



MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor Amy Truhe
August 15, 2021

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
ELW Setting 5

Prelude

ENTRÉE and OFFERTOIRE (Suite Médiévale)

Jean Langlais

Call and Response:

¹Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars.

²**She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.**

³She has sent out her servant-girls,
she calls from the highest places in the town,

⁴**“You that are simple, turn in here!”**

To those without sense she says,

⁵**“Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed.**

⁶**Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight.”**

Wisdom is of the Trinity, not a person, yet an integral part of their being.

We come to worship God, Holy, Immortal, Wise, Everlasting. Amen!

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.**

yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I 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. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. ¹⁴If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.”

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

Psalm: Psalm 111

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. (Ps. 111:10)

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²**Great are your works, O Lord, pondered by all who delight in them.**

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴**You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.**

⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

⁶**You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

⁸**They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;**

all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Gospel: John 6:51-58**Glory to you, O Lord!**

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh

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

Sermon**Hymn of the Day**

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

#469

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.*

God of wisdom, enlighten your church. Guide theologians, biblical scholars, authors, and seminary professors as they seek greater knowledge and invite others into deeper understanding. Teach us to ask faithful questions and open our minds to new ideas. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of creation, mend the earth. Cool warming oceans and preserve melting ice caps. Increase our awareness of changing climate patterns and reveal new approaches to the ecological challenges we face. Shield those in the path of hurricanes or tropical storms or fires. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all nations, direct our leaders. Grant them courage to lay aside political grudges and renew their determination to address difficult conflicts. Guide them in the work of reconciliation. Let our leaders model the work of collaboration without fear of partisan politics. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, tend to the wounded. Rescue those tormented by mental illness or mired in addiction. Ease the anxiety of those struggling with dementia. Come quickly to help all who are grieving and all those who suffer. We especially pray for our members Rolland, Walli, Gloria and Gene, and Merlyn. 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. We pray for Kaylie as she awaits a call. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of beauty, inspire artists. Bless those whose visual and musical gifts enliven this assembly. Bless the creative work of poets, hymnwriters, composers, painters, sculptors, and others that enrich our worship and daily life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of resurrection, bring us to new life. Give us the living bread from heaven through which we abide in your love, and on the last day raise us with all the saints to eternal life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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

Shepherd Me, O God

Marty Haugen Daniel and Lori, McKinney

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

Holy God, Holy and Glorious

#637

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Allegro

Johann Christian Kittel

Worship Leaders today:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Pari Ford Liturgist
Julie Aeschliman Lector

Worship Leaders next week:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Pari Ford Liturgist
Sherry Peterson Lector

Messiah Lutheran Church

7/31/2021

	Actual	Actual	Budget
	Jul-21	Jan - Jul	Jan - Jul
Revenue	6,851.33	84,677.38	84,676.65
Expenses	8,748.44	76,872.31	93,616.19
Surplus (Deficit)	<u>(1,897.11)</u>	<u>7,805.07</u>	<u>(8,939.54)</u>
Reserve Balance	<u>88,471.70</u>		

Members, Friends, and Family for Whom We Pray

Members of Messiah:

Rolland Christenson, Walli Ellis, Gloria and Gene Holdsworth, Merlyn 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	Marilyn Youngquist	Sharon Hoffman's sister

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		
Luke Hammontree	Daniel's grandson		

Seminary

Kaylie Ines

Wider Church by Jeanne Ahlers

With all the problems confronting our lives these days -- COVID, political crises and more -- it's easy to lose track of what's going on in the rest of the world. But life is going on, with other kinds of crises, some of which never reach the news media.

In the previously peaceful rural community in the Sahel region of Africa, for instance, Adama lived with his family, his wife, Jeneba, and other relatives, including their unborn child. Terrorists ransacked their community. Adama's father was kidnapped and has not been seen or heard from since. They fear he has been killed.

Adama and his family, also including his mother and grandmother, fled, with little more than the clothes on their backs. They, along with 223 other families, have to pay an exorbitant rate

just to pitch a tent in someone else's field. To pay that rent, Adama has had to sell every goat, sheep and cow he owned. He is growing onions on a small patch of borrowed land outside the camp, but the money he earns selling them is barely enough to survive on.

