Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

We are in need of more volunteers to greet on Sunday Mornings. If you have not greeted in 2017 and would like to OR if you want to greet again, please let the church office know.

Please let the church office know by the 15th of each month if there are Sundays during the following month that you will not be available to help with worship services.

The monthly deadline for the Newsletter is the 20th of each month.

Pam Tyma is a Notary Public. Please feel free to come to the church and have documents notarized at no charge to

There will NOT be a Men’s Breakfast in July. The next Men’s Breakfast will be August 25th.

Remember to look for our recycling containers throughout Messiah’s building! What can you recycle?

- Paper Plates (as long as they aren’t soiled through)
- Plastic silverware
- Items with a 1 or 2 printed the bottom
- Paper Towels (bathroom & kitchen types)
- Plastic bottles and cups
- Papers

~ Today ~

God’s word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord’s table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

~ Prayer Upon Entering ~

(In preparation for our worship together, you are invited to take a moment of silence to offer your own prayers of worship and praise.)

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

A warm welcome to all today!
May this time of worship strengthen your faith and desire to serve
the Creator who loves us with everlasting love in Christ Jesus.

Children are welcome in this worship service, and encouraged to participate in any way
they are able to. Teach the children sitting around you how to use their hymnals,
bulletins, follow the screens, and sing & speak loudly!
We value the noise made by our children!

Visitors, we are especially glad to see you.
Please come again!!

As disciples of Christ, we encourage
you to CONNECT with ministry
opportunities here at Messiah!

Please fill out a CONNECT
sheet today. After you’ve recorded
your name(s) and pertinent
information, please turn these sheets
over and think about the ways in which
you can use the gifts and talents given
to you in the ministry here at Messiah.

CONNECT sheets can be placed in the
offering plate as we give our gifts of
time, talent, and treasure to God.

~ In Our Prayers ~

- Nora Marcia Nielsen’s cousin’s child
- Pat Bowman Mother of Jackie Bowman
- Ron Bernhardt
- St. James Lutheran Church - (Edgar)-Davenport
- Sydney Wergin Mission Trip in Philippines
- Thomas Didier Grandson of Marcia & Paul Friedrichsen
- Velda Andersen
- Vera Miller Aunt of David & Cheryl Frickel

For the family and friends of:

For those deployed in the Military & their families:
- Austin Wonch
- Bryce Higgins Grandson of Elaine Hungate
- Matthew Didier Paul & Marcia Friedrichsen’s grandson
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

~ In Our Prayers ~

Please update the office as to the prayer needs of your loved ones so that this list can be updated.

Prayers for Healing:

- Amy Johns & her family
- Amy Miller
- Blue Valley Lutheran Homes - Hebron
- Caleb Friesen Friend of Sue Schultz
- Cassandra Hahn
- Dale McBride Elaine Graves’ brother-in-law
- Deb Vanderheiden
- Dennis & Dorothy Weeks Larry & Sue Bengston’s Sister & Brother-in-law
- Deryl Danielson
- Gary Elstermier Mike Reimers Uncle
- Gip Barnell Brad & Gaylene Moeller’s Neighbor
- Harry & Janie Thomas
- Jean Peters
- Jan Reichardt
- Jan Schultz Pam Tyma’s cousin
- Judah Jack Friends of the Ruch’s
- Karen Gartner Charlene Coon’s sister-in-law
- Karen Rieke-Widhalm Bud & Luana Wall’s friend
- Kathy Akerlund
- Kirk Goertzen Friend of the Farris family
- Leon Graves
- Lois Plate
- Mary Ann Wege Mother of Cheryl Holland
- Mary Greenfield Friend of Lou & Jim McHargue
- Mary Jane Jensen
- Nancy Blum Friend of Charlene Coon
- Nancy Doris David & Cheryl Frickel’s niece

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

*Indicates congregation please stand if able
Congregational responses are printed in BOLD type

GATHERING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING MUSIC

What Is This Place ELW 524
For the Fruit of All Creation ELW 679

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 65

Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines, let’s praise God together!

