



# Church of the Messiah

The Episcopal Church in Gwynedd Pennsylvania

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The Rev. Keith A. Marsh, Rector

## THE TWENTIETH WEEK AFTER PENTECOST Sunday, 18 October 2020

*During this ongoing COVID-19 national emergency, several restrictions have been instituted following guidelines issued by the CDC, civil authorities, and the Diocese of Pennsylvania. At some points in the service, the Celebrant will explain various procedures now in place; and instructions have been placed throughout this bulletin.*

*For the safety and health of our worshipping community, we ask for your understanding and cooperation. Thank you!*

*Masks MUST always be worn ; gloves are optional. If you did not bring a cloth mask or gloves from home, disposable masks and gloves are available as you enter the church.*

*Maintain recommended SOCIAL DISTANCE of at least six feet from all other worshippers at all times.*

*To assist in Contact Tracing, should that be required in the future, before taking your seat, please check in at the attendance table located in the Narthex. **If you later test positive for the virus, please notify the church office immediately in order for others to be notified.** Thank you!*

*Alternating pews have been roped off to assist with social distance seating. Please sit only where indicated. Household groups may be seated together; all others must be seated individually.*

*Please place your offering in the Collection Plates located in the main aisle.*

*Sadly, there will be no congregational singing since it has been shown that this action expels droplets far beyond the social distance boundary of six feet. But music is included in the Sunday services and you may recognize some familiar hymns . . . feel free to hum along.*

# THE HOLY EUCHARIST

**ORGAN PRELUDE** *All my hope is God is founded*

*The Congregation stands as the Celebrant enters the Chancel from the Sacristy.*

## THE WORD OF GOD

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY (PROPER 24)

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. *Amen.*

## A COLLECT FOR CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

**Gracious God: through your Fatherly goodness, make Church of the Messiah a Christian community united to serve others; enrich our life in Christ, that we might celebrate and share Christ's love with the world; and send your Holy Spirit to give us strength and courage to proclaim the Good News of your grace through word and deed. Amen.**

*The congregation is seated.*

## THE LESSONS

### HEBREW SCRIPTURE

*Lector* A reading from The Book of Exodus (33:12-23)

*After the reading, the Lector says* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 99

The Lord is King; let the people tremble; \*

he is enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion; \*

he is high above all peoples.

Let them confess his Name, which is great and awesome; \*

he is the Holy One.

“O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; \*

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.”

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool; \*

he is the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among his priests,

and Samuel among those who call upon his Name, \*

they called upon the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; \*

they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.

“O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; \*

you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.”

Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill; \*

for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

## EPISTLE

*Lector* A reading from Paul’s Letter to the Thessalonians (1:1-10)

*After the reading, the Lector says* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*The congregation stands.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *All Glory Be to God on High – Zachau*

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Matthew (22:15-22)

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*After the Gospel, the Gospeler says* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The Congregation is seated.*

**THE SERMON** The Rev. Keith A. Marsh, Rector

## THE NICENE CREED

*The Congregation stands.*

*All* We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The response to each petition:*

*Intercessor* In the name of Our Lord:

*People* **In Christ's name, hear our prayer.**

## PRAYER FOR NATIONAL HEALING AND RACIAL UNITY

O God, who created all peoples in your own image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and peoples who have come together in this great nation, and strengthened our culture with the many gifts, talents, perspectives and flavors they have each brought and shared. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, abolish all prejudices that separate us, open our eyes to recognize, acknowledge, and celebrate your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*The congregation may continue to stand, or may kneel.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*All* **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*All stand.*

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And always with you.**

*Avoiding direct contact and maintaining adequate social distance, all worshippers greet one another in the name of the Lord. Rather than a handshake, a hug or a kiss, please consider giving a friendly wave, a nod of the head, or some other acknowledgment of fellowship to those around you.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** Choral Preludes on “*Froelich soll mein Herze springen*” – Walther

*While the Celebrant will prepare the altar as usual, there will not be a procession of the offering and elements from the back of the church.*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - Eucharistic Prayer A**

*The people stand.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant & People* **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven 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.**

*The people continue to stand, or may kneel at this point.*

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant & People*    **Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*Celebrant*    And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

