



MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
402 N. First Street, Lindsborg, Kansas 67456
Office: 785-227-3977
www.melclindsborg.org mlchurch@mlc.kscoxmail.com
Pastor Amy Truhe
July 18, 2021

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
ELW Setting 5

Prelude

on "Brother Jame's Air" (Ps. 23)

Searle Wright

Call and Response:

In the darkest valley,
at the banquet table;
in the hard work of life,
at the moments of ease;
in our day-to-day reality,
at times set aside—
like this time, now—
for worship, for listening, for paying attention;
with every step we take:
goodness and mercy follow us; our cups overflow.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—
¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation:

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Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

Glory to you, O Lord!

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the

boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. ⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The Gospel of our Lord! **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

#789

Apostles' Creed

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

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

Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry; Be with Kaylie Ines as she awaits a call to ordained ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters and protect coastlands threatened by rising oceans. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and

guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions. We pray for President Biden, Governor Kelly, and Mayor Anderson. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill. We especially pray for our members Rolland, Walli, Gloria and Gene, and Merl. We pray for our friends Denise, Bill, Dawn, Stephani, Karla, Orin, Danielle, Krista, Betty, Meghan, Robert, Amy, Sharon, and Kim and Jill. We pray for those serving in the military: Alex, Vicki, Ben, Jeremy, T.J., Daniel, Miranda, and Luke. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nourish this congregation, O God. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungering spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and revitalize our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors. Let us receive your call for further mission through Messiah. We seek to know how to use our gifts to a greater extent than we currently are and hope to discern your will for us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our grateful praise for the gift of love, O God. We ask that you bless all who celebrate anniversaries, milestones in partnerships, and the joys of walking together with people we love. Especially this day, we ask your blessing on Annie and Paul Reichenberger as they entered into marriage before You and their community. Bless them on their journey, O God, and may they be strengthened in love and hope and faith through their union. Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints. As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P: 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.**

The Peace of the Lord be with you all: **And also with you!**

MEAL

Offertory

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

J.S. Bach

Offering Prayer

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

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Eucharistic Prayer

Lord’s Prayer (sung)

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Distribution of Communion

Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

Blessing

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

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn

Have No Fear, Little Flock

#764

Postlude

Lord God, We All to Thee Give Praise

Johann Pachelbel

Worship Leaders today:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Peri Ford Liturgist
Ingrid Pohl Lector

Worship Leaders next week:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Jeanne Lucas Liturgist
Joy Janis Lector

Messiah Lutheran Church

6/30/2021

	Actual	Actual	Budget
	Jun-21	Jan - Jun	Jan - Jun
Revenue	7,703.97	77,826.05	72,579.80
Expenses	7,774.46	68,123.87	80,242.44
Surplus (Deficit)	<u>(70.49)</u>	<u>9,702.18</u>	<u>(7,662.64)</u>
Reserve Balance	<u>90,368.81</u>		

Members, Friends, and Family for Whom We Pray

Members of Messiah:

Rolland Christenson, Walli Ellis, Gloria and Gene Holdsworth, Merl Hilt, and the families of Donna Forsberg, Betty Peterson, and father of Bryce Loder, Leroy Loder, who passed on June 14th

Friends of Messiah

Donna Stejksal	Daniels' friend	Karla Goewert	Friend of Kirsten Bruce
Denise	Pari Ford's mother	Orin Shogren	Har's brother
Bill Stephenson	Joy Janis's brother	Danielle	Robbie Peterson's
Dawn	Sharon Hoffman's	VanDeVyvere	granddaughter
	Daughter	Krista Bahler	Betty Peterson's Niece
Stephani White	Betty Holcombe's	Betty Finney	Sharon Hoffman's friend
	daughter	Meghan	John & Margaret Presley's
Robert Ahlstedt	Earl Ahlstedt's	Presley	Daughter
	Brother	Amy Wright	Friend of Don Anderson
Kim and Jill Hett			
Sharon Texley	friend of Marla		
	Elmquist, Linda Lewis		
	& many others		

Serving the U.S.A.

Alex Klapp	Betty Russin's grandson	Vicki Charboneau	Elaine Eller's granddaughter
Ben Youngquist	S Hoffman's nephew	Jeremy Guy	Hensley's son-in-law
T.J. Paulsen	Barb Malm's child		
Daniel & Miranda Norland	Randy/Gretchen's son & wife		

Serving the U.S.A. Overseas

Luke Hammontree Daniel's grandson

Seminary

Kaylie Ines

Wider Church by Jeanne Ahlers

Women today represent 70% of the world's population living in poverty. They are often underserved, due to a lack of access to education and training. The ELCA believes the time has come to remedy the situation by supporting and empowering international women leaders in the life and development of the church and society.

The International Women Leaders program (IWL) is investing in established and emerging women leaders from our global companion churches. The IWL scholarship program

graduated its first class of six last May. They have now started their journeys of leadership and service, and the newest incoming class of scholars will soon begin study at ELCA colleges, visas permitting.

