through belief in Christ and through the presence of the Holy Spirit within us, empower us to share the word; care and support each other and God's community; worship as a family in Christ; and be Christ-like examples to those whose lives we touch.  
Amen.**

## BLESSING

The blessing of God,  
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  
‡ be upon you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*  
(ELW #779)



1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5  
Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please observe a moment of silence before the postlude)*

## POSTLUDE

### **Messiah Staff Members**

Organist: Glenn Odenbrett

Choir Director: Vicki Lester

Christian Education Director: Cheryl Moser

Office Administrator: Steven Liss

Building & Custodial: Steve Newcomer

### **Attributions**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Portions of Service of the Word.*

Portions from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #44485.

Scripture from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Music reproduction (streaming and digital distribution) done with permission under ONE LICENSE #736747-A. Cover Image: Nancy Hann c/o unsplash.com.

## **Prayers**

**Prayer Team & Partners:** Prayer is a vital part of the Christian life. Messiah has a Prayer Team which will pray with/for you. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue Prayer Request Card – available in the sanctuary – which offer these options: (1) request a Pastoral follow-up, (2) include in the intercessory prayers to be read aloud in worship, (3) add to the ongoing list in the Bulletin and Grace Note, or (4) add to the Prayer Partner Email Chain.

*(Contact Nancy Pittard to participate in the Prayer Partner Email Chain and/or to serve on the Prayer Team)*

**Please pray for our siblings in Christ:** The family and friends of Jim Butler, John Durkin, Tracy Galvin, Dorothy Harper, Sara Hritz, Jayne Imel, Dave Kosovich, Christine Maharg, Adam Meredith, Lisa Perry, Rich Jennings, Phyllis Short, Bob Spinks, Kathy Strom, Deb Sturm, Rudy Tittl, and all those in need of comfort and healing.

*(Your prayer request, printed in the bulletin, will remain active for a period of four weeks. If you wish to have the prayer renewed, please fill out a new request card.)*

## **Announcements**

**PLEASE NOTE: All upcoming activities and events are subject to change as Messiah responds to the ongoing world health crisis.**

**Ushers Needed:** We NEED ushers! Please give it a try! When we have only the few we have, it means everyone is serving four or more times per six-month sessions. Ushers are important to the public relations of our church, visitors and members alike. It can be fun. Call or text Karen Zak or Fritz Neil to find out what is involved or sit in the back and observe what we do when one of us is ushering. Duties have changed with the COVID protocol, and we are in a flexible state right now. Still the more the merrier.

**Ordering Altar Flowers:** If you would like to order a vase of cut flowers to be placed on the altar, to honor a loved one or a special occasion, please contact Karyn Schmidt at 216-382-7397 regarding the Sunday you wish and how you would like the wording in the bulletin. The cost of the vase is \$35.00.

**Free Concert @ Messiah:** There will be a free concert offered by the Scimitar Swing Band in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, July 28th at 7:30pm. Come and listen to the classics of the swing era for a step back in time.

**Free Concert @ Messiah II:** The Hillcrest Concert Band will be playing a free outdoor concert at Messiah on Tuesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30pm. It is recommended that you bring your own chairs.

**Summer Hymn Requests:** Is there a hymn we have not sung in a while that you would like to sing during one of our summer worship services? Whether it's in our current Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red) or Lutheran Book of Worship (green) hymnal, Pastor Paul will collaborate with Organist Glenn to include it during worship this summer. Please email your requests to [glennodenbrett@aol.com](mailto:glennodenbrett@aol.com) and let Glenn know if there are any Sundays when you will be worshipping out of town so that your hymn request can be scheduled when you can sing it at Messiah.

**Readers Needed for Worship Services:** Have you ever wanted to read the scripture for our services? You can now check the home page of our website and look for the signup sheet banner near the top of the page. If you have questions, please feel free to reach Kristy at [kbdesigns2010@hotmail.com](mailto:kbdesigns2010@hotmail.com). Thank you!

**Pastoral Care:** The world is experiencing an unprecedented season of difficulty, and all of us are affected in our own way. If you would like to connect with Pastor Paul for a conversation, please call or email the church office: 440-442-6941 or [pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org).

**OHIO Covid-19:** Now that testing is more widely available – we wanted to share some of the key resources:

- *Ohio Corona Virus Portal:*  
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>
- *Link/Map for Testing Sites:*  
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/testing-centers/>
- *Phone for Info:* 1-833-427-5634

**LWR Personal Care Kits:** Messiah is collecting items to assemble Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. Collection bins for the items are located by the coffee area. NOTE: Our collection will resume at a later date.

**Church Council:** the next meeting is on Tuesday, July 20 at 7:00pm.

**Church Office Hours This Week:**

Church Office Hours will resume in July on Wednesdays and Fridays (12:00pm – 4:30pm). Access to the church will be via appointment only.

**Attendance and Offering** for the week of July 18, 2021:

Attendees: 30

Offering (incl. electronic giving): \$7,089

(NOTE: \$4,000 a week is needed to remain current with our budget)



## ***Special Acknowledgments***

*This is our space to honor expressions of appreciation. Email items c/o [office@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:office@messiahlyndhurst.org) by Wednesday at 3pm for publication on the following Sunday. We'll keep submissions in print for two weeks.*

♥ None this week.