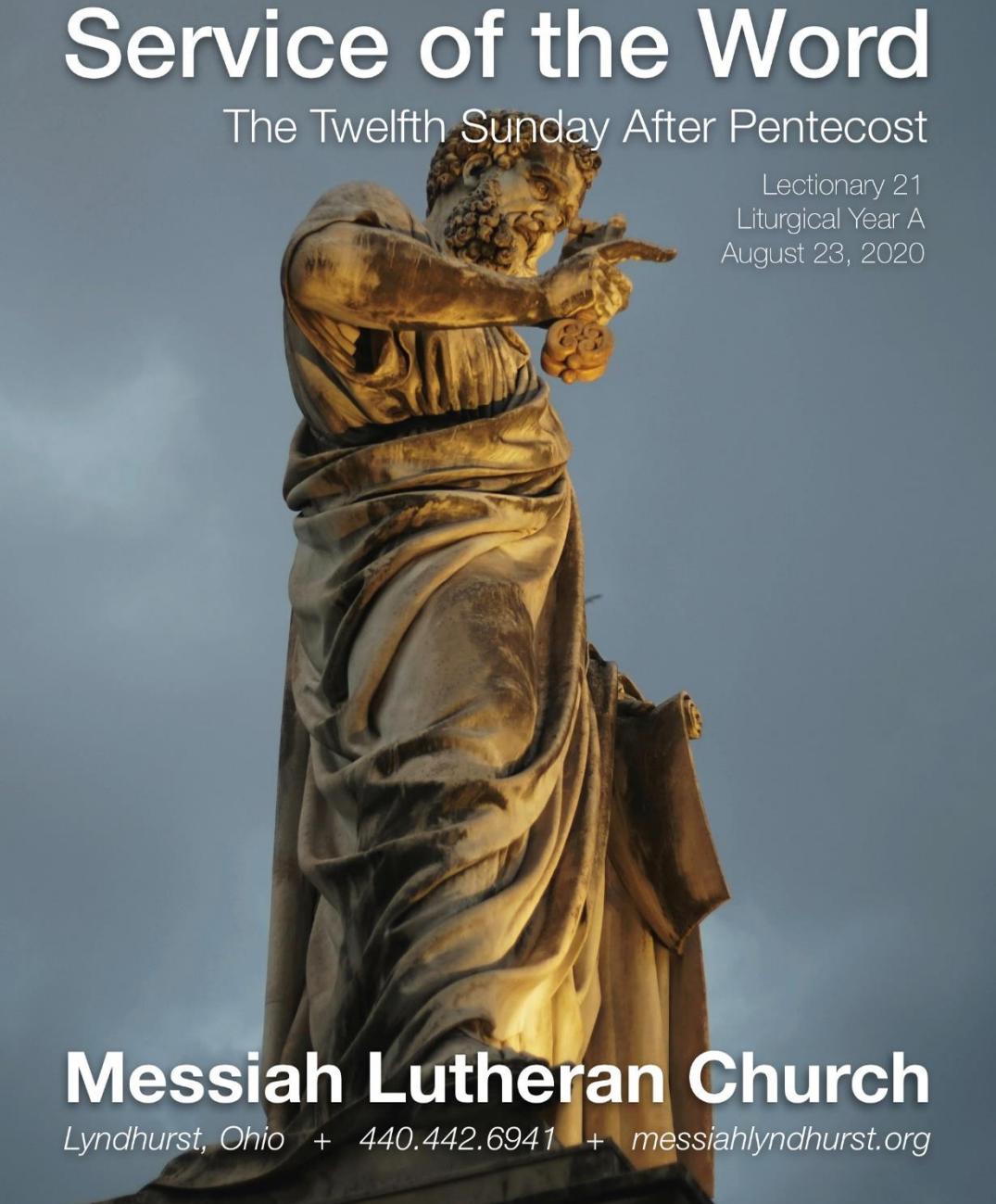


# Service of the Word

The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Lectionary 21  
Liturgical Year A  
August 23, 2020



## Messiah Lutheran Church

*Lyndhurst, Ohio + 440.442.6941 + [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://messiahlyndhurst.org)*

# Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church!

**It is good to be together, even if we are meeting online.** If you are new to Messiah, you can find out more about our community at [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://messiahlyndhurst.org) or on our facebook page. During this current health crisis, we will upload our service to our website each Sunday morning ([www.messiahlyndhurst.org](http://www.messiahlyndhurst.org)). We invite you to follow along at home with the order of service included below.

**Prayer Concerns** can be shared via email ([pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org)) or phone (440-442-6941). Please indicate if you would like your request to be considered for inclusion in worship. Please note that some elements of the service are pre-recorded and prayer requests may not make it in until the following week.

