

✠ SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT ✠
15th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 13, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE.....*Elevation* – Gregory Sergent

✠ ✠ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS ✠ ✠

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

☐ 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

☐ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another...

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

☐ Gracious God,

☑ have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 Prelude marks the time of transition between the bustling, noisy world outside the assembly and time set aside to experience God. Prayer, self-examination in readiness for the Confession, reading a favorite hymn (or perhaps a new one) can help us shift our hearts and prepare to receive God's manifold gifts.

The Confession & Forgiveness begins us at the beginning—recognizing who we are and who God is. We stand stripped of our masks, admitting our sin, both as deeds and as attitudes and orientation. In the silence, we offer to God those sins which are most troubling, doing so in the confidence that He stands ready to forgive the repentant sinner. We hear the announcement of that forgiveness with joy.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE*Glory to God*, LBW pp. 58-59
(green hymnal)

✠ ✠ GOD'S WORD FOR THIS WEEK ✠ ✠

See color insert

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY.. *Word of God, come down on earth*, WOV #716
(blue hymnal)

Baptisms and other rites recalling Baptism now take place if any are scheduled. Follow the pastor's lead.

APOSTLES' CREED

☑ I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 THE CHURCH

After each petition – ☑ Lord, in your mercy, ☑ hear our prayer.

PEACE

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☑ And also with you.

*Please greet each other using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

Sit

Special presentations or recognitions, if any, involving our calling as stewards of God's gifts.

The Presiding Minister ☐ welcomes the people with a Trinitarian greeting. Rather than saying something like "good morning," which focuses on the relationship between the presider and those greeted, the words "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ..." make clear that this is no ordinary gathering. We have purposefully entered into the presence of the Trinity.

The Hymn of the Day gives the people the opportunity to stand and respond to the first half of the service with singing that reflects, comments on, or otherwise relates to the Word.

The Creed (Apostles' for "green seasons" of Epiphany and "after Pentecost," Nicene for white, red, purple and blue days, Athanasian for Trinity Sunday) is our opportunity to clearly confess the Church's historic, catholic (universal) faith.

The Prayers A part of the Jewish Synagogue's worship, Christians from the beginning carried on the use of public, corporate prayers. At Messiah, we try to be both comprehensive and regular in praying for a variety of concerns both within and outside our parish boundaries. You are welcome to make your prayer requests known to the pastors by phone, email or purple cards available in the pew racks.

The Peace This ritual greeting developed from the New Testament church's "kiss of peace." Revived with the Lutheran Book of Worship, the Peace is a way to ritually act out one's Christian vocation as bearers of peace to the world. It is also the last opportunity, before receiving Holy Communion, to make things right with someone against whom you have sinned.

OFFERING..... *Adagio*—François Verhelst (8:30 a.m.)
Behold Now, Praise the Lord—Everett Titcomb (11:00 a.m.)

Stand

OFFERTORY

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Blessed are you,
C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

✠ ✠ HOLY COMMUNION ✠ ✠

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

Offering Our financial gifts are gathered. They symbolize the giving of ourselves to God—and they are the concrete means by which we support ministries of this congregation and of the wider church.

The Offertory is sung as gifts are brought forward. Here we see how God uses both natural, earthly elements (wheat and grapes) and human skill (the manufacture of bread and wine) to produce his gift of Holy Communion.

The Offertory Prayer makes clear that what we give to God is that which we have first received from Him.

The Great Thanksgiving The words of the Preface Dialogue and the Preface begin the Communion proper. They are as ancient as any part of the service, having their models in Jewish prayer and the earliest Christian Eucharistic celebrations. As at the beginning of the service of the Word, it is established that we do what we do in the presence of the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

From Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #6000098669.

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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.

From Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #6000098669.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You are indeed holy . . . now and forever.
C Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

The Preface (“It is indeed right and salutary (good, appropriate) . . .”) We offer God our thanks and praise for His many blessings—the prayer combines both praying and proclaiming the Good News. Various texts are used throughout the Church Year. Listen for the particular accents and how the themes of different days and seasons are woven into both Preface and Eucharistic Prayer.

The Eucharistic Prayer At the heart of the Eucharistic Prayer lies the Words of Institution which tell the story, in a very specific way, of the event that stands behind this ongoing act of God in Christ. Here we remember the life-giving death and resurrection of Jesus, in which, through the reception of Christ’s Holy Body and Blood, we participate. Here the Father gives us life, forgiveness, and salvation. In these words, the Promise is attached to the elements. As Jesus was with His disciples then, so He is with us now, at every celebration of Holy Communion, the past, present, and future converge as the Church of every time and place comes together for this “foretaste of the feast to come.”

The Eucharistic Prayer is ended by the whole assembly’s “Amen” - the “great” Amen, a kind of mini-creed, as we proclaim our faith in Christ and His gift of Himself. It is good for this particular “Amen” to be spoken clearly, firmly, and in good voice.

The Eucharistic Prayer concludes with the prayer that Christ our Lord taught his disciples.

Sit
COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI

☩ 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.

From Lutheran Book of Worship © 1978. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #6000098669.

Concerning the sacrament—

We confess at Messiah that Holy Communion is Christ's gift to his Church, his true body and blood given with bread and wine for us to eat and drink. Here Christ confirms in us the benefits of his death and resurrection. He forgives our sins, refreshes our lives, and promises our salvation. We welcome to the Lord's table all baptized and communing Christians who share this faith.

In receiving, please follow the lead of the people around you. There are two cups, one for drinking, the other for receiving by intinction, the host dipped in the cup. If coming forward not to commune but to receive a blessing, approach the pastor with your arms crossed.

DISTRIBUTION. Blessed Are Those—David Gooding (11:00 a.m.)
God of our life, all—glorious Lord, LBW #270
Once he came in blessing, LBW #312

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Silence for reflection.

The Agnus Dei (Latin for "Lamb of God") has been a part of the liturgy since the 8th century. Here are echoes of Isaiah and the Psalms... Christ as the sacrifice for the sins of the world. See also John 1:36 where John the Baptist identifies Jesus as the Lamb of God. Messiah's Advent window illustrates this title of Christ.

The Distribution The Body and Blood of Christ is distributed to the faithful. At Messiah we believe that Holy Communion is God's gift to baptized believers (who have already received First Communion), people who recognize and trust Christ's bodily presence "in, with, and under" the elements of bread and wine. Luther tells us one is worthily prepared to receive by believing that the sacrament is given "for you."

If you are a member of a church not in altar fellowship with us, please understand that we respect the fellowship concerns of other churches—we hope for the day, either in this life or in the age to come, when we may all commune together freely and in joy.

BLESSING

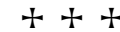
☩ Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now . . . and for - ever. ☩ A - men

HYMNO Jesus, I have promised, LBW #503
verses 1 & 4

DISMISSAL

☩ Go in peace. Serve the Lord. ☩ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDETocatta in e minor – Johann Pachelbel



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of September 13, 2009

Sun 9/13	15 th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. 9:50 a.m.	Rally Day Holy Communion Education Hour
Mon 9/14	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Exec Committee Meeting Joy Ringers
Tues 9/15	9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Parish Nurse Hours MS Support Group
Wed 9/16	9:10 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Chapel Bible Study Evening Prayer/Bible Study
Thurs 9/17	7:00 p.m.	Messiah Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 9/18	9:15 a.m.	Women Together in Faith
Sat. 9/19	2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Hoffman/Winter Wedding Contemporary Band Rehearsal Contemporary Service – Holy Communion

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

When the Supper is ended, it is appropriate to move swiftly and directly to the Benediction/ Blessing. The Post-Communion Blessing, Canticle (sometimes omitted) and Prayer do this without undue haste. The Assisting Minister ☩ chooses the Prayer from a selection according to the particular service and its themes.

