



MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor Amy Truhe
August 1, 2021

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost
ELW Setting 5

Prelude

Call and Response:

We gather to focus on our work as God's Church,
To eagerly maintain the unity of the Spirit,
And stay linked with God's chain of peace.
Let us lovingly making allowances for one another.

There is one body and one Spirit,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism.
One God and Father of us all,
who is above all, and in all, and through all.
O Lord, unbutton our lips,
And our mouths shall declare your praise.

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 : The Church's One Foundation #654

Kyrie p. 156

Canticle of Praise p. 159

Prayer of the Day

○ God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." ⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not." ⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ¹²"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" ¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God!

Psalm: Psalm 78:23-29

God rained down manna from heaven; so mortals ate the bread of angels. (Ps. 78:24, 25)

²³So God commanded the clouds above and opened the doors of heaven,
²⁴**raining down manna upon them to eat and giving them grain from heaven.**

²⁵So mortals ate the bread of angels; God provided for them food enough.

²⁶**The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens
and powerfully led out the south wind,**

²⁷raining down flesh upon them like dust and flying birds like the sand of the seas,

²⁸**letting them fall in the midst of the camp and round about the dwellings.**

²⁹So the people ate and were well filled, for God gave them what they craved..

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." ⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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

Gospel: John 6:24-35

Glory to you, O Lord!

Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. ²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” ²⁶Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” ²⁸Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” ²⁹Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” ³⁰So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³²Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” ³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Word of God come Down to Earth

#510

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.*

You call your church to be the body of Christ. Awaken all the baptized to the gifts you provide for carrying out the work of ministry. Where the church is divided, knit us together and restore the unity of the faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You command the clouds above and cause the wind to blow in the heavens. Watch over deserts and wilderness places. Regenerate rainforests, defend species at risk of extinction, and strengthen the work of conservation organizations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You summon leaders to respond to the needs of your people. Instill those who govern with patience when confronted with grievances and perseverance in seeking what promotes the well-being of the community. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You draw near to those who cry out for help. Feed those who are hungry, reassure those who are despairing, and accompany those who are imprisoned. Rain down the true bread from heaven that gives life to the world. 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, 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.**

You receive all who come seeking a sign of grace. Make this congregation a place of hospitality for those accustomed to rejection. To those who have felt excluded here or elsewhere, prepare us to welcome them in the name of Christ. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

You provide food that endures for eternal life. Sustain us each day with the bread of life until we are gathered with all the saints and feast together at your heavenly banquet. 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

Leslie Mangrum will sing "Give Me Jesus" by Moses Hogan

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
p. 162

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

What a Friend We have in Jesus

#742

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Worship Leaders today:

Sue Untz Organist
Pari Ford Liturgist
Sally Hefner Lector

Worship Leaders next week:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Pari Ford Liturgist
Linda Lewis 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

Friends of Messiah

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

In a letter to church leaders, Central States Synod Bishop Susan Candea has addressed the current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into account both the advances in science and the question of what would be the way of Jesus.

There is a balance to be found in this situation. On the one hand, the vaccines have proved to be highly effective. If enough people get vaccinated, the pandemic will end. Vaccination not only protects the immunized person, but also the people with whom he comes in contact. In view of the spread of the highly transmissible Delta variant, she feels, people should resume wearing masks in all public settings.

On the other hand, the way of Jesus calls for community with others, to obey the commandment to love our neighbor. This, she feels, means that we shouldn't insist on the right and freedom to do what we choose without regard to our neighbor. For her part, although she is fully vaccinated, Bishop Candea is resuming wearing a mask while her neighbors, fellow children of God, are suffering and dying throughout the world.

The Fall Theological Conference of the Central States Synod is scheduled to take place in October at Lake of the Ozarks. Bishop Candea is respectfully requesting that all participants be fully vaccinated or have a negative Covid test within a few days of the conference. The CDC guidelines regarding masks, social distancing, and the rest. They will wrestle with what it means to follow the way of Jesus and participate in God's justice for the world.

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.

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 our **LWR School Kits** are continuing. On our table in the Fellowship Hall is a list of what is still needed to fill our school bags. Additional school supplies will be given to our local schools. Thank you for donations already received!

Welcome to our **New Music Director!** Dr. Leslie Mangrum will be leading our choir and some special events through the year. She is here today 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! Please 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.

Bethany Village & Lindsborg Community Hospital invite you to a **Back to School Event** Friday, August 6 at Riverside Park from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. There will be school supplies, hot dogs to the first 100 students and haircuts for students. There will be a free community swim afterwards from 8:00 to 10:00 pm sponsored by the Lindsborg Community Hospital.

**AUGUST 1, 2021
TENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



It can be difficult for us to trust God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:24-35	Christ, the bread of life
Monday	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15	Bread from heaven
Tuesday	Ephesians 4:1-16	Unity in the body of Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 37:3-9	Trust the Lord
Thursday	Matthew 6:25-34	Do not worry
Friday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust God
Saturday	Psalms 78:23-29	God feeds the people
Sunday	John 6:35, 41-51	Bread from heaven

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" Exodus 16:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to trust that through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, you give us the bread of life that feeds us and cares for us now and always. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Jesus, our Bread of Life, give us thankful hearts for this gift of food and for all you do to care for us. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God who feeds you bless you with a thankful heart.

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

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:

- What is something you like to complain about?
- Have you ever gotten what you wanted and then regretted it or known someone who got what they wanted and were not grateful? Explain.
- How does trust in God lead to contentment?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15.

The story of the Israelites in the Old Testament is unique to the ancient world. No other people were willing to be so self-critiquing. Other religious writings from other people were much more willing to be self-glorifying. Not the Israelites. They knew they were hard to please and not as trusting as they could be. Instead of thanking God for their freedom they acted as though God took them from the comforts of Egypt. They forgot that they were actually starving and dying at the hands of the Pharaoh. In this account, they don't even ask for help; they just complain. However, God hears the complaints of the people and steps in to care for them and feeds them morning and night. How has God blessed and fed you during your mornings and nights?

Pray: **Living God, help us to be aware of your care that sustains us day after day, morning and night through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Ephesians 4 talks about the gifts we are given to equip us to serve our neighbor. We serve our neighbor and speak the truth in love with one another. This is the way our congregations and families are strengthened and we grow together in the ups and downs of life. We care for each other. How can you serve your family, community, and congregation using your gifts?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The *Daily Bible Readings* this week from John, Exodus, and Psalm 78 all share a theme about bread and being fed. Gather a selection of different breads to serve this week with your meals. Use a different bread every day for each meal. Say the *Mealtime Prayer* for this week and while eating the bread think or talk about a way in which God has provided for you.

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

www.milestonesministry.org