*All*    **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.**

### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD, INVITATION & SHARING OF COMMUNION**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant*    Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People*        **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.  
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Due to health concerns at the present time, only the Celebrant will consume both the bread and the wine; the Congregation will receive the Sacrament in one kind, only the bread.*

*Before distributing the bread to the Congregation, the Celebrant will use hand sanitizer, then put on gloves, as well as a mask.*

*Bread will be put into the hands of the Communicants without touching or contact.*

*If you do not want to receive Communion, but desire a no-touch blessing, please come forward, crossing your arms on your chest, to indicate that you do not wish to receive the bread.*

*Please remain seated until the Usher invites you to come forward.*

*Maintain social distance while waiting in line. Note the floor markers in the aisle; these are spaced six feet apart and have been put there to assist you in maintaining the social distance boundary.*

*Communicants are to approach the Celebrant individually, one at a time, to receive the bread or a blessing.*

*Please return to your seat by the side aisles.*

**COMMUNION MUSIC** Brockhurst Run “*Strengthen for Service*” – Miller

### **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER OF ST. ALPHONSUS DE LIGUORI (1696-1787)**

*If you choose not to receive the Sacrament, you are invited to pray this prayer:*

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

### **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant & People* **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS, FINAL BLESSING & DISMISSAL**

*The Celebrant blesses and dismisses the Congregation.*

*Celebrant*      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia!

*People*          **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE**    *God of grace and God of glory*

*Please remain seated until invited to leave by the Usher.*

*Maintain social distancing as you exit. To assist with this, the Celebrant will not take a position at the door in order to eliminate a 'receiving line'. The Rector will, however, be available following the service should you need to speak with them.*

*If you do not wish to keep your Worship Bulletin, please deposit it in the recycling bin at the door.*

*For the time being, there is no Coffee Hour following the service.*

*Please do not remove your mask until you are in your car.*

***And please remember:*** *If you are diagnosed positive with the coronavirus, please notify the church office so we can activate the contact tracing process and notify others who have been with you here in worship. Thank you for your compliance!*

## **THIS WEEK'S ASSIGNED LESSONS:**

### **Exodus 33:12-23**

Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.'<sup>13</sup> Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people."<sup>14</sup> He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."<sup>15</sup> And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here."<sup>16</sup> For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."<sup>17</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."<sup>18</sup> Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray."<sup>19</sup> And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy."<sup>20</sup> But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live."<sup>21</sup> And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock;<sup>22</sup> and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by;<sup>23</sup> then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

### **Thessalonians 1:1-10**

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.<sup>2</sup> We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly<sup>3</sup> remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>4</sup> For we know, brothers and sisters beloved

by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

### **Matthew 22:15-22**

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. <sup>16</sup>So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” <sup>21</sup>They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” <sup>22</sup>When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

## **BIRTHDAYS IN THE WEEK AHEAD**

\* Barb Krisan \* Kelly Schneider \* Barbara Kelly \* Eileen Wallace \* Lee Champlin \*  
\* Judy Snyder \* Kate Murphy \* Dave Kreibel \* Alyssa Evangelisto \*  
\* Hunter Behm \* Pam Schunke \* Eric Wertz \* Cyndi Smith \* George Brackin \*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES**

### **CHURCH SCHOOL LESSONS & YOUTH ACTIVITIES:**

10:30am today - “*Virtual*” Church School lesson and activities, see church website  
Youth of Messiah - 5:00pm today

### **ONLINE WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

The response to the online worship services on the Messiah website offered over the past few months has been well-received, so these will continue. Several options will be available:

- The service will be live-streamed on YouTube at 9:30am.
- For those without computer access, an audio-only option is available by phone. At 9:30am, simply dial 609-663-5164 to listen to the service live.
- At the conclusion of worship, a link to the service will be posted on the church website: [messiahgwynedd.org](http://messiahgwynedd.org).
- In addition to the Messiah online worship postings, Bishop Gutierrez will continue to post weekly services on the diocesan website: [diopa.org](http://diopa.org).
- Weekly mailings of the liturgy, readings and sermon will continue to be sent to homebound parishioners without computer access. Should you wish to be added or removed from this list, please contact the church office: 215-699-9204.

**CHURCH & PARISH HALL CLEANING/SANITIZING:** After each worship service and every gathering in the Parish Hall, the spaces, including restrooms, will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized using a hospital-grade disinfectant solution.