The Blessing (Benediction), Hymn, and Dismissal The Benediction (Latin for "good word") covers the people in God's blessing. The hymn (usually brief and to the point) offers a last response for the people, and the dismissal, rather than simply ending the service, is the transition into a different form of service as we carry Christ's peace, forgiveness, and love out into the world.

**Scripture Readings for Next Weekend,
16th Sunday after Pentecost,
September 19-20, 2009**

Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54;
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37
Children's Bible Story #280 (pp. 318-319)

THIS WEEKEND IS RALLY DAY WEEKEND!

Services have returned to the regular schedule: Saturday 5:30 pm, Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 am, Education Hour Sunday 9:45 – 10:45 am. Sunday Education Programs have resumed. Be sure to visit the Mission & Ministry Fair in the Commons. Refreshments are being served. See the insert for details!

Today's refreshments are sponsored by Tim Schwede, Bill Fecht and Matt Felber of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Come to the Fellowship Hall/ Commons area from 9 to noon for gourmet coffee, tea

ADULT EDUCATION HOUR, SEPTEMBER 20, SUNDAY MAGAZINE—The Churchwide Assembly—Messiah's Ed Kirst will report on what he witnessed as a member of the Church wide Assembly that met in Minneapolis last month.

RAISING DOUGH COMES TO MESSIAH SEPTEMBER 20TH – Adults of all ages are invited to a fun, one-hour introduction to gift planning. Developed by four Lutheran organizations in Cleveland, *Raising Dough* won a national creativity award in 2008 and has been seen by Lutherans around the country. You will take away lots of ideas and a unique recipe book for future reference. **Messiah's program will be in the Oak Room at Fairview's Gemini Center on Sunday, September 20th.** Lunch is included and starts at 12:30 p.m. The price of admission: one loaf of bread. **Seating is limited and reservations are required -- call the church office.** Questions? Go to www.raisingdough.org or call Ward Pallotta at (216) 658-7202.

FAITH AT WORK—NEXT TUESDAY, September 15 at Panera's Rocky River (Center Ridge Road).

MESSIAH SENIOR HIGH STUDENTS: Visit the Mission & Ministry Fair—see opportunities to serve—and not just mission trips! Bible Study begins 9/20, Science Room in the Middle School.

Please note: Serving Schedules through November 29 have been emailed/or mailed (based on your preference). If you have not yet received your schedule, you may obtain a pdf copy from the church website (www.messiahfp.org) or pick up a paper copy from the church office.

THE MESSIAH PTL WILL BE SELLING ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR in between services beginning this weekend and will continue through the beginning of November. This year's book features coupons for Steak & Shake, TGIFridays and Aeropostale. Also, for every two books you purchase you can receive a FREE Cav's ticket with the purchase of one discounted Cavs ticket. Interested? Meet a PTL representative between the services, or call Ginger Brookins at ginmark@zoominternet.net or (440) 823-9392.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN SCHOOL NIGHT AT THE OSCARS AUCTION – Saturday, November 7, 6 pm at Wagner's Country Inn (30855 Center Ridge Road). Come to this Semi Formal evening and enjoy appetizers, an Italian buffet, assorted desserts, Auctions, raffles, music and more!! \$30 per ticket or \$300 for a table of 10. Tickets will be sold between Sunday services beginning on September 13. A few auction items include a Bahamas 4 day cruise, a week at a Hilton Head condo, homemade items, wine, spa, restaurant, and sport packages – just to name a few! More items will be listed as the event draws near. Donations are still being accepted! Contact Joy Ellerbruch at (440) 427-8412.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION TRAINING—Thursday, Sept. 17 or Tuesday, Sept. 22.—6:30 p.m. at Messiah. All volunteers who supervise minors must complete this type of program. Call the school office to register for either program (440) 331-6553.