**Children** are encouraged to participate at home as they are able. If you would like an at-home Sunday School Lesson Packet, please contact Cheryl Moser for more info.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is typically celebrated the first and third Sundays of each month, as well as on festival days. The date of our next Communion Sunday is TBD. If Communion is new for you, we invite you to have a conversation with Pastor Paul.

## Serving in Worship Today:

<b>Presiding Minister</b>	The Rev. Paul Moody
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Tom Griffith
<b>Organist</b>	Glenn Odenbrett
<b>Reader</b>	Barb Decker

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*As Saints of Old*  
(based on the tune to ELW #695)

*(As God gathers us on this day of resurrection,  
we take time during the prelude to center ourselves  
and prepare to receive the Gospel: both its proclamation  
of grace and its call to action.)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked  
at baptism, as the presiding minister begins)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose steadfast love is everlasting,  
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*(Silence is kept for reflection)*

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,  
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

**We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.**

**We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.**

**We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.**

**We fear difference and do not welcome others  
as you have welcomed us.**

**We sin in thought, word, and deed.**

**By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us;  
and in your Spirit, lead us;**

**so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.**

**Amen.**

Beloved of God,  
by the radical abundance of divine mercy  
we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus,  
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.  
Our sins are forgiven.  
Let us live now in hope.  
For hope does not disappoint,  
because God's love has been poured into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## **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 THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you,  
the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your  
Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

# WORD

## **FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 51:1-6**

*Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers  
comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.*

- <sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
- <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.
- <sup>3</sup>For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,

and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

<sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.

<sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

## Psalm 138

*O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)*

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with <sup>1</sup> my whole heart;  
before the gods I will | sing your praise.

**<sup>2</sup>I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast <sup>1</sup> love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word a- <sup>1</sup>bove all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you <sup>1</sup> answered me;  
you increased my <sup>1</sup> strength within me.

**<sup>4</sup>All the rulers of the earth will praise <sup>1</sup> you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words <sup>1</sup> of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways <sup>1</sup> of the LORD,  
that great is the glory <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares <sup>1</sup> for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty <sup>1</sup> from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you <sup>1</sup> keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right <sup>1</sup>

hand shall save me.

**<sup>8</sup>You will make good your pur- | pose for me;**

**O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands.**

## **SECOND READING**

**Romans 12:1-8**

*In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.*

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, siblings, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

**Matthew 16:13-20**

*At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.*

The Holy Gospel According to Saint Matthew:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" <sup>14</sup>And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup>He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has

not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

The Rev. Paul Jones Moody

*(Please observe a moment of silence after the sermon)*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Eat This Bread*  
ELW #472

*(The hymn will be taught in the worship service; please listen and respond as you are able)*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*(A brief silence)*

Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will arouse us to cherish this wondrous home you give us. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of countries, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils, to walk in your ways. Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and fulfill your loving purposes in the governance of peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Though we walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

You call us into this community, Messiah Lutheran Church, in which we, though many, are one in Christ. May we recognize in ourselves and in one another the unique gifts you have given us for the building up of the church for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

*(Here other intercessions may be offered)*

You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead, especially Tom Short. Bring us with them to our heavenly home. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*(If you are gathered with others, please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you" or similar response.)*

## **OFFERING**

*(In response to God's command to love our neighbors, we give of the resources God has given us for the sake of the common good. Please give your tithes and offerings by mail or electronically at [messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:messiahlyndhurst.org))*

# THANKSGIVING

## **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.**

# SENDING

## **MISSION PRAYER**

As God has gathered us and filled our hearts with the Gospel, now God sends us forth to serve in mission. Let us pray:

**Gracious God, through belief in Christ and through the presence of the Holy Spirit within us, empower us to share the word; care and support each other and God's community; worship as a family in Christ; and be Christ-like examples to those whose lives we touch.**

**Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,  
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.  
God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,  
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,  
bless you and keep you in eternal love.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN**

*Eat This Bread*  
ELW #472

*(The hymn will be taught in the worship service; please listen and respond as you are able)*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please observe a moment of silence before the postlude)*

## **POSTLUDE**

*Lord of Light, Whose Name Outshineth*  
(based on the tune to ELW #688)

### **Messiah Staff Members**

Organist: Glenn Odenbrett  
Choir Director: Vicki Lester  
Christian Education Director: Cheryl Moser  
Office Administrator: Steven Liss  
Building & Custodial: Steve Newcomer

