



MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor Amy Truhe
July 25, 2021

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost
ELW Setting 5

Prelude

Canon in D

Johann Pachelbel

Call and Response:

We share one faith, have one calling, **are of one soul and one mind;**
have one God and Father, **are filled with one Spirit,**
are baptized with one baptism, **eat of one bread and drink of one cup,**
confess one Name, **are obedient to one Lord,**
work for one cause; **we share one hope.**

Together we come to know **the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;**

we are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity;
know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ
that we need one another and up build one another,
admonishing and comforting one another;
we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness.

Together we pray; **together we serve God in this world.** ~ written by Nolan Palsma

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

Entrance Hymn : At the Name of Jesus #416

Kyrie p. 156

Canticle of Praise p. 159

Prayer of the Day

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.**

First Reading: 2 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.

⁴²A 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." ⁴³But 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.'" ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

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

Psalm: Psalm 145:10-18

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

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 throughout 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.

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

¹⁶You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷**You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon 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.

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I 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, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation:

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Gospel: John 6:1-21 Glory to you, O Lord!

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.

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When 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?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus 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. ¹¹Then 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. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When 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." ¹⁵When 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. ¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

#484

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.*

We pray for the church. Bless the ministries of our neighboring congregations: Bethany Lutheran, Assaria Lutheran, Falun/Salemborg Parish, Elim Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and New Gottland. . 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. Send relief to those who have too much rain. 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. We pray for our pastor, our bishops, and leaders in our community, state, and nation. Inspire them with a vision of the common good and a commitment to ensure that all who hunger, physically and spiritually, 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. We especially pray for our members Rolland, Walli, Gloria and Gene, Vic, Linda, 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.**

We pray for this assembly. Deepen our resolve to use what we have to serve those in need. Let us not live in fear and anxiety, we ask for you abiding peace and the wisdom to directly work with one another. 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 all the saints, the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. 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

Agnus Dei

John Leavitt

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

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Congregation sings

p. 161

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Eucharistic Prayer

Lord’s Prayer (sung)

p. 163

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.**

Closing Hymn

How Great Thou Art

#856

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Toccata in E minor

Johann Pachelbel

Worship Leaders today:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Jeanne Lucas Liturgist
Jeanne Ahlers Lector

Worship Leaders next week:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Pari Ford Liturgist
Sally Hefner 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	<u>7,774.46</u>	<u>68,123.87</u>	<u>80,242.44</u>
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

Announcements

Setting aside the Reconciling in Christ avenue for congregational discernment and missional growth, **the Congregational Vitality** avenue now is being engaged by Messiah Evangelical

Lutheran. Today you will receive a survey, to be completed anonymously during the time allowed, which will be sent to Baker University. They will compile the information and give to the Synod a snapshot of our congregation. Once the information is to the Synod, we will set up a date for them to come and present the picture to the council who will then determine how to pass that information along to the whole congregation. For folk who cannot be in worship this Sunday or next, August 1, there will be an option of getting a survey during office hours and completing it at that time to turn in to Ida.

The purpose of this is to provide a sense of who the congregation believes Messiah to be, where we might be headed, our strengths, enabling us to discern a vision for “next” for our community of believers. Anonymity without pre-thought offers a true picture of where we are, unfettered by overthinking and input from our peers.

Bethany Lutheran will also be engaging this process and we as discern collaborating more consistently with Bethany Lutheran, the results from the survey will provide congruent language by which our interactions might be strengthened.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Amy, 785.452.0969.

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.

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.

Women of the ELCA will host their annual Salad Supper on Thursday, August 5 at 6:30 pm, in the Fellowship Hall of Bethany Church. Make plans to attend this grand event! Bring a salad to share, a friend and your own table service. All women of Bethany & Messiah Church are welcome.

JULY 25, 2021
NINTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Jesus has a power people long to follow.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:1-21	Jesus feeds the five thousand
Monday	2 Kings 4:42-44	Elisha feeds one hundred
Tuesday	Ephesians 3:14-21	Christ's love for us
Wednesday	Titus 3:1-11	Maintain good deeds
Thursday	1 Peter 1:8-17	Suffering for doing right
Friday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Saturday	Psalm 145:10-18	The Lord is kind and merciful
Sunday	John 6:24-35	Christ, the bread of life

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.

John 6:2 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and living God, we thank you for the way you feed us, heal us, and care for us through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Just as you fed the five thousand on a hillside, we thank you for feeding us and caring for us today. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of abundance bless you with more than you can imagine. (Ephesians 3:20)

HYMN OF THE WEEK

There Is a Wideness in God's Mercy

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:

- Tell or think about a time you have been glad to be part of a crowd.
- Have you ever been afraid when you were part of a large crowd? Explain.
- What are some reasons you like being part of the crowd that follows Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 6:1-21. By the beginning of John 6, Jesus had taught, turned water into wine, healed, and challenged Jewish authorities. The throngs are growing and five thousand have followed him to a hillside. Jesus looks at them, sits them down on a large grassy area, and feeds them like a shepherd tending his flock. His actions remind people of what Elisha (2 Kings 4:42-44) did when he fed large crowds. Jesus being on a mountain side and having powers over the waters of the Sea of Galilee (v.19) reminds others of a role like Moses. It is clear that people are attracted to Jesus and he cares for them with a power that people long to see, long to touch, long to be with. That is the power that has been given to the church to speak and work for people today in Christ's name. Christ's power continues to be present today so that others may follow in the footsteps of the one who brings us healing, hope, and salvation. What have you experienced that makes you want to be a follower of Jesus?

Pray: **Dear Jesus, we thank you for coming into our world and our lives to care for us and to feed us with your love. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus fed the five thousand from just five small loaves and two fish. We know that today in the world many people live with limited food and constant hunger. Give money or volunteer time at your local food bank or other organizations that help those in need of food. Make a list of ways you can support people who do not have enough food.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Paul prays for the people, *"I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name"* (Ephesians 3:14-15). Prayer is a way to practice our faith. Think or talk about different ways to pray (standing, sitting, folded hands, kneeling). This week practice kneeling for prayer. *Pray:* **Dear God, I ask to be filled with your presence and to know the love of Christ that he may dwell in my heart forever and ever. Amen.**

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

www.milestonesministry.org