W.I.S.H. FOR ALL (WOMEN INTO SAVING THEIR HEALTH) - On September 23 at 7:30 p.m., here at Messiah, will be an educational program on breast health—open to ALL women. Come meet a breast cancer survivor. Following the educational program there will be free breast exams for anyone without insurance. There will also be prescriptions for mammograms for women 40 and above. Reservations are required. Call (440) 331-2405 and leave your name, phone number whether you have insurance or not. Questions? Call Nancy Mickan at (440) 777-3869.

SAVE YOUR HOME: SEPTEMBER IS CUYAHOGA COUNTY "SAVE OUR HOMES" MONTH. On September 21, 2009 at Lakewood Public Library Main Branch from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. representatives from the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court Foreclosure Mediation Program will be presenting information about what to do if you are having trouble meeting your mortgage obligations. There are steps property owners can take to avoid foreclosure and this program will explain those steps and provide tips on reaching a workout with the lender. Contact Rebecca Wetzel at 216/443-8504 for further information.

SENIORFEST 2009, A DAY FOR ALL LUTHERANS! Saturday, September 19 at Royal Redeemer Lutheran Church in North Royalton, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. The cost is \$15.00 and includes lunch. To see if there is still space available please contact Pastor Jim Kulma at the Lutheran Home at Concord Reserve, at jkulma@concordreserve.org or at 440-871-0090, ext. 2145 A flyer with additional information is located on the table in the church administration area.

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE 2009 LUTHERAN AGENCIES ORGANIZED IN SERVICE TROLLEY TOUR ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 9 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. Witness Cleveland's Lutheran social ministry in action. Meet at Lutheran Hospital in the Castele Learning Center (1730 West 25th Street) – there is FREE parking in a secured lot on the NW corner of West 28th and Franklin. Faithful Servant and Faithful Congregation Awards will be presented. Lunch will be provided. A freewill offering will be collected. RSVP (216) 771-8110 (24 hrs/day) by Friday, September 25.

FALL IS COMING. "FALL" IN LOVE WITH YOUR SPOUSE ALL OVER AGAIN? – Find out ways to enhance and deepen the relationship you started years ago on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! L.M.E. sponsors a unique retreat where couples get away from jobs, chores, kids, etc. to focus on each other in a safe, encouraging atmosphere. If you value your marriage, you'll love a Marriage Encounter Weekend - coming Oct. 9-11 in Solon OH at the Springhill Suites by Marriott, or Nov. 6-8 at the Commodore Perry Inn, Port Clinton. Just \$45 reserves your place. Send a check to Ohio Registrars, John & Robin Legan, 2325 Meadowood Blvd., Twinsburg OH 44087. If you have questions, call them at (330) 425-2176 or try robin.legan@gmail.net. You can also register through www.GodLovesMarriage.org.

WOMEN'S PREVENTIVE HEART CLINIC is now located at three places on the west side! For a screening cost of \$35, you will have your medical history reviewed, a complete Lipid Profile and Blood Sugar, Blood Pressure and Heart Rate, EKG, Body Mass Index, Stress Assessment and a personalized cardiac health plan, plus any referrals that might be appropriate. Come to *Fairview Hospital* (18101 Lorain Avenue in Cleveland (216) 476-7932, fairviewhospital.org) or *Lakewood Hospital* (14519 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood (216) 529-8500, lakewoodhospital.org) or *Lutheran Hospital* (1730 W. 25th Street in Cleveland (216) 363-5757, lutheranhospital.org). Free parking is available at all locations. Services are provided Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) from 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

ADVERTISERS NEEDED FOR THE MESSIAH 2010 CHURCH DIRECTORY—Interested? Please call Holy Toledo toll free at 1-877-754-6554.