The class represents global companion churches in Brazil, Malaysia, Namibia, Palestine, Poland and Rwanda. They will be studying for their bachelor's degrees at Augsburg University, California Lutheran University, Concordia College, Gustavus Adolphus College, Newberry College and Wittenberg University.

A gift to this project is an investment in the future of women leaders, our companion churches, educational institutions and entire communities. Checks should be payable to "ELCA" with "International Women Leaders" noted on the memo line. They can be given through the congregation or mailed to Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, Virginia 22116-8009.

Announcements

The next **KICK** event on August 15th is a back to school bash with inflatables at Swensson Park from 5 to 7:30 pm. There will be Bible lessons, camp songs, pulled pork bbq and more.

For **Hyllningsfest** Messiah has been asked to donate 60 loaves of rye bread. We will have a sign-up sheet available mid August in the Fellowship Hall.

The **Reconciling in Christ** group will meet next Sunday, July 18th immediately after service. All are welcome.

Stuff a Microwave! Bethany College Student Development is asking for microwaveable foods to "stuff a microwave." Three microwaves will be given out in a drawing of names from those who come to campus vaccinated for COVID-19. This incentive is part of keeping campus and our community safe! When you bring your microwaveable donations, please put them in the basket by Pastor's office. Thank you!

STEPMC is looking for caring people who want to make a difference! Right now, we are in need of meal providers in Smoky Valley, and we could use your help! Visit stepmc.org for more information.

Collections for **LWR school kits** are now being taken. We have already had some generous donations of school supplies, and one of our members has already made 20 school bags. We currently have enough scissors and pencils, but welcome other donations. Any "leftover" school supplies will be given to our local schools.

Welcome to our **New Music Director!** Dr. Leslie Mangrum will be leading our choir and some special events through the year. She will be here on Sunday, August 1 to sing and to meet with the choir after worship. While her official start date is not until September, Dr. Mangrum is excited to meet with and begin working with our congregation to provide musical opportunities! Join us on the 1st of August to welcome Leslie and her family!

The American Red Cross is having a **blood drive** at Trinity United Methodist Church on Monday, August 2 from noon to 6 pm. To schedule your appointment visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-Red-Cross.

JULY 18, 2021
EIGHTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



In deepest darkness, God provides safety and comfort.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56	Jesus teaches and heals
Monday	Jeremiah 23:1-6	God promises a righteous king
Tuesday	Ephesians 2:11-22	United by Christ
Wednesday	Psalm 139:7-18	The Lord knows us well
Thursday	Romans 13:11-14	The day when Christ returns
Friday	Colossians 1:9-14	The work of Christ
Saturday	Psalm 23	The Lord is my shepherd
Sunday	John 6:1-21	Jesus feeds the five thousand

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. **Psalm 23:4 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of compassion and protection, give us peace and faith in knowing you are our shepherd who pursues us with your goodness through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Shepherding God, we thank you that you have provided this meal for us and promised us green pastures and still waters through Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with peace and comfort all the days of your life.

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Have No Fear Little Flock

WEEKLY MILESTONES CARING CONVERSATIONS

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When have you felt the need for protection or safety?
- When you feel you are in danger, who do you turn to?
- How do you experience God's care during difficult times?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Psalm 23. It is good to read this beloved psalm, one that many people have known by heart. This intricately woven poem and prayer has only 58 words in the Hebrew language and very few words are repeated. At the very center are the words “*for you are with me*” (v. 4b). In the beginning, middle, and end of this psalm, the Lord's presence and care is beautifully announced as part of our journey through life. This is true even—and especially—in our deepest darkness that can sometimes feel like being at the bottom of a valley. God is our shepherd who provides safety and comfort. In an ancient world that accentuated social honor and shame—experiences still very much with us today—our divine shepherd even leads us to a place of honor at a banquet before those who would shame us. Nothing but safety, comfort, and honor pursue God's people. God is our shepherd. Jesus is the Good Shepherd. We, as ambassadors of Jesus, shepherd one another each and every day to offer safety, comfort, and honor all the days of our lives. When have you felt the presence of the Lord as your shepherd? *Pray:* **Shepherding God, give us peace, safety, and good courage to go out with compassion to shepherd others through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Many people looked to Jesus for teaching, healing and guidance. His ministry was very busy and demanding. Those in helping professions (teachers, doctors, counselors, social workers, pastors, nurses, firefighters, police officers, and others) have many demands placed on them. Their work can be very tiring and sometimes stressful. How can you show your appreciation and support to someone in such a profession?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus took his disciples to a quiet place to rest (Mark 6:31-32). Spend some time in a quiet place for your devotional time this week. Light a candle to represent the presence of Jesus with you. Focus on the candle in your silence. Finish your quiet time by saying the Lord's Prayer.

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to:

www.milestonesministry.org