

Messiah Lutheran Church  
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Pastor Fran will return from vacation on July 28.

Messiah Office: will be open Wednesday and Thursday, July 28 – 29, 9am – noon.  
Emails and phone messages to Messiah office will be checked through the week.

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Worship for Sunday, July 25, 2021  
9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Year B

Sunday Worship Service, in person and live broadcast on-line, begins at 10:30am. As of July 11, the lifting of restrictions means attendance is not limited and the wearing of masks is not mandatory. Hand sanitizing is encouraged, and offering will still be collected as you enter the Sanctuary. Giving thanks to God, plans are to begin to resume pre-Covid practices by the beginning of September.

The service is taped for later viewing on the Messiah YouTube channel, Facebook page, and website.

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Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns:

We pray for comfort and healing for all those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their time of need.



Condolences to Stanley and Grace Livingstone on the loss of their niece, Precious Moulton. Precious passed away on July 19 at the ELWA hospital in Monrovia, Liberia, after a brief illness. Please keep the Livingstone family in your thoughts and prayers.



**Check the Kinasao website or phone the Camp (306.982.3327) for information about upcoming events in August: Teen & Youth overnight camps, Prime Time Camp, the Season Finale Banquet, and the 2021 Whatever-A-Thon.**

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## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #556 'Morning Has Broken'

## 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.

Let us pray, Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: 2 Kings 4:42-44

Today's reading is part of a larger section of 2 Kings that describes the miracles of Elisha, the successor to Elijah. Here the prophet gives food to a hungry crowd. Though there is not enough food to go around, Elisha trusts God, who provides enough and even more to satisfy the need.

A reading from Second Kings.

<sup>42</sup>A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat."

<sup>43</sup>But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" <sup>44</sup>He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:10-18

<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

<sup>11</sup>They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,

<sup>12</sup>that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup>Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.

<sup>14</sup>The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, and you give them their food in due season.

<sup>16</sup>You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

<sup>17</sup>You are righteous in all your ways and loving in all your works.

<sup>18</sup>You are near to all who call upon you, to all who call upon you faithfully.

## SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:14-21

We have been rooted and grounded in the love of Christ, which surpasses all human knowledge. Because Christ dwells in our hearts, our lives are continuously strengthened and empowered by the ongoing presence of the Spirit.

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup>and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup>I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup>Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW pg. 205

## GOSPEL: John 6:1-21

In John's gospel, the miracles of Jesus are called "signs," because they reveal the true character of God. As such, they remain within the mystery of God and cannot be brought under human control.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." <sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." <sup>15</sup>When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. <sup>16</sup>When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup>got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup>The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup>When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup>But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." <sup>21</sup>Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

SERMON: Deacon Gretchen Peterson, Assistant to the National Bishop

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #515 Break Now the Bread of Life

## APOSTLE'S 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.

## PRAYER

God blesses us through prayer.

## OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for the gifts given to Messiah to continue its ministry: gifts of time, talent and resources. We give thanks for what has been offered and received.

Let us pray, God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. 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, praying Lord in your mercy, and responding, hear our prayer.

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We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever. (Sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW #773 'Precious Lord Take My Hand'

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the body of Christ. Thanks be to God.