MISSING FOUR BOARDS—We are in the process of restriping our parking lot. Over the weekend, four boards (4" x 6" x 10 ft.) being used for this project were left along the eastern fence portion of the playground. They are now missing. If you know where these boards have gone, please let us know and/or return them. Thank you!

✠ ✠ GOD'S WORD FOR THIS WEEK ✠ ✠

PRAYER OF THE DAY



Let us pray. O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace, that, pursuing what you have promised, we may share your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING Isaiah 50:4-9a

4 The LORD God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens-- wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. 5 The LORD God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. 6 I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. 7 The LORD God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; 8 he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. 9 It is the LORD God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1-8 Alternating between men/ women

PSALM 116: REFRAIN

Cantor once, thereafter All each time



REFRAIN

1] I love the Lord because he has heard the voice of my / sup- pli-ca-tion,

The Prayer of the Day Called the "Collect" in older liturgies because it "collected" the prayers of the people into a single prayer. It makes reference to the particular theme of the day or season, and is prayed by the Presider with the people responding their assent ("Amen; that is," "it shall be so" or "yes, indeed.")

First Reading Usually from the Old Testament, but occasionally from Acts (during Easter). This reading is usually connected to the Gospel Reading. Look for the relationship between the OT reading and the theme of the day, the Hymn of the Day, and certainly the Gospel.

The Psalm Not a reading, strictly speaking, the Psalm gives the congregation an opportunity to respond vocally. Such participatory singing comes directly from Jewish worship patterns. Look for connections here, too, with the other readings, hymns, and themes.

Because he has inclined his ear to me whenever / I called up- on him.

2] The cords of death entangled [me]; the grip of the grave took / hold of me; I came / to grief and sor-row.

3] Then I called upon the name / of the Lord; "O Lord, I / pray you save my life."

4] Gracious is the / Lord and righteous; our God / is full of com-pas-sion.

REFRAIN

5] The Lord watches over the / in-no-cent; I was brought very / low and he helped me.

6] Turn again to your rest, / O my soul, for the Lord / has treat-ed you well.

7] For you have rescued my / life from death, my eyes from tears, and / my feet from stum-bling.

8] I will walk in the presence / of the Lord in the / land of the liv-ing.

REFRAIN

SECOND READING James 3:1-12

1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2 For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. 3 If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. 4 Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. 5 So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

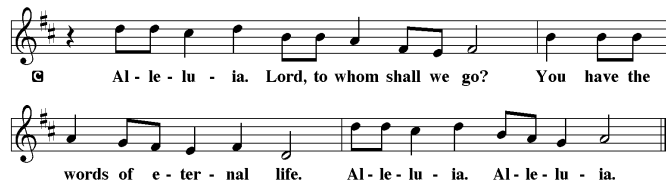
How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! 6 And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7 For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, 8 but no one can tame the tongue--a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9 With it we bless the Lord and

Second Reading Called the "Epistle" in older worship orders (from the Greek for "message" or "letter.") This reading comes from the apostles' writings in the New Testament. The readings are often consecutive from week to week, allowing us to hear large portions of individual letters. One should also look for connections with the other readings, hymns, etc.

Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

The Word of the Lord. **G** Thanks be to God.

Stand



From *Lutheran Book of Worship* copyright 1978. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #6000098669.

GOSPEL.....Mark 8:27-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 8th chapter.

At the introduction--



²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The Alleluia Verse *These words from John 6:68 are both preparation for and a welcoming of the Gospel.*

The Gospel Reading *The story of Jesus' life and ministry, and often His very words, the reading of the Gospel has come to be seen as another appearing of Christ within the assembly. We stand to honor our Lord. On festival days, the book containing the readings (the lectionary) is carried into the midst of the people, in imitation of Jesus' preaching and teaching among the multitudes. We greet the Lord with sung acclamations—"Glory to You" and "Praise to You" - as befits our Master and King.*