### **Attributions**

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# ***Prayers***

**Prayer Team & Partners:** Prayer is a vital part of the Christian life. Messiah has a Prayer Team which will pray with/for you. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue Prayer Request Card – available in the sanctuary – which offer these options: (1) request a Pastoral follow-up, (2) include in the intercessory prayers to be read aloud in worship, (3) add to the ongoing list in the Bulletin and Grace Note, or (4) add to the Prayer Partner Email Chain. *(Contact Nancy Pittard to participate in the Prayer Partner Email Chain and/or to serve on the Prayer Team)*

**Please pray for our siblings in Christ:** The Family and Friends of Glen Odenbrett’s mother, the family and friends of David Kosovich’s nephew Nicholas Piks, the family and friends of Hank Schwenkhoff – especially his wife Mary and sons Todd and Andy, the Family and Friends of Tom Short, Lila Boehler, Una Rae Durham, Dave Fenbers, Tracy Galvin, Bob Kopsak, the Musial family, Lisa Perry, Phyllis Short, Kathy Strom, Jim Szatkowski, Al Trost, Helen Wolfe, Karen and Michael Zak, and all in need of comfort and healing.

*(Your prayer request, printed in the bulletin, will remain active for a period of four weeks. If you wish to have the prayer renewed, please fill out a new request card.)*

# ***Announcements***

**PLEASE NOTE: All upcoming activities and events are subject to change as Messiah responds to the ongoing world health crisis.**

**Park and Pray:** Messiah will be hosting our second parking lot worship service on Wednesday, August 26 at 7:30pm. Attendees will stay in their cars and tune in to Pastor Paul via our AM transmitter. We will also be celebrating Holy Communion at this service. A Bulletin will be issued via email in advance.

**From Social Ministry:** Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry's men's shelter now needs men's clothing of all types - underwear, socks, pants, shirts, shoes and more! Please consider donating some fall clothing, used or new, to the shelter. Bring your bagged donations to the church and place them by the parking lot door, in the covered area, on Wed Aug 26, any time before the 7:30 pm Park and Pray service and on Sunday Sept 6, any time before 5:30 pm. The donations will be delivered safely to the shelter.

**A Sunday Video Hymn-Sing:** The COVID-19 coronavirus has changed almost every part of our lives, especially our communal worship as a congregation. We are thankful that we have technology that allows many to worship via video online, but as you know, we have had to adapt the ordo and our other traditions to accommodate our new circumstances. Singing is one of the great traditions of the faith, but we have not been able to sing many old favorite hymns for many months now. Pastor Paul and Glenn are working on coordinating an at-home “Hymn Sing” video service to be offered sometime in September, which will include a good number of familiar and formative hymns of the Church. We will share more details when it is closer to completion.

**Pastoral Care:** The world is experiencing an unprecedented season of difficulty, and all of us are affected in our own way. If you would like to connect with Pastor Paul for a conversation, please call or email the church office: 440-442-6941 or [pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org).

**OHIO Covid-19:** Now that testing is more widely available – we wanted to share some of the key resources:

- *Ohio Corona Virus Portal:*  
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>
- *Link/Map for Testing Sites:*  
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/testing-ch-centers/>
- *Phone for Info:* 1-833-427-5634

**LWR Personal Care Kits:** Messiah is collecting items to assemble Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life’s most challenging situations. Collection bins for the items are located by the coffee area. NOTE: Our collection will resume at a later date.

**Church Council:** the next meeting is on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7:00pm.

**The Messiah Book Club** will meet at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15th at the home of Mary Lou Bregitzer to discuss *America For Beginners* by Leah Franqui.

**Miles of Quarters:** To help with Messiah’s budget deficit, we are collecting a mile of quarters – over 63,000 quarters – more than \$15,000. Put your quarters in the glass jug by the easel. NOTE: Our collection will resume at a later date.

### **Church Office Hours This Week:**

The Church Office will not be open until further notice. However, we will be checking voicemail and email regularly.

### **Attendance and Offering** for the week of August 16, 2020:

YouTube Views: 32    Offering (incl. electronic giving): \$1,172

(NOTE: \$4,000 a week is needed to remain current with our budget)

**Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service:** Social Ministry has placed educational posters about the ELCA's history of helping refugees through the work of the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS). Take a look at the new posters in the coffee area when you are able, or check out the LIRS website: <https://www.lirs.org/>.



## ***Special Acknowledgments***

*This is our space to honor expressions of appreciation. Email items c/o [office@messiahlyndhurst.org](mailto:office@messiahlyndhurst.org) by Wednesday at 3pm for publication on the following Sunday. We'll keep submissions in print for two weeks.*

- ♥ Thank you to Sarah Dellinger and family for providing the Sunday School video on August 23.  
*c/o Cheryl Moser*