Added to this, the family has to worry about the coronavirus. The families who escaped the terrorists' violence are living in extremely crowded conditions. Adama is terrified that Jeneba and the child she is carrying will get infected.

But their most desperate need is food.

Lutheran World Relief is asking for support, not just to put food on the tables of families like Adama's, but to help such families to learn new farming techniques so they can raise crops in dry lands and make the most of what little access they have to water. A gift today will help them survive.

Announcements

The next **KICK** event is today! KICK is hosting 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 have received a generous donation to cover about 30 of the bread loaves. A sign-up sheet is available in the Fellowship Hall.

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!

Channels for Maintenance: As we have increased the traffic in our building, it is important that we all know how to have matters that come to our attention taken care of in order to keep the building in good condition. Please contact Pastor Amy (785.452.0969), Muriel Gentine (785.906.0101) or Ida Rencher (office: 785.227.3977) to let us know what needs attention. This will help keep our communications straight, avoid double contacts with people using the building, and allow for us to keep track of repairs and needs as they arise. Thank you for all the attention and concern you have for our space! Having the community see our building as a hospitable and welcoming space is super wonderful and part of our ministry to the world!



“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



Sept. 12
2021

Our congregation will soon engage in service work right here in our community. We are one of over 9,100 congregations participating in “God’s work. Our hands.” day of service. Across the country, thousands of members will engage in service work to make a positive change in our communities, build and deepen relationships and share God’s love. Join us as we do God’s work with our hands! **There will be opportunities for working on inside and outside projects. Please indicate your preference on the sheets in the fellowship hall. You may also call the church office to indicate your preference.**

**AUGUST 15, 2021
TWELFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**



Jesus as the bread of life binds us together.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:51-58	Christ, the true food and drink
Monday	Proverbs 9:1-6	Wisdom's feast
Tuesday	Ephesians 5:15-20	Be filled with the Spirit
Wednesday	Acts 2:41-47	Life among believers
Thursday	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	The Lord's Supper
Friday	Matthew 26:17-30	The Passover with the disciples
Saturday	Psalms 34:9-14	God teaches the fear of the Lord
Sunday	John 6:56-71	Many disciples desert Jesus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." **John 6:51 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we thank you for your love that unites us in Christ and promises us life everlasting. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for the gift of this food today, just as we thank you for Jesus Christ and the gift of his presence to know and to share with one another. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the bread of heaven, bless you with life and faith now and always.

HYMN OF THE WEEK

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

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 are some ways you enjoy spending time with family and friends?
- How does having meals together help build relationships?
- How does the Lord's Supper help you experience and feel the closeness of the Christian community?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 6:51-58.

John's Gospel does not have the words adapted for the Lord's Supper that one finds in Matthew, Luke, or 1 Corinthians. However, here you have Jesus speaking in terms that clearly reflect the Lord's Supper. John's Gospel interprets the meal's significance as a new manna, the bread from heaven that the Israelites received in the wilderness. While the Israelites would continue to complain and turn away from God, those who receive Jesus in the Lord's Supper, the bread from heaven, will live forever. They will abide with Jesus and Jesus with them. Jesus, as the bread from heaven, binds us together as the community of disciples. Such is the power and meaning of this meal for all generations. In the Lord's Supper Jesus has a relationship to his followers and his followers enjoy a relationship to each other. How does the Lord's Supper strengthen your relationship to other Christians? How does the Lord's Supper help you in your relationship with Jesus?

Pray: **Living God, we thank you for Jesus and the Lord's Supper that binds us to him, to one another, and to the promise of eternal life with you. Amen.**

SERVICE

Sharing a meal together is a valuable way to nurture relationships. Invite friends, family, especially those who live alone to have a meal with you, so that you may get to know them better and bless them with your care. Talk about your recent highs and lows and then pray together.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Ephesians 5:19 encourages us to "*sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your heart.*" Think of some of your favorite hymns, children's songs, and psalms from the Bible. Sing them, read them as an offering to God, or listen to them online as music strengthens you in your life of faith.

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

www.milestonesministry.org