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sit
SERMON

The Sermon *Here the preacher takes the readings and the themes of the day and proclaims the Word of God for the Church's contemporary situation. Lutherans believe that, more than simply advising people about life or stirring them to an emotional response, the preacher's task involves "the proper distinction between Law and Gospel" (speaking both God's demands and promises in Christ) and our foundational doctrine of "justification by grace through faith" (the confidence that God loves and rescues us from our rebellious orientation by the life, death, and resurrection of Christ—rather than by rewarding us for the good things we do.) Listen for how the Gospel satisfies the demands of the Law.*

IN OUR PRAYERS

- ✦ Our Northeast Ohio Synod, Bishop Eaton and the West Conference Parishes
- ✦ Our local Lutheran organizations such as the mission of Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry and Building Hope in the City
- ✦ Avery Mae Woodall born on September 9 to Theresa and Joe Woodall
- ✦ Health Concerns: Marilyn Anderson (Judy Gahl's sister), Shane Bacon (Julie Bacon's nephew), Ethel Forni, Jim Hinsch (Priscilla Hinsch's brother), Norma Hinsch (Priscilla's mother), Shirley Hunt (Cathy Zalac's aunt), Pr. Walter Kovac, Geri Schuett, Ruth Sichau
- ✦ Our parish households: McMahan, McMillen, McNamee, McNutt, Mehaffey, Meilander, Menhenett

✦ ✦ ✦

This Week's Commemorations—

Sept. 13—JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, d. 407, a bishop of Constantinople whose second name is really a nickname that reflects his reputation as a preacher. It means “the Golden Mouth.”

Sept. 14—HOLY CROSS DAY, a festival dating to 335 A.D. and a time for celebrating the victory of the cross. *Sept. 16*—CYPRIAN, d. 258, bishop of Carthage during a time of great persecution and internal division; martyred for the faith. *Sept. 17*—HILDEGARD OF BINGEN, d.

1179, an abbess who emerged as a leading spiritual and intellectual influence in her day. *Sept. 18*—DAG HAMMARSKJOLD, a Swedish diplomat and U.N. secretary general whose life and work was profoundly shaped by his Christian faith.

Today's altar flowers are presented—

- In loving memory and remembrance of the birthday of MICKIE McDONALD-MACKEIGAN, by her family

STEWARDS' CORNER

Last week's attendance: 325

Last year: 585

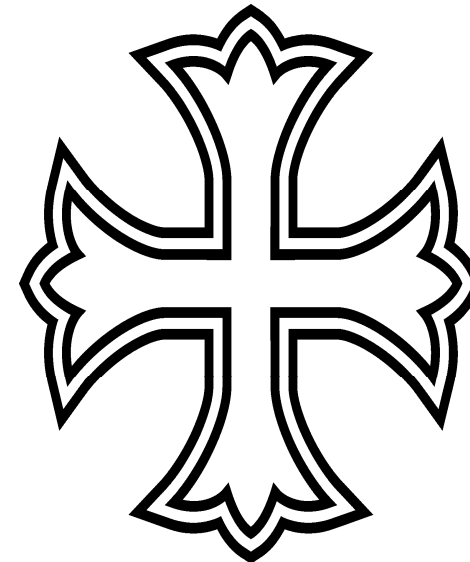
General Fund: \$13,508; Building Fund: \$894; Organ Fund: \$613



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 12-13, 2009



✦ ✦ ✦

Messiah Lutheran Church

21485 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, OH 44126

(440) 331-2405

FAX (440) 331-1604

www.messiahfp.org

e-mail – church@messiahfp.org

TO OUR GUESTS

WELCOME TO MESSIAH. May the God who led you here today refresh you with his grace and peace in Christ Jesus as you spend this hour with us. We're glad you're here.

ABOUT BULLETINS AND BOOKS: Are you worshipping in the sanctuary? Then everything you need is in this bulletin except for the hymns. These can be found in the hymnals. Hymns numbered through the 500's are in the green *Lutheran Book of Worship* (LBW). Anything 600 or higher is in the blue book, *With One Voice* (WOV). If you're at the service in the Commons you'll find the songs in the bulletin along with everything else.

