



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
August 22, 2021

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
ELW Setting 5

Prelude

Adagio from Concerto in A Minor

J.S. Bach

Call and Response:

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

We long to be where You are;

to stand in Your very presence, to behold You, face to face!

And so we have come to this place today;

we have gathered together to worship You—

to offer the praise which belongs to You alone.

Bless us as we worship You together,

open our hearts and minds to Your presence among us.

Bless us as we receive difficult teachings,

Let us embrace the mystery of grace, the hope of the gospel,

For You alone are God, the One in whom we trust.

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.**

the LORD!" ²²Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." ²³He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." ²⁴The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey."
The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm: Psalm 34:15-22

The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous. (Ps. 34:15)

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and God's ears are open to their cry.

¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

¹⁷The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them and delivers them from all their troubles.

¹⁸**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

¹⁹Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from every one.

²⁰**God will keep safe all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.**

²¹Evil will bring death to the wicked and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

²²O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Gospel: John 6:56-69

Glory to you, O Lord!

The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. ⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.” ⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

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

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war.

We pray for the people of Afghanistan, for those caught between governments, and ask for your abiding protection for all created in your image. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. We especially pray for our members Rolland, Walli, Gloria and Gene, Ken, Bob, 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. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community, especially we pray for safety and humanitarian concerns to be attended by all. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

MEAL

Offertory

Come, God Creator, Holy Spirit

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

“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

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

#494

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Fugue in a minor

William Boyce

Worship Leaders today:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Pari Ford Liturgist
Sherry Peterson Lector

Worship Leaders next week:

Steve Gustafson Organist
Pari Ford Liturgist
Marc Anderson Lector

Messiah Lutheran Church 7/31/21

Actual

Actual

Budget

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

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	Krista Bahler	Betty Peterson's Niece
	Daughter	Betty Finney	Sharon Hoffman's friend
Stephani White	Betty Holcombe's	Meghan	John & Margaret Presley's
	daughter	Presley	Daughter
Robert Ahlstedt	Earl Ahlstedt's	Amy Wright	Friend of Don Anderson
	Brother	Marilyn	Sharon Hoffman's sister
Kim and Jill Hett		Youngquist	
Sharon Texley	friend of Marla		
	Elmqvist, 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		
Luke Hammontree	Daniel's grandson		

Seminary Kaylie Ines

Wider Church by Jeanne Ahlers

Last week, southwest Haiti was struck by a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Over 1,400 people were killed, with the death toll expected to increase as search-and-rescue efforts continue. Blocked roads are delaying the delivery of vital supplies to hospitals, which are overwhelmed with more than 6,900 injured people. Although the full extent of damage is still unknown, at least 26,000 homes were damaged or destroyed. Terrified by the prospect of aftershocks, families spent the following night sleeping outside, huddled together under flimsy tarps, as rain poured down on them.

A high risk exists of a cholera outbreak, as well as the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Then Hurricane Grace passed over the very same region, where families are struggling to survive. This caused severe flooding in communities already damaged by the earthquake. In addition to all this, Haiti is suffering through a political crisis.

The ELCA has maintained a presence in southern Haiti for over two decades, through support for agricultural and sustainable development work. Lutheran Disaster Response is collaborating with partner organizations in the communities to meet relief needs, including food, water, medical supplies and temporary shelter. Other areas of support will soon be needed, such as psychosocial care, water and sanitation, and creating sustainable livelihoods through agriculture and livestock.

Any gifts through Lutheran World Relief will support earthquake survivors in Haiti. Gifts to "Haiti Crisis" will be used 100% to assist those affected by the earthquake.

Announcements

Due to generous donations from our congregation, we have met our goal of 60 loaves for Hyllningsfest. THANK YOU!

Our **school bags for LWR** are almost complete. Additional school supplies needed are indicated on the North table of the Fellowship Hall. Extra supplies will go to our local schools.

Dr. Hentus van Rooyen will present an **organ recital** on the Thomson-Mingenback Concert Organ in Presser Hall Auditorium on the campus of Bethany College, August 26 at 7:30pm. Dr. van Rooyen was selected as semi-finalist in the 12th Mikael Tariverdiev International Organ Competition in April. The program will be comprised of repertoire prepared for the upcoming rounds of the competition to be held in Kaliningrad, Russia in September. Composers represented include: Bach, Muffat, Duruflé, Vierne, Merkel, and Mikael Tariverdiev.

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.**

Temple talk: weekend backpack program.

AUGUST 22, 2021

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

People respond differently to Jesus.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:56-71	Many disciples desert Jesus
Monday	Joshua 24:1-18	Many tribes renew the covenant
Tuesday	Ephesians 6:10-20	The whole armor of God
Wednesday	Matthew 16:1-12	Pharisees and Sadducees test Jesus
Thursday	Luke 7:1-10	Jesus heals an army officer's servant
Friday	John 3:1-21	Jesus and Nicodemus
Saturday	Psalms 34:15-22	The Lord is with you
Sunday	Mark 7:1-23	Authentic faith

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Simon Peter answered [Jesus], "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God." **John 6:68-69 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and living God, give us faith to trust in you that we may overcome disbelief with faith, fear with hope, and indifference with love through Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may we humbly receive this food with thanksgiving, believing that all good things come from you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the one who redeems your life give you peace and joy.

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Gather Us In

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:

- In an era of deliberate misinformation, what is something you hold on to without wavering?
- What is something you have heard that is hard to believe?
- What does it mean to you that Peter said that Jesus is the Holy One of God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 6:56-71. It is difficult to have a conversation about Jesus without a strong reaction. Many of these reactions are experienced in our text from John 6. Some people hear the news of Jesus as the bread of life and complain that the message is difficult or offensive. Others simply experience disbelief. Some reject the message of Jesus and others actively pursue a path of betrayal. In the midst all of these naysayers, Peter states words the church has sung throughout its history: *“Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God”* (vv. 68-69). If truth be told, we have likely found ourselves in most—if not all—of those various groups. Such is the humble and challenging life of faith. At different moments of our lives, we, too, respond differently to the message and the presence of Jesus in our lives. When have you or someone you know sounded like a naysayer to Jesus as the Holy One of God? What moves us from disbelief to hope and from rejection to trust?

Pray: **Dear God, give us hearts of love and faith that dare to trust that Jesus is the bread of life, the Holy One of God, who brings to us the words of eternal life. Amen.**

SERVICE

Paul writes in Ephesians 6:18, *“Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication.”* Supplication means to pray for God’s help. We can serve others by praying for them. Is there someone you know who is need of God’s help? How can you pray for them this week?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

We wear a seat belt in the car and a helmet when riding a bike to protect us from something bad happening. Ephesians 6:10-17 tells us that God helps protect us. The whole armor of God provides truth, righteousness, peace, faith, and salvation. The sword is the word of God. Draw a picture of a sword, color it, and cut it out. Use the sword as a bookmark in your Bible and as a reminder of the importance of God’s word each time you read scripture.

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

www.milestonesministry.org