Serving Us in Worship Today

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ushers:</th>
<th>Ken Werner</th>
<th>Musician:</th>
<th>Connie Nick</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mike Herzberg</td>
<td>Greeters:</td>
<td>Marc &amp; Stacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Ushers:</td>
<td>Trevor Moeller</td>
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<td>Groetzinger</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Seth Wonch</td>
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<td>Reader:</td>
<td>Marsha Redman</td>
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<td>Acolytes:</td>
<td>Connor Smith</td>
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<td>Gavin Anderson</td>
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07/16/2017
For listening when we call, answering our prayers, forgiving our mistakes, and providing what we need:

let’s praise God together!

Come and worship, everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines, let’s praise God together!

Amazing Love

1) My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly;
That I, the guilty one, may go free.

Chorus:
Amazing love, O what sacrifice.
The Son of God, giv’n for me;
My debt he pays and my death he dies,
That I might live, that I might live.

2) And so they watched him die, despised, rejected;
But O the blood he shed, flowed for me. Chorus

3) And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers;
Come wash your guilt away, live again. Chorus

*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.

*PRAYER OF BROKENNESS

Out of the depths, we cry to you. O Lord, hear our prayer: listen to our cry for mercy.

Join us for a Summer Walking Group!
We’ll hare in prayer and Scripture and walk about a mile (you are welcome to walk for as much or as little as you are able). Bring yourself, your kids, and your families!

If you use the Taking Faith Home devotionals that are normally a bulletin insert, they can now be picked up on the Narthex counter.

Continue to save the Box Tops for Education. They will be given to the Aurora Schools.
The Messiah Lutheran Women are continuing their monthly program of food donations. The month of **July** will be dedicated to the Food Pantry. We will be collecting **Canned Pasta**. Please leave your donations in the narthex. THANK YOU for helping with this very worthy cause. Your donations are very much appreciated!!

Stacey Pawling
MLCW Chair

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The focus of **July** is school kits. If you would like to donate items, please bring the following to place in the box marked LWR in the Narthex:

- 70 Sheet Notebooks
- Rulers
- Erasers
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Blunt Scissors
- Box of Crayons (16 or 24 Count)
- #2 Pencils with Erasers
- Black or Blue Ballpoint Pens (No Gel Ink)

We are also in need of cash donations to help purchase backpacks for school kits and other items. Please put cash or check donations in an envelope marked LWR on Pam’s desk in the office.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF LWR!

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If you kept a record of our sins, who could stand before you?
O Lord, hear our prayer:
**listen to our cry for mercy.**

But you offer forgiveness, and therefore we fear you. O Lord, hear our prayer:
**listen to our cry for mercy.**

We wait for you, and put our hope in your promise. O Lord, hear our prayer:
**listen to our cry for mercy.**

We long for you, more than the sleepless long for the morning.
O Lord, hear our prayer:
**listen to our cry for mercy.**

O God, we put our trust in you, because with you there is unfailing love and full redemption from all our sins, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

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**REFRAIN OF GRACE**

_Holy God_  ELW 159

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

The Lord knows *your* voice, the Lord hears *your* cry for mercy, the Lord turns his ear toward *you*; the Lord is gracious and righteous, he is full of compassion. In *your* need he has saved *you*. Be at peace - God forgives *you_. **Amen.**

**PRAYER**

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**
WORD
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

SONG OF THE WORD
Glory to God, Glory in the Highest ELW 164

READING Isaiah 55:10-13

10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

12 For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

READING Romans 8:1-11

1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord!
Rejoicing in the Lord, we will!

SENDING SONG

Spirit of the Living God
‘Worship & Praise’ Songbook 120

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me,
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me. (Repeat)

Pack ‘em Back-to-School

A community outreach idea to provide new backpacks filled with the required school supplies to those in need in the Aurora & Hampton schools.

Look for the display in the narthex with a list of kids who could use some assistance with needed school supplies. The filled backpacks will need to be returned to the church by Sunday, August 6th.

We will be blessing these backpacks along with the other kids' backpacks that morning. Our goal is to provide 50 backpacks to families in need. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Peg Schafer. Thank you for your generosity!!

Social Ministry Committee

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.

3 And he told them many things in parables, saying:

“Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 Let anyone with ears listen!”

18 Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;
yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

SONG OF THE WORD

We Are Called ELW 720

*CRED ������

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

The Spirit Intercedes for Us ELW 180

Sung three times before the prayers and three times after the prayers

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of all goodness…blessings become challenges and challenges become blessings. Amen

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed . . . Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup . . . Do this for the remembrance of me.

*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.

COMMUNION

SENDING

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

BLESSING

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.