

*Messiah Lutheran Church
Mechanicsville, Virginia*



*July 24, 2022
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*To share the Good News of Jesus Christ
and to invite all to join us in faith, worship, and service.*

The service will be livestreamed at 10:45 am on Messiah's FB page, and that video will be available later on the church website and YouTube. Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/MessiahMech/>

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

8154 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111

Pastor: The Rev. Ryan Radtke

Church: (804) 746-7134; Email: MessiahMech@gmail.com; Website: MessiahMech.com

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 24, 2022

**Congregation please stand if able*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome visitors! May the Spirit of Christ fill your heart as we worship today. You are invited to make Messiah your church home.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen

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

P: Merciful God,

C: *we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.*

P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Seek Ye First (WOV 783)*

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you;
Seek and you shall find;
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.
3. We do not live by bread alone,
But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia.

THE GREETING

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

C: *And also with you.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray:

C: *Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 18:20-32

Lector

A reading from Genesis.

In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.

²⁰Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will

forgive the whole place for their sake.”²⁷ Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes.”²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.”²⁹ Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.”³⁰ Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.”³¹ He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.”³² Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON: Colossians 2:6-15

Lector

A reading from Colossians.

The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about “the empty lure” of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.

⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.

¹[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."²He said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Ryan Radtke

HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord, Be Glorified* (ELW 744)

Lord, Be Glorified

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lord, Be Glorified'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains four lines of lyrics.

1 In my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
2 In our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
3 In your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;
4 In your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied, be glo-ri-fied;

in my life, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
in our song, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
in your church, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.
in your world, Lord, be glo-ri-fied to-day.

Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952
Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick
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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

A: Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer. *[Brief silence]*

A: Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance. Protect water sources and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Join our voices with theirs as we sing of your great glory. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Heavenly Father, You have generously blessed us with families. Thank you for your guidance and protection. As you love and care for us, may we also always love and care for our families and keep them in our prayers. We pray this week for the Mason and McKenna families as well as our Messiah family. May You keep us all from danger and sickness and guard our hearts so that we are reminded of Your Grace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

C: Amen.

PEACE-IN-PLACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: *And also with you.*

***Please share signs of peace with those in your immediate vicinity only. If any are not comfortable making physical contact during the peace, please share peace in other ways.*

THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: *God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And also with you.*

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: *We lift them to the Lord.*

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: *It is right to give God thanks and praise.*

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

P: The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C: *We praise you, O God.*

P: Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C: *We bless you, O God.*

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C: *We thank you, O God.*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: *Christ has died.*

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

P: Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C: *Amen.*

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: *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

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ that you have received strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

C: **Amen**

BLESSING

P: The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C: **Amen**

SENDING SONG *Lord of Light* (ELW 688)

Lord of Light



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents

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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – SUNDAY, July 24, 2022

- Pianist: Debbie Walker
- Lay Assistants: (1st Lay Asst) Diane Sondor (2nd Lay Asst.) Anita Philp
- Lectors: Anita Philp
- Acolyte: Michael Sondor
- Greeters: Jean Martin
- Ushers: Chris Sondor & Jake Addair
- Altar Guild: Dianne Absher & Anita Philp
- Counters: Sharon & Jake Addair
- Live Streamer: James Anderson

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MESSIAH

July 24	Christian Formation	9:15 AM
	Worship Service (Messiah Lutheran)	10:45 AM
July 25-29	Hanover Parks & Recs (Youth Summer Camp)	7:30 AM – 5:30 PM
July 31	Christian Formation	9:15 AM
	Worship Service (Messiah Lutheran)	10:45 AM
Aug 3	Quilting Group	9 AM – 12 PM

Announcements

PASTOR RYAN'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Ryan will be in and out of the office this week. To set up an appointment with Pastor Ryan please call or email at 507-360-7276 and/or messiahmechpr@gmail.com.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Here is this week's information based on our 2022 budget.

- Contributions to the general fund averaged \$3,182.37 (up from \$3,176.84 through July 17, 2022).
- We are \$25,799.22 behind the year-to-date budget needs. (increasing from \$22,712.57)
- Weekly budget need is \$4,072.

CAN YOU HELP?

MCEF will again have "Back to School" shopping for the children of our clients. We will be helping families with school supplies as well as clothing needs. You can help by donating school supplies of any kind. See the bulletin board if you need suggestions. We will have a box in the narthex or you can place them in the MCEF basket. Any extra items will be donated to "Tools for Teachers". THANK YOU!

WE'RE ORDERING MLC T-SHIRTS!

The Evangelism Team is excited to announce that we're ordering Royal Blue Messiah T-shirts with a new logo in time for Rally Day. We need your help to know how many of which sizes to order. You can order in 1 of 3 ways:

- Sign up on the order form in the narthex on the bulletin board. Put your name, size, and number of shirts.
- Call/email Davina at the church office and give her your name and the size of shirt along with the number of each size that you need.
- Respond to a recently sent email from Donna Shaw with your name and the size along with the number of each size that you need.
- The cost to you will be the cost of the shirt itself (TBD).
- The deadline to place an order will be July 31, 2022.

Please contact Donna Shaw with any questions. Thank you for your quick response and support!

LETTER JOCKEY REMINDER

The Letter Jockey sign-up sheet is located in the narthex on the bulletin board. There are suggestions for the sign and letters in the tall cabinet in the fellowship hall. Please take a picture after you change the sign and send it to Donna Shaw at dmslaw70@gmail.com. If you have any questions please call Linda Mahovtas 804.387.5674.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION STUDY

We will finally conclude our series on the book *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion* by Father Gregory Boyle on the 24th, discussing chapter 9. Thanks to everyone for the wonderful conversations. This book works its way into your heart and soul, so if you have further reflections to share, Pastor Ryan would love to hear them!

NEXT PAL MEETING (August 3, 2022)

Messiah's quilting group will continue to meet during the summer. If you are unable to attend contact either Glady (814) 449-1392 or Cheryl (804) 366-0074. Decision to cancel will be made if there are only a couple attending for any of the summer dates. We will continue to put together quilt squares for tops and assemble quilts. Upcoming dates: August 3 and 17.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Parks and Recreation department for Hanover County will continue using some space at Messiah for their summer program (fellowship hall, restrooms, and a couple of classrooms). They will be with us one more week: **this week**, July 25-29, from 7:30am-5:30pm. It is our policy to have someone from Messiah to be present during these hours. On the days that Davina is working, she fills that roll. Volunteers are needed for the times that she is not working. There are no expectations other than opening and/or closing the building if needed, and simply being in the building should something arise that would require our attention. A person who teleworks from home could even volunteer since our internet has improved significantly. A volunteer could also read a book, watch a movie, or bring a project from home. **PLEASE SEE THE SIGN-UP SHEET** on the bulletin board in the narthex for time slots. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Shaw or Pastor Ryan. Your help is truly appreciated!

COVID PROTOCOLS UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

The newest community levels posted by the CDC have Hanover County still in the "high" category for COVID cases. According to the protocols the Church Council set if numbers were to reach this level again, we will be requiring masks for all activities in the building. Once we drop down to and stay in "Medium" for two weeks, we'll go back to masks encouraged; two weeks in the low range and we'll lift restrictions and recommendations. We will continue to monitor the reports and keep you all posted. Please continue to pray for those who are sick and their families, for our community, and for this latest wave to be the last.