

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Vision: "Messiah seeks to grow as a congregation of the ELCA called by Christ, gathered by the gospel, and sent by the Holy Spirit into our communities to share and celebrate God's compassion and love."

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2021
18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor, The Rev. Chris Laughlin

Secretary & Office Hours:
Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

We welcome all friends and visitors in the name of Jesus Christ. Each Sunday we celebrate Holy Communion. We believe that Christ is truly present in the sacrament, and that all baptized Christians are welcome at God's table. Please come forward to the altar to receive the sacrament. Non-communicating children receive a blessing from the pastor. White grape juice is available in an individual tray.

Infants and small children are welcome at worship, or the nursery is available for children kindergarten age

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✙ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *1 John 1:9-10*

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of ✙ the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

*THE GATHERING HYMN: ELW #712 “Lord Whose Love in Humble Service”

*GREETING:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

2 Corinthians 13:13

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Luke 2:14, John 1:29



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.** P: Let us pray together. Generous God, **your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

¹[King Ahasuerus] and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther.²On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.”³Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request.”⁴For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.”⁵Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?”⁶Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.⁹Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands

at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that."¹⁰ So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

^{9:20} Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far,²¹ enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year,²² as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 124

¹If the LORD had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;
²**if the LORD had not been on our side,**
when enemies rose up against us,
³then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;
⁴**then would the waters have overwhelmed us**
and the torrent gone over us;
⁵then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.
⁶**Blessed be the LORD**
who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
⁸**Our help is in the name of the LORD,**
the maker of heaven and earth.

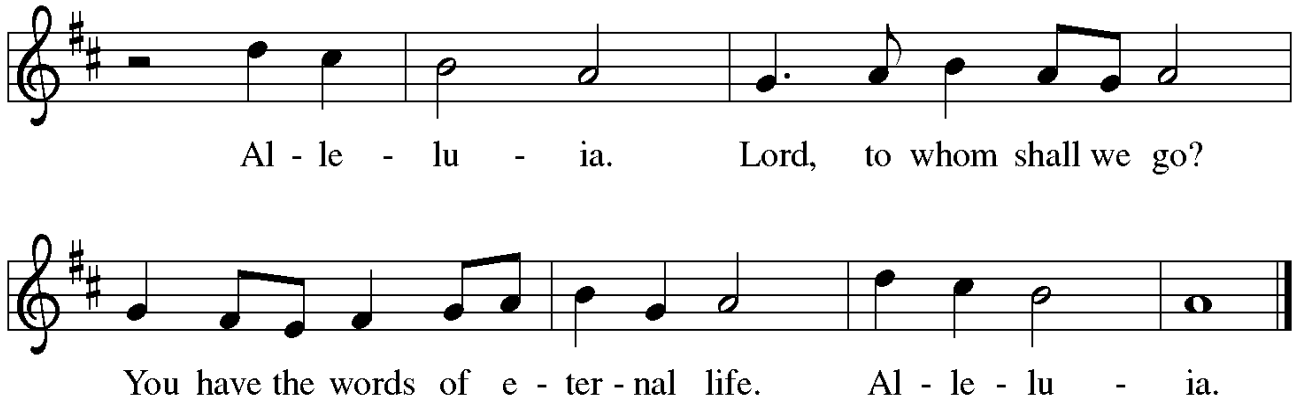
Second Reading: James 5:13-20

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

John 6:68



Gospel: Mark 9:38-50

The Good News according to Mark, the 9th Chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

This the Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON: “Sovereign”

SERMON: “Thoughts and Prayers” *Pr. Chris Laughlin*

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** ELW #742 “*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*”

***THE 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.

*Each petition ends with: Lord, in your mercy,
The congregation responds with: **Receive our prayer.***

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

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

***OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

Let us pray. Holy God, gracious and merciful,
**you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who
hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

***ORDER FOR HOLY COMMUNION:**

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give God thanks and praise

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:**

Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8; Matthew 21:9, Psalm 118:26

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION (VERBA)** *(Matthew 26:26ff, Mark 14:22ff, Luke 22:14ff, 1 Corinthians 11:23ff)*

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(Luke 23:42, Matthew 6:9ff; Luke 11:1ff)*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those**

**who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION:** *Psalm 34:8*
Taste and see that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD:

John 1:29



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***BENEDICTION:**

(Numbers 6:24ff)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, and of ✠ the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***SENDING HYMN:** ELW #636 *"How Small Our Span of Life"*

SENDING

Go in peace. Serve the Lord..

Thanks be to God.