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE INTERNET ACCESS:** Please contact the Church Office (215-699-9204; [office@messiahgwynedd.org](mailto:office@messiahgwynedd.org)) so we can add you to the mailing list of those parishioners who receive hard copies of the messages and sermon by mail.

**WEEKLY PARISH EMAIL MESSAGES & NOTIFICATIONS:** Each week, the Rector sends an email to all parishioners with important notifications and information about parish events and other happenings. If you are not currently receiving these messages, please contact the Church Office (215-699-9204; [office@messiahgwynedd.org](mailto:office@messiahgwynedd.org)) so we can add you to the database.

**HELP NEEDED!!! – USHER CORPS:** We are in desperate need for volunteers to serve as Sunday morning ushers! Due to some retirements (after lengthy times of service), some unfortunate deaths, and some reluctance at this time to serve for in-person services, the corps has been severely depleted. This places a great strain on our ability to staff this important Sunday morning ministry. *BTW: This ministry is not a “males-only” opportunity!* If you are interested in serving or wish more information, please contact Ed Steinbauer ([ed@steinbauers.com](mailto:ed@steinbauers.com); 215-661-9956).

**FOOD COLLECTION FOR MANNA ON MAIN STREET:** As you do your grocery shopping each week, please remember to pick up some non-perishable food, toiletry items, and cleaning products. Bring them to church and leave them on the back pew. Each week, parish volunteers transport these items to the local food pantry, Manna on Main Street in Lansdale, for distribution to those in need within our community.

**IN CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS:** Should you have an urgent need to contact the Rector outside of Church Office hours, please use his cell phone: 215-692-2667.

**YOGA CLASSES:** Classes, led by Diana Mulroy, are held outdoors when weather permits and in the Parish Hall when necessary. Each session costs \$10, and all proceeds benefit local social service agencies usually supported through Belfry Bargains funds. In the month of September, almost \$900 was raised and distributed to Laurel House, Interfaith Housing, Manna on Main Street, and Community Cupboard. Classes are appropriate for all levels - beginners, as well as more advanced participants. Use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CAEA922A4F58-join2>

**2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN BEGINS:** Watch your mailbox and be on the lookout for a letter explaining the pledge campaign for the coming year. Also in the envelope you will find a pledge card and return envelope, along with information explaining TITHE.LY, an on-line giving platform recommended by the diocesan offices and being incorporated by many parishes throughout the area. The vestry asks that you please complete and return your pledge card by Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> in order for the 2021 parish operating budget to be prepared.

**PLEASE KEEP YOUR PLEDGE UP TO DATE:** Thank you to all of you who have dropped off or sent in your pledge over the past several weeks! Your faithfulness has allowed us to stay current with payroll and bill payment. We know how difficult it can be to remember your pledge when not attending church services, but we need your ongoing support. Please remember to submit this month's pledge. Thank you!

And if the COVID-19 situation has resulted in unemployment or reduced income for your household and you feel the need to adjust your pledge, we understand; please let us know so we can both assist in some way as well as make adjustments to the church budget.

## **SERVING MESSIAH THIS MORNING**

**Chimer:** Hannah Albrecht  
**Lector:** Marti Bender  
**Organist:** Hannah Albrecht  
**Ushers:** Dave Prezuhy  
**Video:** Sam Frenkel  
**Contact Tracing Table:** Rose Vollmar, Paul Vollmar

## **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH: October 12-18**

<b>Monday</b>	Church Office Hours: 9:00am-1:00pm Celebration of Life: Bruce Ferguson	Visitation: 9:30-10:00am Burial Eucharist: 10:00am
	Yoga – 6:00pm	
<b>Tuesday</b>	Church Office Hours: 9:00am–1:00pm Yoga – 9:30am AA, Alanon, Alateen – 7:30pm	
<b>Wednesday</b>	Church Office Hours: 9:00am–1:00pm Yoga – 6:00pm	
<b>Thursday</b>	Church Office Hours: 9:00am–1:00pm	
<b>Friday</b>	Church Office Closed	
	Yoga – 9:30am	
<b>Saturday</b>	Church Office Closed Celebration of Life: Mary Ann Sabokbar	Visitation: 9:15-10:00am Burial Service: 10:00am
<b>Next Sunday, Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</b>		Holy Eucharist: 9:30am Church School (Virtual) 10:30am