A FEW THINGS TO KNOW—

Need help or directions? Look for people with nametags—deacons or ushers—in the entrance to the worship area. They'll be happy to assist in any way they can.

Restless children? Nursery care is available during Sunday morning services. We also have a room where parents can tend to little ones while watching and listening to the service. Ask an usher for directions.

Would you like to request a prayer? Use one of the lilac prayer cards from the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. Or else call or email our prayer team leader, Kim Patton (216) 529-0718 or rkkefp@sbcglobal.net.

Large print bulletins and hearing aids are available at Sunday services. An usher will be glad to supply these upon request.

May you commune at Messiah? Yes, if you're a baptized communicant at your home church and are able to share our joyful confidence that we receive nothing less than the body and blood of Christ in the bread and wine of this sacrament.

WE WOULD LOVE TO KNOW THAT YOU WERE HERE: A card in the pew rack has forms on both sides for passing along this information. As with the prayer cards, drop it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. Alternatively, you may wish to sign one of our guest books. An usher will point you to them.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT MESSIAH? Feel free to call the church office, (440) 331-2405, visit our website, www.messiahfp.org, or e-mail: church@messiahfp.org, or, for a faster response: jburce@att.net.

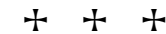
MESSIAH LUTHERAN SCHOOL offers a first-rate education for children, Grades K-8. The school's mission is to lay a foundation for a lifetime of service to Christ in God's world. For information call (440) 331-6553. Mr. Chuhran, the principal, will be pleased to speak with you.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL



Drawing in to Christ...
Building up in Christ...
Sending out for Christ...

To the glory of God, through the strength of the Spirit.



Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members
Pastors – Jerome E. Burce, Richard L. Ramirez STS
School Principal – Kyle Chuhran

Music Director – David Gooding. *Administrator* – Darlene Waugh
Messiah in the City Missionary – Peggy Schauer
Missionary to North Ridgeville – Pr. Glenn Zimbelman

Preacher – Pr. Burce; *Presider* – Pr. Ramirez
Organist – David Gooding
Altar Guild – Bonnie Price, Carolyn Weimer
At Faith, Lakewood: Pr. Gahl

Nursery: Heidi Kramer, Jessica Weber (8:30), Linda Lewin (11:00)

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.—

Assisting Minister – Pam Sugrue; *Communion Assistant* – Dave Ressler; *Lector* – Pam Sugrue; *Acolyte* – Rachel Civittolo; *Deacons* – Jeanne & Jeff Hattery; *Ushers* – Jeanne & Jeff Hattery; *Trustee* – Gary Tolowitzki
Music – Brian Bacon *with Presence*

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.—

Assisting Minister – Ron Coulter; *Communion Assistants* – Richard Hansen, Priscilla Hinsch, Colene Monson; *Lector* – Kathy Neumann; *Acolytes* – Sara Coulter, Tim Coulter; *Deacons* – Joyce Fry, Raffee Johns; *Ushers* – Nicholas Blackburn, Alex Hess, Joe King, Elizabeth Viiberg, Izaak Zrnich; *Greeters* – Brenda Carpenter, Ralph Hazlett

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.—

Assisting Minister – Mike Allan; *Communion Assistants* – Jack Cammarn, Charlene Coughlin, Rita Ruggles; *Lector* – Ed Kirst; *Acolytes* – Will Petro, Erin Stinard; *Deacons* – Sid Gator, Bob Trapp; *Ushers* – James Boglino, Benjamin Gator, Sarah Gator, Erich Igel, Noel Novak, Craig Stinard, Nicole Swanson; *Greeters* – Jim & Marilyn Sheerer, Betsy Williams; *Trustee* – Phil Bartels
Music – Messiah Choir